

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

14TH MARCH 2021

WELCOME TO OUR ONLINE MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE AT ST. SWITHUN'S CHURCH, SANDFORD AT 10AM. You can join in with Paul on Facebook or on the Parish website.

START THE WEEK WITH OPEN CHURCH

On **Mondays** the church will be open from 10.30am - 11.30am through the rest of the lockdown. Come along for a quiet moment, private prayer or just somewhere different to sit.

PCC MEETING – TUESDAY 16TH MARCH

The PCC will be meeting on Zoom, hopefully for the final time! If you have any items for AOB please email them to Rosanne northcreedy@gmail.com This will be the last PCC meeting before the APCM.

REFLECTIVE PRAYER

Led by Paul, this oasis of stillness from the vicarage kitchen is on **Wednesday** mornings at 9.30am on Facebook and is also posted on the Parish website.

DEANERY SYNOD MEETING – WEDNESDAY 17TH MARCH

Carole, Alison and Jean are our Synod reps and we meet with others from the churches in Cadbury Deanery to share and learn from each other. As if running church in lockdown isn't hard enough, many churches to the west of us have been without a vicar for well over a year. But the PCCs have found a number of ways to pastorally care for their communities and even take online services which have been greatly enjoyed.

CHURCHYARD TEAM

By the time church services resume, Steve McCulloch will have made his first cut of the churchyard. But all the other little tasks, such as the never ending weeding the cobble paths, judicious pruning, clearing ivy etc are undertaken by a small group of volunteers. If you have the occasional hour a week free and enjoy the 'outdoor gym' of gardening and would like to join the team, please let me know and I will add you to the list. You will receive occasional emails of when a work party is happening and odd jobs you might like to do in your spare time.

ELECTORAL ROLL FORMS

This is the time of year when Alison, our electoral roll officer reviews the register and if you have joined us in the last few months, she may well approach you and invite you to fill in a form. Alternatively please ring Alison on 866204 or email astoyle@btconnect.com and she will send you the form. If you are already on the register because you filled in a form last year then you need do nothing more. As well as giving you an opportunity to vote at the AGM or be on the PCC, signing a form is your way of saying '**I belong.**' So whether your connection is with St Mary's or Beacon or St Swithun's please sign a form and return it to Alison.

A PRAYER ON MOTHERING SUNDAY – because we all had a mother, some of us are mothers and some of us are looking after our mother. It's an interesting focus that International Women's Day was only a few days earlier than Mothering Sunday and that this week children returned to school. Phew! Unsurprisingly research shows that mothers have borne the brunt of home schooling and home working this last year. *Loving God, thank you for mums and children everywhere and for all the joys of family life. Be with those who are grieving because they have no mother; be close to those who are struggling because they have no children; be near to those who are sad because they are far apart from those they love. Let your love be present in every home and help your church to have eyes and ears to hear the needs of all who come. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

SUNDAY'S READINGS: Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3: 14-21