

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

11TH APRIL 2021

Welcome to our Sunday Communion service at 9.45am at St Swithun's Church, Sandford. Please try and arrive by 9.30am to be seated. Families, 'bubbles' and couples will be directed to the longer middle pews and single folk to the smaller pews on the sides. Please work with the stewards in this. It is not possible to reserve seats.

PAUL AND TRACEY FILLERY

This is the final time that the service will be led by Paul and that we will have Tracey with us before they move to the Somerset Levels. So this is our opportunity to say 'thank you' and 'fare well' to them both. Paul's time with us has been marked by some wonderful teaching and preaching and his pastoral care has been straight from the heart. Add to that Tracey's friendship and infectious laugh and her behind-the-scenes organisation and you have the dream team! Together we trust that '[God is working his purposes out' both with Paul and Tracey in Martock and with the parish of Sandford as it also moves on.

FLOWERS AND CHURCH DECORATING FOR EASTER

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare, clean and decorate the churches for Easter, it was wonderful to see the beauty and the colour of spring flowers putting a smile on (masked) faces.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The APCM will be held next **Sunday 18th April at 12 noon on Zoom**. If you would like to attend the meeting on Zoom, please contact Rosanne Baker on 01363 774409 or northcreedy@gmail.com by Sunday 11th April. If you are unable to attend on Zoom and would like a postal vote for the elections, please contact Rosanne. Alternatively, if you do not have access to Zoom and would like to attend the meeting by telephone, Rosanne will try to arrange this for you.

SECRETARY TO THE PCC

After nearly ten years Rosanne, who has done a wonderful job as secretary to the PCC, is stepping down and we are looking for someone else to pick up the baton. The basic requirement is to prepare the agendas and write out the minutes for the six meetings a year and the APCM. This is an important role for the running of the church so please consider if that someone could be YOU, and if so talk to Paul or the churchwardens, or best of all to Rosanne herself.

SANDFORD – FROM THE CADBURY DEANERY MAGAZINE ARCHIVES APRIL 1931

'Surely never in modern times has Sandford seen such a week as the one in March, when four of its farmers were lying abier at the same time – Messrs. Walter John Bickley of Aller: Albert George Lambert-Gorwyn, of Town Barton: Daniel Daw of Yelland: and Edward Frost, of Furzeland. Mr Daw was the result of an accident, and the others after brief illnesses. Each funeral was attended by a large crowd of fellow farmers from near and far in evidence of sympathy for the relatives and of respect to the memory of good men esteemed worthy of their profession.'

SOFT PLASTICS – HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT

We have all got very used to reusing and recycling to save landfill and in fact as a county Devon has a good record. At the moment it doesn't take soft plastics but Tesco does. If you are unable to take your soft plastic to Tesco yourself we will help. If you can place it in the black labelled dustbin to the right of the main doors, we will take it to Tesco. If that's not easy, give me a ring (Jean 777448) and I can collect it from your home. **Soft plastics includes : bread bags, cling film, crisp packets, wrappers of multipacks, salad bags, fruit and veg packaging. It also includes pet food pouches and baby food pouches but please ensure they are rinsed out and clean.**

CREDITON FOODBANK

Now that St Swithun's is open again the Foodbank boxes will be back in the porch for anyone wishing to donate. The items really needed right now are: **UHT milk (blue and green), tinned tomatoes and pasta**. If you want to make a cash donation, which goes towards buying fresh produce to supplement the food parcels the details are: Crediton Foodbank, sort code 40/20/30 and a/c no. 12600641.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Pray for Paul and Tracey as they leave us and mid Devon where they have lived for many years, move house and change jobs.
- Pray for our Queen and the wider royal family as they mourn the passing of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. As well as supporting the Queen in her role, he worked and headed up his own charities – how many people reading this will have taken a Duke of Edinburgh award, bronze, silver or even gold? And always he was a family man - husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.
- Pray for ourselves both locally and nationally as we move into Stage 3 of the road map and out of coronavirus restrictions. Pray for and support the hospitality sector, shops, hairdressers and small businesses as they reopen. Remember what you do affects others so be safe - and be encouraging!

SUNDAY'S READINGS: Psalm 133; Acts 4:32-35; John 20:19-end

So we live in the aftermath of last Sunday when we celebrated the fact that Jesus arose from the dead, he is alive! Do we see that as history, something that happened in the past or do we live out daily the fact that the living Jesus is with us? In the reading today from John, the other disciples **saw** Jesus, they could believe what they had seen. Lucky them! But Thomas wasn't there and wanted the proof they'd had. I note that when Jesus returned and spoke to Thomas, he didn't reprimand him for having doubts. Likewise today, Jesus can handle our doubting and walk through it with us.