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THE PARISH POST

NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

Clergy: Revd. Janet May 01363 779363 janetmay69@gmail.com

July 27th & August 2025

Welcome to

our summer newsletter

Sunday 27th July - Communion service at St Swithun's Church, Sandford at 9.30am

Sunday 3rd August - Communion service at Beacon Church, New Buildings at 8.30am

Sunday 3rd - Communion service at St Swithun's Church at 9.30am

Sunday 10th - Communion service at St Swithun's Church at 9.30am

Sunday 17th - Morning Praise at St Swithun's Church at 9.30am. This will be our last service led by Antonia as she prepares for ministry training. We have been so blessed by her and wish her well on her future path.

Sunday 24th - Communion service at St Swithun's Church at 9.30am

Sunday 31st - Joint Mission Community Communion service at 10.30am.

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 25th July at 7pm - Music for a Summer's Evening. Nigel and Tina Guthrie have kindly offered this fund-raising concert for voice, flute, piano and organ for the churchyard path fund, The Wildlife Way. Tickets for £8 can be bought on the door with super Summer Refreshers for £5 during the interval. It promises to be a very special evening.

Sunday 10th August - Sandford Flower and Produce Show at 2pm at the Parish Hall. Entry forms in by Thursday 7th.

Tuesday 12th and 26th - Communion at Summerhayes at 11am. Sandra would be delighted if anyone wanted to join her.

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.

Contemplative Prayer - every Friday from 10.30am to 11am, apart from Friday 1st August when we will wander like pilgrims up to St Mary's Church, Upton Hellions, via Shaky Bridge. If you want to join us please meet in the Parish Hall car park at 10am to car share down to Northlakes. Or join Linda Griffin and drive to Upton Hellions and meet us at St Mary's at 11am. Dogs very welcome. Bring your own drinks.

On Friday 15th we will remember VJ Day.

--- Community News ---

Janet - Her recovery is slow but steady and due to some of the medication she is now on, she finds she needs lots of rest. 'Listen to your body' her doctors keep telling her. She thanks us all for our good wishes, phone calls, cards and visits, and most of all our prayers.

Finances - The costs of running a Grade 1 listed building like St Swithun's are eye wateringly high. There are the regular bills like electricity, administration, insurance, heating oil, mowing the churchyard etc but on top of that we also pay a 'parish share' which largely goes towards the salary and pension of parish priests. This year our parish share is £27,000. When people live in or move into a village, there are certain things which really give it a heart. A school, shop, pub and a parish church - which is generally one of the oldest buildings in the village. Whether you visit the church or churchyard often or occasionally, do consider supporting it financially. Perhaps by direct debit or the Parish Giving Scheme or joining the Friends. Talk to Jim or Stephen to find out more. Literally, every little helps!

The churchyard path - We are putting in for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to replace one of the uneven, cobbled paths and make access to the church safer and easier. It will involve some exciting environmental community projects in the churchyard and so has been renamed the Wildlife Way. Jim and the team are hoping to send the application off in a couple of weeks - and then we wait and pray for a positive response!

--- For your Prayers ---

* Pray for Jay and El as they prepare for their wedding at St Swithun's on Saturday 23rd August.

* Pray for Janet as she convalesces and for comfort of body, peace of mind and freedom from fear for others you know who are poorly.

* Pray for our children and young people over the summer that they keep safe, and that they and their families and carers have a good time together.

* Pray for the areas of the world where there continues to be conflict and hardship. Pray for peace makers, negotiators and leaders that they recognise

the needs and rights of one another and commit to the costly way of reconciliation.

And finally our church prayer - pray it as often as you can!

Heavenly Father, you have welcomed us into your kngdom and your heart's desire is to draw every human being to yourself.

Grant us clear eyes to see people as you see them, sensitive feet to stand in their shoes and and warm smiles to welcome them in your name.

Give us such generous hearts that our church becomes a foretaste of heaven, where every soul you send us finds a loving home in the community of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.



Our mailing address is: pccsandford@gmail.com

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St Swithuns · St Swithuns Church · Church Street, Sandford · Crediton, Devon EX17 4ND · United Kingdom

