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Copy deadline for the March 2022 magazine is 5th February.

This month's cover photo: Valentine artwork at Messy Church from February 2020



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Candlemas – a festival of light

Many faiths have some kind of light festival in the winter months, when evenings are long and skies often grey and dark.

In modern Britain, we very rarely experience complete darkness. With the ubiquity of electric lighting, one has to go to a completely deserted spot to find a total absence of artificial luminosity.

On a clear starlit night, there is nothing quite like being in a place where the only light is from the sky.

Candlemas is one Christian festival where light is a key theme. Mary and Joseph took the young Jesus to the temple for the Jewish rites of purification; while there, they met the elderly Simeon who had been waiting for the coming of the King long foretold by the prophets of old. On seeing the child Jesus, he uttered the words commonly now called the *Nunc Dimittis*; Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel (*Book of Common Prayer* version). Simeon saw in the baby before him the Light of the World, a phrase which Jesus later used of himself.

It always strikes me how, when a small candle is lit in the darkest room, the whole place is transformed. Suddenly what may seem like a black hole of darkness and nothingness has a focus, something to look at; the overwhelming sense of gloom is pierced by one small flame.

The idea that Jesus is the Light of the World is a metaphorical one, in which I hope we can find comfort when our lives seem dark and gloomy. We can't turn Jesus on like a torch when we are in physical darkness, but in the same way that a candle flame can transform a dark room, the promises of Christ to be with us always can alter our sense of aloneness in our troubles.

Lighting a candle can be a way of reminding ourselves of this. When we baptise a child in church, we always give them a candle to take home as a reminder that the light of Christ is with them wherever they are. In the past people would bring their year's candles to be blessed in church at the Candlemas services, another reminder of God's light. Perhaps, next time you feel alone with your troubles, you might like to find a candle and light it as a reminder that God is with you, however isolated you feel, and that there is nowhere that is beyond the scope of God's love.

Continued on Page 7

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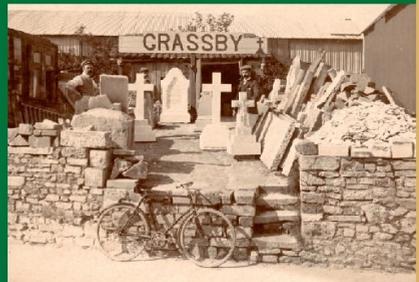


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Why not find a candle on February 2nd, and light it for ten minutes or so while you reflect on God's presence in your home and life? You could perhaps continue lighting that candle each day for a few moments until the wick is burnt up and the wax gone. And then call to mind that God's light is eternal and will never die out.

With best wishes
Sarah

BENEFICE REGISTERS

Funeral

D. 4th December Aged 84	Joseph Alfred George Cox	Tolpuddle
D. 6 December Aged 81	Frederick Brian Miller	Tolpuddle

BENEFICE PRAYER GROUP

Janet Voke and Sue Turner warmly invite you to join them for a time of friendship and prayer for all of us in the benefice.

It will be in the Church Room, Puddletown on Tuesdays from 10.30 until 12.00 noon.

There will be coffee and conversation from 10.30 and prayers will begin at 11.00.

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Prayer for the Month

Prayer for the Month

No one has contributed a favourite prayer this month, so I have picked a well-loved prayer written by St Teresa of Avila for this column. It's a reminder of how much God has entrusted to us to share love with others.

*Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on
this world.*

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.



To contribute to this column, please send details of your prayer with a few sentences about why it's important to you, to Sarah Hillman (sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com). If you're not on-line, we'd still love you to participate so snail mail is also great!

St Mary's Puddletown

Intercessors		Scripture Readers
6th Feb	Jean Jeffreys	Judy Bumby
13th Feb	Puddletown Praise Team	
20th Feb	TBC	Pat Bishop
27th Feb	Margaret Rickard	Cynthia Metcalfe & Geoff Hawkins

PCC Charity Donations

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Lent	Bishop's Fund for Sudan
Mothering Sunday	Mosaic
Easter Day	The Salvation Army (Homeless)
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Christmas	The Children's Society

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Children's Society

Please can Children's Society Box Holders put their boxes in St Mary's around the 6/2 or have their boxes ready for collection week commencing 7/2 please?

