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THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

28th November 2021

On this first Sunday in Advent, welcome to Holy Communion at St Swithun's Church, Sandford at 9.30am. (No refreshments this week.)

This will be followed at 11am by the christening of little Erin, Jim and Rita's great-grand daughter. Erin will grow to realise St Swithun's is a real family church because not only have Jim and Rita been worshippers and very active members of St Swithun's for over 50 years, her grandfather James plays the organ and grandmother Sandra rings the bells.

Advent Carols - The choir at Holy Cross are offering a musical feast of Advent Carols at 6pm.

Sunday's readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36.

-- COMMUNITY NOTICES --

Christmas Tree Festival

This runs from the 2nd-5th December at Holy Cross Church with refreshments served in the Boniface Centre. Do look out for our St Swithun's tree where everything has been knitted or crocheted by our legendary knitter Margaret and teenager Freya. Thanks to Freya, Sophie, Tilly and Eve for helping decorate the tree.

Sidespeople and rotas

Thank you to all those who have agreed to be on the rota for refreshments after the Sunday services. It was lovely to linger and chat last week. And thank you to those who are on the many other rotas that make church life, particularly on a Sunday, run so smoothly. However the rota for sidespeople could do with a few more names. It simply involves meeting and greeting people with a smile and then collecting hymn books and service sheets afterwards. Do let Rita know if you can help.

Christmas Orders

Ronald is taking orders for his famous wholesome Christmas puddings, he also offers gluten free or vegan puds. You are asked to make a donation of at least £10 which he will be passing on to Crediton Food Bank. (phone Ronald on 772421 or email maryroseholman@gmail.com)

Jill is also taking orders for her beautiful home made evergreen Christmas wreaths. These will be £14 which she is donating to Water Aid. (phone Jill on 774292 or email jill@ashridgefarm.co.uk)

Last Year's Christmas cards

Has anyone saved a previous year's cards that could be recycled by being cut up for a craft project with some of the children from Family Church this year? Contact me (Jean) please.

Thank you Suzie

Suzie is our facebook administrator and often lifts items from the Parish Post for the St Swithun's facebook page. She has a knack of finding images that are spot on or including links to appropriate websites. Huge thanks to Suzie for the time she puts in! If you use facebook do 'like' or share the page.

The Giving Machine

If you do a lot of online shopping, at Christmas or any other time, do remember to use the Giving Machine which generates extra money for your nominated charity. **PCC Sandford & Upton Hellions** is registered on the site and has benefitted from shoppers remembering to use it. If you have not yet registered as a Giver, go to the website www.thegivingmachine.co.uk and sign up.

Crediton Community Food Bank

Needs this week are squash, fruit juice, biscuits and tinned meat meals. The boxes are in the church porch and you can leave items at any point in the week, though they are generally collected on a Tuesday.

-- AND FINALLY --

In your prayers this week:

- * Remember Erin as she is welcomed into the church family at her christening. Pray for her parents Rosie and Ashley that God would enable them as they parent Erin. If you have godchildren, take a moment to pray for them.
- * Remember those desperate people who have left their own country for whatever reason and seek simply a chance to live and work in peace and safety. Pray that the various countries and agencies can find a solution that is fair and just for asylum seekers.
- * Pray for those you know who are poorly that they would know God is close to them and feel at peace. Remember too those family and friends who are caring for parents who are nearing the end of their lives that all concerned will know they are being carried in God's 'everlasting arms.'





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