

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

9TH MAY 2021

Welcome to Holy Communion at 9.30am at St Swithun's Church, Sandford. And a particular welcome to David Francis who will be leading the service. Although we can't sing (yet), welcome to Peter Gilks who will be playing the organ.

THY KINGDOM COME – 13TH TO 23RD MAY

In recent years, during the ten days between Ascension (when we remember Jesus returning to Heaven) and Pentecost (when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit) we have been encouraged to pray more. One initiative is that we each **pray4five**. Ask yourself 'who do I know who is precious to God – but doesn't know that yet?' It may be your next door neighbour, it may be a world leader. Then pray for your five chosen people during those ten days, that they know how God values and loves them and choose to turn to him.

THY KINGDOM COME - 13TH TO 23RD MAY

Another initiative in churches and dioceses around the world is to share praying through those ten days for your community, nation and world (that's 240 hours of non-stop prayer!). Last year this was mostly done via Zoom and St Swithun's Church booked 2 one hour Zoom slots in the Exeter Diocese TKC virtual prayer room. Please let me (Jean) know if you would like to join in this year or talk to me if you want to know what it involves.

PAUL FILLERY'S COLLECTED EPISTLES AND SERMONS

A huge thank you to Stephen Miller who instigated collecting in one book Paul's epistles and sermons which so many found comforting and stimulating throughout the lockdown of 2020. Thanks too to Andrew Moran Mylett who undertook the editing. However the initial print run of 40 books has all gone and people are still asking for copies. To see if it is worth reordering, it would help Stephen to have an idea of numbers, so if you missed it first time around, or would like to order extra copies, please contact Stephen. stephenwmmiller@gmail.com

CREDITON FOODBANK – THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

The Foodbank boxes are in the church porch for anyone wishing to donate. The items really needed right now are: **toilet rolls, tinned meatballs and tinned green beans**. 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

- As we continue to see the terrible consequences of Covid 19 in countries poorly equipped to deal with it, don't give up on both praying and doing.
- 'Who do I know who is precious to God – but doesn't know that yet?' Ask God which five people you are going to pray for during the 10 days from Ascension day on Thursday.
- Christian Aid week is from 10th - 16th May. Pray for the work of this impactful charity with its big focus on climate crisis in poorer parts of the world. Give what you can.

SUNDAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:18-21

I love reading the book of Acts, it consists of tales of ordinary people who turned to Jesus, asked God to forgive them, were baptised in water and in the Holy Spirit and whoosh they were off! In Jesus' name and by his authority they spoke to individuals or to crowds of thousands who were so moved they would cry out 'What must I do to be saved?' In Jesus' name they healed people, drove out evil spirits and performed mighty miracles. It's true as followers of Jesus they were also beaten, imprisoned, persecuted or even killed. But like them or hate them the new Christians were impossible to ignore. As we approach the period between Ascension and Pentecost, ask yourself what sort of church do you want to be part of?