Hopefully we will get back to the regular November collection month this year again.

Thank you everyone.

Dawn Loveless
(Children's Society box co-ordinator)

**The
Children's
Society**

**No child
should feel
alone**

New Burial Area at St Mary's Church

Our volunteers have been working hard in the new burial ground area in the land behind the old primary school buildings over the past couple of years.

The grass has been sown and is growing well in the main area, and work continues on the concrete area adjacent to the church path. In December, 6.5 tons of pebbles and slate were laid around this area to create a garden.

If anyone would like to donate a plant for the garden, please contact Bob Todd on 01305 849048



Bishop Karen will be visiting Puddletown at 2pm on Monday 7th March to consecrate the new burial ground and bless the new headstocks on the 5th and Tenor bells which were replaced in 2020.



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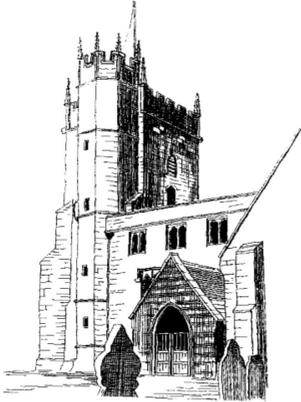
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St. Mary's Church Events - February

We are now well into 2022 and our regular events continue each month.

Christmas This is the first opportunity we have had to look back at all the Christmas events that took place. Our church was beautifully decorated by Heather and her team and provided a wonderful backdrop for all the services over Christmas. The Carol service was well attended, as was the Crib service with numerous angels and shepherds making their way to the church on Christmas Eve.

Pop-in coffee mornings These take place every Thursday from 10.00am to 12 noon. Everyone (of any age) is welcome. If any of you would like to be involved in our friendly team providing teas/coffees and cake on a Thursday morning, please do get in touch. It is not hard work, but is very sociable and we usually have fun. Phone Judy 01305 849146 if you would like to join us.

Cards Rosemary will bring her cards to the pop-in coffee morning on 17th February.

Messy Church This will take place in Dewlish on Sunday 6th February at 4.00pm and again on Sunday 6th March in Tolpuddle. There will be activities, crafts, songs, games, a bible story and prayers followed by tea. An adult must accompany children.

Prayer Group The Benefice prayer group meets on Tuesdays in Puddletown Church Room, 10.30 until 12.00noon. Coffee and conversation from 10.30am followed by prayers at 10.50am. All are welcome.

The Monthly Village Lunch will be held on Monday 14th February. We shall be serving chicken tray bake followed by a selection of delicious puddings. 12 noon to 1.30pm in Puddletown Village Hall. Please contact Sheila on 849193 or Jean on 848211 if you haven't already booked or if you have to cancel.

The Christmas lunch was very well attended and greatly enjoyed by all – the Middle School provided musical entertainment and a gift for each person. Well done Sheila and all her helpers.

Flower Tower following everyone's great effort at creating the poppies for the church tower in November, we are now planning a red, white, and blue flower tower to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. Flowers can be of any design, and any shade of red & blue (as well as white!), knitted, crocheted, or made of felt, but please attach some wool/string to enable us to attach the flowers to the netting. A box will be placed in the church for completed flowers.

Thank you!



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Month on the Farm



Now into the New Year and the hope for everyone is that 2022 is more of a usual type of year. Here on the farm after a damp and muddy December, the first week of January got colder, things started to dry up and the yards were easier to work in, as feeding, bedding up and normal daily winter jobs carried on.

Once again we have had the annual Red Tractor Assurance inspection, which covers absolutely everything we do on the farm, from checking that sheep and cattle are clean and well-fed with no obvious health problems, to all the form filling and that the information has been kept up to date, to grain lorry collection tickets, the weather, wind speed and direction on the fields when a spray application was applied and a whole host of other forms and details to make sure that the farm is up to the standard for our produce to be included in the Red Tractor Assurance Scheme, so that you, the public, can trust that what you buy with the Red Tractor Logo on the packaging is all fully traceable and of good quality.

Thankfully, we passed everything other than a few minor issues; we now have to have a sign, as well as the No Smoking one which was brought in a few years ago, to one saying No Naked Flame and another telling anyone who needs to know who our electrician is and any other relevant people.

