

THE PARISH POST

NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

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April 13th & 20th

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter

Sunday 13th - Palm Sunday - Communion Service at 9.30am at St Swithun's Church, Sandford.

--- Holy Week and Easter ---

Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th at Holy Cross Church at **7.30pm -** devotional address and Compline.

Thursday 17th at 7.30pm - Maundy communion service at St Swithun's with Washing of Feet and Stripping the Altar.

Good Friday - 10.00am Silent Walk of Witness in Crediton beginning at the Catholic Church.

Good Friday - 2pm at St Swithun's a Good Friday reflection.

Sunday 20th at 6am - Sunrise Easter communion at Beacon Church, New Buildings, followed by bacon butties.

Sunday 20th at 9.30am - Easter Sunday communion at St Swithun's. Should you want different styles or times of services, the full rota for the Crediton Hub is always pinned up in the church porch or can be found at the end of the monthly digital or paper Hub Post.

--- Diary Dates ---

Friday 11th - Crediton Hub information meeting - at 7.30pm at the Boniface Centre - with the Archdeacon of Exeter, for all in the Creedy Mission Communities and Crediton Benefice.

Easter Saturday 19th April from 10am - We will be cleaning and decorating the church for Easter. Jill asks if anyone would like to contribute towards the cost of Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact her on 01363 774292 or jill@ashridgefarm.co.uk. If you can help arrange flowers or provide foliage or flowers, again please contact Jill.

Wednesday 23rd - The Well - at 7.30pm at Holy Cross Church. An evening where with prayer, music and word you can experience God anew or be refreshed.

Saturday 26th from 10am to12 - Plant Sale and Coffee Morning in St Swithun's churchyard and church. If you can offer a cake or preserves, please sign up on the sheet at the back of St Swithun's. Spread the word, this will be a lovely morning.

Sunday 4th May - APCM at 11am after the Sunday service. This is the church's annual business meeting to which all are invited.

Coffee and Company every Wednesday from 10.30am to 12 - Bring a friend and make new friends while enjoying tea/coffee and lush home made cakes.

--- Community News ---

RIP - It is with sadness we heard of the death of Peter Allsop at the beginning of April. Peter was a member of St Swithun's and conductor of the choir for many years and with his late wife Rosemary was very much part of the church. His funeral will be in St Swithun's on Thursday 24th April at 11am.

RIP - Again it is with sadness we also announce the death of a much loved and long time village resident, Neil Butterfield, last week. For some years he offered his considerable thespian skills to the team that went into Sandford School every fortnight through the school term to dramatise a bible story for the school assembly. It was such a joy performing with him, we miss him dearly. Our thoughts and prayers are with both these families.

Charity giving - At the last PCC meeting it was agreed to choose two Christian charities, one local and one further afield that we would support as a church. If you have any Christian charities you would like to nominate please email the information to pccsandford@gmail.com.

Alpha - An Alpha course will be running in the Boniface Centre for 6 Wednesday evenings from 30th April. Over a meal and with a video and conversations, it's a way for anyone to explore the Christian faith. Please start praying about who you can invite to come along.

VE Day - is on May 8th and there are events planned on the following weekend 10th/11th May. There will be a WW2 display and cream tea in the Parish Hall on Saturday afternoon (more details to follow). On Sunday there is a special civic service at St Swithun's for the parish to commemorate the end of the war in Europe.

--- and finally ---

Easter is surely the most joyful of Christian festivals. Thanks to God's generosity of grace and mercy we can follow a Saviour who became a man so

we could get a glimpse of God, died for us and extraordinarily came alive again. We now have the unique privilege of a relationship with the living God!

In response to this amazing fact, I have been praying this prayer through Lent. It is by a French monk, soldier and explorer who chose to live among the Tuareg people in the Algerian Sahara and died in 1916. *Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you; I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me and in all your creatures.*

I wish no more than this, O Lord, into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve and with boundless confidence! For you are my Father.



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