

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY COMMUNION – ST. SWITHUN’S CHURCH, SANDFORD AT 9.45AM

Welcome to our communion service. We meet at 9.45am when Paul shares the notices and then we are joined at 10am by our online congregation.

WEDNESDAY PRAYERS – 9.30AM ONLINE

Due to present Covid-19 restrictions, the reflective prayer time is still being live streamed from the vicarage kitchen. A big thank you to Paul for helping us to recentre our focus with God in these troubled times.

ITEMS OF GOOD NEWS TO SHARE!

- Well done Bert and Margaret Jewell who held an Open Garden afternoon on 5th September for the benefit of Hospiscare and raised the staggering total of £930.56. They would like to thank all who came and donated so generously.
- Congratulations to our ex-Rector Nigel Guthrie who has been appointed as a Royal Chaplain to the Queen. It does not mean he will leave St David’s and St Michael’s Churches in Exeter but he will be expected to preach at the Chapel Royal once a year.
- A big thank you to Adrian Gill who in a moment of boredom during lock-down repainted the small iron gate by the steps to the Narrow Door.
- And thank you to Keith and Elaine Stanlake for the bench they have placed in the new part of the churchyard. Our churchyard is such a peaceful place in the heart of the village and there are now a number of spots where you can sit and just relax and (at the moment) watch late summer bees and butterflies enjoying the wild flowers.

HARVEST CELEBRATION – SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

Our harvest will be a little different this year but we still want to make it a time when we can share with those in need. This year we are supporting **Crediton Food Bank** with items people can bring during the service or if you are not able to be at the there a box will be left in the church porch during the week for you to leave donations. The items in low supply are: **-tinned sweetcorn (large and small), tinned potatoes, tinned tomatoes, jars of bolognese sauce, tinned ham (large and small), tinned corn beef, tinned tuna, tins of pineapple, tins of rice pudding and biscuits.** But other dried and tinned goods including pet food, toiletries etc are always welcome.

There will also be a home made bring and buy stall in the Under Gallery so please bring your very own jams and preserves, cakes and other bakes and be prepared to buy someone else’s! Donations will go to church funds.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

The postponed APCM will now take place on Sunday 11th October at 11am in the Parish Hall, Sandford and via Zoom. If you would like to attend the meeting in the Parish Hall, please **contact Rosanne Baker by 4th October on 01363 774409 or northcreedy@gmail.com** in order to book your place. This is necessary to ensure the arrangements for the meeting comply with Covid-19 security requirements. Please also contact Rosanne if you would like to attend via Zoom or would like a postal vote for the elections referred to with last week’s Parish Post. Please note that no paper copies of the accounts, reports etc for 2019 will be available at the meeting so if you require any of the documentation, please contact Rosanne beforehand. The agenda for the meeting will be circulated nearer the time.

ELECTORAL ROLL – APCM

If you wish to have a vote to choose church wardens, members of the PCC and other church business, your name needs to be on the Electoral Roll. If you are not sure if it is or would like to enrol please contact Alison our Electoral Roll officer on astoyle@btconnect.com or tel: 01363 866204.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

- > Continue to pray for those who have or are suffering after effects of Covid-19. Pray for those who are anxious and fearful going forward. Pray for those who have other illnesses or are near the end of their lives. Remember those family and friends who care for them and be thankful for caring and compassionate medical workers. Pray for comfort of body, peace of mind, freedom from fear and an assurance that God cares.

SUNDAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

As parts of the country move into lock-down again and we learn to live with the Rule of Six, it gives us a little perspective to remember that throughout mankind's history there have been immensely difficult times to live through - wars, natural disasters, plagues and epidemics. This prayer by St Ignatius Loyola is as pertinent and helpful today as when he wrote it in response to his troubled times in the Basque region of Spain 500 years ago. We all need hope.

O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love and Your strength.

Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for living close to You, we shall see Your hand, Your purpose and Your will through all things. Amen.