The ewes who are grazing the hills on rented ground north of Puddletown were brought down on the New Year weekend to be pregnancy scanned, to check if they were in lamb and how many lambs they were carrying, so relevant feeding and caring of them can be managed. The scanning is done by one of our sons who goes all over Dorset and the neighbouring counties scanning sheep, goats and the occasional alpaca mainly at this time of the year, but some sheep like the Dorset Horn lamb naturally in the autumn, so it's a summer job as well.



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We had an articulate lorry to collect a large bunch of weaned calves just after Christmas who were bought by a farmer up country and who will rear them on. And here, as the days slightly lengthen, there seems a little optimism in the country for the hopes of the New Year.

Wakely Cox

6th January 2022





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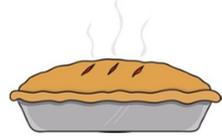
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Sheila: 849193; Jean: 848211

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	Rainfall for the month	80.70 mm
	Cumulative for the year	771.20 mm
	2020 Rainfall for the month	129.30 mm
	2020 Cumulative for the year	977.40 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 12.50° C Min. 6.50° C
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	2020	21.30 mph

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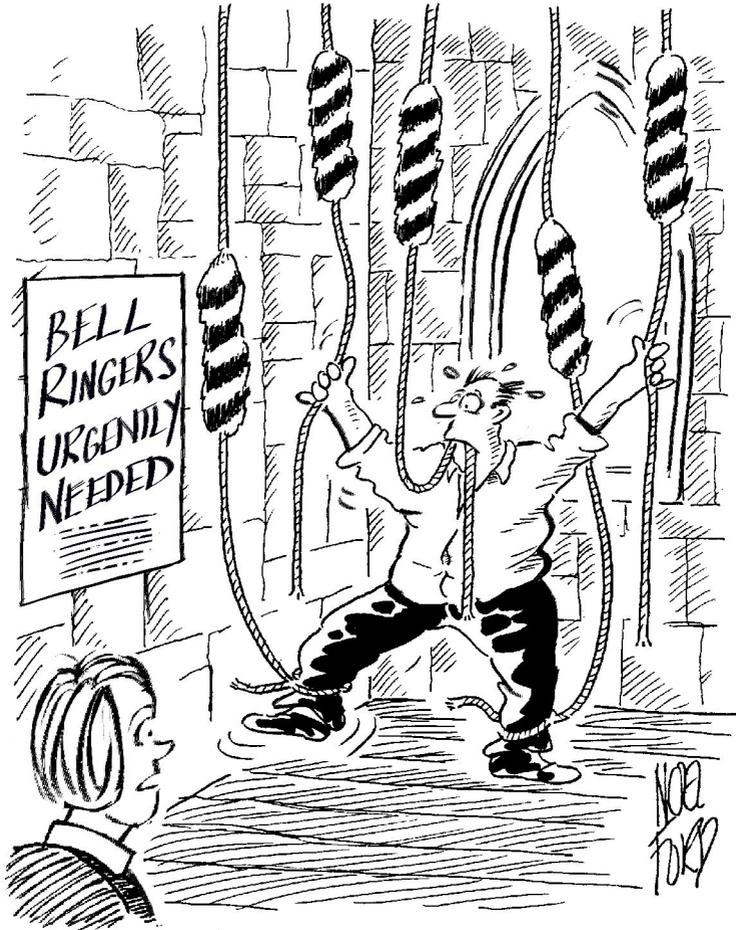
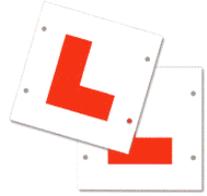
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- **Get some fresh air and exercise**
- **Meet new people**
- **Eat cake**
- **Help maintain Tolpuddle's beautiful Orchard Meadow!**

Just wear suitable shoes/boots, bring gardening gloves if you have them and we'll provide tools as well as hot drinks, squash and homemade cake. No experience needed.

See you there!



Orchard Meadow is maintained by village volunteers with only the grass cutting undertaken by a local contractor. Regular work parties have taken place since Orchard Meadow's opening in 2009.

