

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

23RD MAY 2021

Welcome on Pentecost Sunday to Holy Communion at 9.30am at St Swithun's Church, Sandford. We extend a very warm welcome to Tom Honey who takes his first service here and hope he and his wife Jeanie are already feeling at home in the village.

BOUNTY TABLE

Bert and Margaret Jewell are restarting the bounty table this week. It will stock its usual share of seasonal salads, vegetables, plants and preserves, so please bring any surplus if you wish to donate. It is cash only so please put your donation in the pot provided. This year the proceeds will go towards church funds.

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: **men's deodorant, biscuits and baked 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. Remember to pray for the teams who make the food deliveries and dispense each food parcel with a smile and real care.

COBBLE CARE

As you have noticed, a small but dedicated team have been turning out every Tuesday morning to weed the cobbles and reveal the original path so that plans can be finalised for making a safe entry into church. If you would like to spend a morning on your knees and in great company then bring a kneeling pad and a sharp tool like a trowel and do join us for a Tuesday churchyard-workout!

SANDFORD SCHOOL SCARECROW TRAIL – TOYS TAKE ON THE CIRCUS

Would anyone like to volunteer to make and dress a scarecrow for this annual event? Maybe you could team up with others and come up with something? You have until June 14th to submit an entry (forms in the shop or online) and then the scarecrows will need to be ready by the end of July. Thinking caps on!

THANK YOU

Despite being in a vacancy and despite all the Covid restrictions we are thankful that we continue to have a weekly act of worship in our parish. Thanks to all those outside the parish who enable that to happen: to Matthew our Rector and Rural Dean, to the retired clergy and in particular David and Jenny Francis and to the Licensed Lay Ministers who we will be seeing more of like Laura Armstrong and Sandra Collier. Thank you too to our visiting organists James Cookson and Peter Gilks.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all those within the St Swithun's family who underpin the running of the church. To our church wardens, hard working Linda and Chris; to Jim and Rita who do so much behind the scenes from ringing the bells to weeding the cobbles; to the sidespeople who welcome us with a big smile each week, to the intercessors and readers; to Bert our verger. Between you all, St Swithun's continues to witness to what it means to be part of the worldwide family of God.

SUNDAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104: 24-34; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-7,16:4-15

IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Thank God for the cessation of hostilities between Israel and Palestine and pray that the ceasefire will hold.
- Continue to support and pray for small businesses both locally and elsewhere in the county that they will flourish and expand.
- Pray for our leaders at national and local government level that they have wisdom, vision, integrity and compassion.
- As you pray for yourself and your family this week do so in the light of Pentecost. This celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, available for each one of us, gives us access to the same power that transformed ordinary disciples into bold, miracle working Christians.

God of power,

*may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us
to serve and worship you,
now and always.
Amen.*