



**NEWSLETTER
FOR ST JAMES'S, WINSCOMBE;
ALL SAINTS, SANDFORD; AND
ST. JOHN'S, CHURCHILL.**



12th March 2021 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

We have had so many lovely comments and thanks for the posies that were distributed around our parish to celebrate Mothering Sunday last week, which has been really uplifting. A big thank you goes to all those people who helped create the posies and deliver them.



Ros delivering posies; William delivering to Dunster Court; some posies waiting for delivery and Andrew delivering to St Monica's.

For those who were able to join the Zoom Mothering Sunday service, which included some 50 + adults and children, this too brought much joy. Being able to see one another and put faces to names helped everyone feel united once again and part of our wider church family. We enjoyed a reading by Emma with her son on her knee, a special Mothering Sunday sermon given by Andrew, and prayers by Tricia plus some fun action songs to get up and move to. It was especially appreciated at the end of the service, by those who wanted, to be able to stay and chat in small groups getting to know one another, in some cases, for the first time.



Angela's flowers; William delivering to Sewell House; Sarah with her posies and watering cans of bulbs awaiting delivery in Churchill.

This week we look forward to our 5th **Sunday of Lent** and a **Morning Worship** service pre-recorded which you will be able to listen to or view via Podcast and video at <https://winsandchurches.org.uk/podcasts/>

The readings for this Sunday are:- Jeremiah 31: 31-34; Hebrews 5: 5-10 and John 12: 20-33

And Coming Up



Saturday 27th March at 10:30am Easter Messy Church via Zoom

Sunday 28th March
9:30 am
11:00 am

Palm Sunday
Holy Communion at St James's
Morning Worship at St John's



Church, Winscombe
Church, Churchill

(See attached poster which can be displayed somewhere suitable.)

Lent Study

This week's Lord's Prayer reflection is on the theme of 'Forgiveness' and is led by Pauline. It is available to watch or listen to by following the links on the church website: <https://winsandchurches.org.uk/all-things-lent/>

In your continuing prayers, let us join as a church community in bringing before God those dear to us, who are suffering in body or mind at the moment especially:



Bishop Peter, Liz Elvins, Tim Walton, Geoff Norton, Sara B, James, Celia Hine, Pauline K, Revd Tim Jessiman and wife Elaine, David, Jacquie Bravery, Jim McGeoch, Myra Burroughs, Pat Gray, Pippa Cobden-Ramsay, Katie Brookman, Russ A, Rachael, Peter S, Ken Martin, Nigel J, Niel A and Miriam Taylor and those known only to ourselves and to God, and for all the people who love them.

We give thanks for answers to prayer especially for those who are recovering from recent operations or time in hospital.

Let us also pray for

- People whose NHS operations have been delayed
- Our NHS - particularly for those staff exhausted by the demands of the last twelve months
- Those who are working on the rollout of the coronavirus vaccination programme
- The family of Sarah Everard and all those who struggle to come to terms with the violent death of loved ones
- Those who are sick or ill as a result of the coronavirus and those who have been bereaved
- Bishop Peter as he makes plans to retire
- Bishop Ruth and the senior staff of the diocese as they continue to act in his stead

If you would like a new name added to the prayer list, please feel free to contact Revd. Andrew - contact details on the website

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News Items

The National Day of Reflection

Remembering those who have died during the Coronavirus pandemic, all who care on the front line, and all who are rebuilding our society.

More information at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance/national-day-reflection>



The graphic features the Church of England logo (a cross inside a circle) and the text 'THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND' in purple. Below this is a yellow stylized flower logo with the text 'National Day of Reflection' and '23 March' in black. To the right of the logo, the text reads: 'National Day of Reflection | The Church of England' in blue, followed by 'Prayers, liturgy and other resources to help mark the anniversary of the first lockdown, as part of the National Day of Reflection organised by Marie Curie on 23 March.' and the website 'www.churchofengland.org' in grey.

Would you like to join the PCC?

When we meet for the Winscombe and Sandford APCM on Sunday 25th April, there will be opportunities to elect:

- New Churchwardens
- A Treasurer, and
- New members of the PCC.

Would you like to become a member of the PCC? Our meetings are enjoyable and it will give you an opportunity to help shape and contribute to the delivery of the work of the PCC.

If you feel a calling to take on any of these roles, do get in touch with Andrew in the first instance. He would certainly be delighted to hear from you.

Appeal for Easter Lilies

If anyone would like to contribute to the purchase of a lily in memory of their loved one at All Saints Church, Sandford, please call Angela Morris on 01934 852327. The flower arranging will then take place on Easter Saturday morning.

Joining the Electoral Rolls

Winscombe and Sandford Parish, and Churchill and Langford Parish, will be updating their electoral rolls prior to their Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM). If you would like your details adding, or indeed if your details need to be revised, please let Sarah Gunn know for Winscombe and Sandford on 01934 842373 or sarahgunn2000@hotmail.com and Emma Stocks for Churchill on 01934 853873 or emma.stocks@hotmail.com. The advantage of being on the electoral roll is that you can then take on a role on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

All Saints Church Fundraising

Lyn Callow continues to do brilliant fundraising for All Saints Church. The making of face masks and cakes is keeping her busy and you happy! If anyone needs a new facemask for Lent, please contact Lyn on 01934 823484. The cost is still £4.00. And the good news is that she is still making delicious cakes. There is no specific charge. She only asks for a donation for All Saints Church. Why not give her a call and place your order!

A message from Bishop Peter as he announces his retirement



Bishop Peter has recorded and written a special message, as the news of his early retirement on medical grounds sparked a huge outpouring of gratitude and affection from people in the diocese and far beyond. "The Psalm at Morning Prayer today was Psalm 54 and contained the words: *'Behold God is my helper: it is the Lord who upholds my life.'* As you might imagine those words really resonated with me. My experience has certainly been that the Lord has walked with me and upheld me through all that has happened over the last few months. Covid has challenged us all and there is still some way to go before things ease enough for us to be able to reconnect properly with our family, our friends, and our communities. However, I am very aware of all that churches, schools and chaplaincies have done to offer worship online and to continue to support and serve local communities. The pandemic has made us think about the importance of relationships and encouraged us to think in new ways, to extend the boundaries of what we do and the way we live and share the good news of Jesus. Through all this I hope that we have experienced the Lord as our helper and the one who upholds our life.

In the short video above I have taken the opportunity to reiterate my thanks to you all for your messages and prayers for Jane and me, especially since I have had to announce my retirement as Bishop of Bath and Wells. I am really grateful to you all for the encouragement and support you have given us. As we look to the future as a diocese and as followers of Christ may He continue to uphold

us and be our helper."

With warm greetings in the Lord,
Bishop Peter

[Read more about Bishop Peter's retirement](#)

We end this Newsletter with a prayer

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God bless you all
Andrew, Beth, Douglas, Tony and Tricia

Sent on their behalf by William Du Croz and Emma Stocks.

If you know of other people who might like to receive this Newsletter, or if you do not wish to receive future copies, please let William know.

Contact Details

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To join our **WhatsApp Group 'Church Matters'** just text your name and number to Jo Claridge on 07986 665618.

To receive updates via **Facebook** 'like' our page, 'Parish of Winscombe and Sandford' or send a request to become a friend of 'St John's Churchill'

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