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THE PARISH POST

NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

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January 21st / 28th 2024

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter.

Sunday 21st at 9.30am - All age service at St Swithun's Church, Sandford.

Sunday 28th at 9.30am - Communion service at St Swithun's.

Should you want different styles or times of services, the full rota for the North Creedy East Mission Community is always pinned up in the church porch or can be found at the end of the monthly Hub Post.

--- Diary Dates ---

Wednesdays from 10.30am to midday - Coffee and Company (and yummy homemade cake).

Fridays - Contemplative Time at 10.30am (an oasis of calm in a busy week).

Home groups - afternoon group at 2.30pm on Tuesdays at Linda's and evening group on Wednesdays at 7.30pm at Jean's.

PCC Meeting - Thursday 25th at 7.30pm in the Under Gallery. Any items for the agenda please email our secretary Linda. lindajgriffin5@gmail.com

Deanery Lent Course at the Boniface Centre - beginning on 25th January and over the following 8 Thursdays. The theme is Unanswered Prayer led by Pete Greig, his course last year on prayer was excellent so this is highly recommended. Please let Janet know if you wish to attend so she can order books. (Home groups will be following the same course at a later time.)

--- Community news ---

Keeping warm - Look out for the lovely crocheted shrugs and shawls kept at the back of church and feel free to grab one when you come in. Thank you to Margaret who made and donated most of them.

Thank you - to Richard (Burstons) who over the years has turned a number of beautiful wooden candle holders which you can see on the window sills and

around the church over Christmas and Epiphany.

Charity giving over Christmas - The Christingle service raised £89.90 for the Children's Society, £154 was donated at the Carol service for The Children's Hospice SW and the joint church Christmas card raised £51.99 for FCN (Farm community network). And Margaret's knitted tree decs raised £25.81 for church funds. Thank you to all those who supported these Christmas events and the charities.

Crediton Foodbank - Please continue to support this important local charity with food offerings via Sandford stores, Morrison's or Tesco. Or you can also donate financially so the Foodbank can buy and add fresh produce to their parcels. The bank details are **Crediton Foodbank, sort code 40/20/30, a/c no.12600641.**

The Giving Machine - It is a while since we have plugged this, but if you shop online this is a simple way to add to your chosen favourite charities. **PCC Sandford & Upton Hellions** is registered on the site so to find out how to register as a Giver, go to Giving Machine website www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

North Creedy Choral Society - The NCCS will be performing the Mozart requiem on 27th April and rehearsals have just begun on Monday evenings at the Boniface Centre at 7.30pm. The society would welcome new members - talk to Stephen if you are interested.

--- And finally ---

We looked at this poem by Thomas Merton in our Home Group this week. Sometimes when the world seems chaotic, our circumstances beyond our control and our own lives feel a bit wobbly, it's hard to find something solid and certain. This poem sums it up and points to an anchor.

The Road Ahead

My Lord God,

I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore I will trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the

*shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my
perils alone.
Amen*



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