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For further information contact Rob Brunt on 01305 848383

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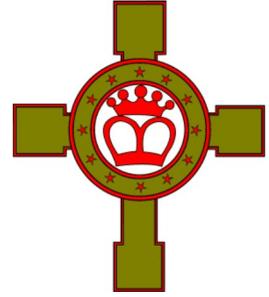
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St Mary's Middle School

I was so pleased that we managed an autumn term of something close to normality in school and a run-up to Christmas that meant we were able to do many of the usual activities at that time of year. I am so grateful that we were able to witness a superb Christmas concert, go to the pantomime, hold services at the church and allow the class carol competition winners to battle it out for the overall year group prize. I want to thank my staff for all they did to make this possible. I want to highlight all of the pupils who



performed in the concert, read or sung in church or played their carol entry in front of their peers. This is such an important skill for pupils to develop, being in public and learning to talk/perform in front of others. It has been a long time since we were able to do this and so, with the imposed break, it was even harder to do this than normal. In all cases, they did themselves and the school proud, so well done to them all!

The show-stopping Christmas concert was a celebration of the outstanding amount of musical talent we have at St Mary's. With more than a third of the school participating and parents permitted to attend, this concert was made memorable for all. Performances included those by the school orchestra, brass ensemble, ukulele group, the whole school singing group, boys' singing group, Rock Club and the new Dance Club. As well as all the school's ensembles, the concert also featured lots of soloists and small group items. Congratulations to everyone who worked extremely hard to rehearse their part and the finale, 'Merry Christmas Everyone', was so good, I made them all do it again and joined in!

Finally, we raised an impressive £316.42 for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day!

Best wishes
Darren Ayling
Head Teacher



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CLERGY	The Revd Sarah Hillman (Vicar)	01305 848 784
	sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
RETIRED CLERGY	The Revd Sue Turner	07775 710 429
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	Margaret Rickard	01305 849332
CHURCHWARDENS	Cynthia Metcalfe (Puddletown)	01305 848 043
	Dawn Loveless (Puddletown)	01305 849 534
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	01305 848 552
	Jayne Brayshaw (Tolpuddle)	01305 849 314
	Pam Shults (Milborne St Andrew)	01258 837 203
	Vacancy	
	Sue Britton (Dewlish)	01258 837 218
	Jim Burg (Dewlish)	01258 837 466
BENEFICE OFFICE	Emma Hughes	01305 849 039
(www.puddletownbenefice.org)	puddletownbenefice@outlook.com	
PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS		
Alcoholics Anonymous	Alcoholics Anonymous	
Area Parish Council	Alan Sheppard	07771 98 8574
	Email:alan.sheppard@oldpuddletown.co.uk	
Area Parish Clerk	Mrs A Bendall	01305 849 596
	puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Carer's Association		
Children's Society	Dawn Loveless	01305 849534
Church Room	Jane Stanley	01305 848494
COMMUNITY LIBRARY - Run & financed by volunteers. 01305 848 506		
	info@communitylibrarypuddletown.org	
Opening Hours:-	Wednesday: 3.00pm to 5.00pm	
	Friday: 10.00am to 12.00pm	
	Saturday: 10.00am to 12.00noon	
County Councillor	Emma Parker	
Cricket Club	David Stevens	07720 411 952
Cubs, Scouts & Beavers	Alf Justin	01258 839 080
Football Club	Steve Brown	07789 821 408
Flower Rota	Heather Mears	01305 848 021
Footpaths & Rights of Way	Julian Hubbuck	07881 678 126
	julian.hubbuck@gmail.com	
Friends of Puddletown Church	Ursula Pomeroy	01305 264 516
Friends of Puddletown Library	Paul Poser	01305 848 176

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DOCTORS		
Puddletown Surgery Dr J Griffiths, Dr C Burnham & Dr J Bond		01305 848 333
Puddletown Surgery (Dispensary)		01305 849 329
Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	111
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Guides, Brownies & Rainbows	Amy Knight	01305 848 602
Handbells	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Mini-Soccer/Youth Football	Jon Palmer	07891 173 999
Neighbourhood Plan	Anna Bendall	01305 849 596
PCC Secretary	Emma Hughes	01305 849039
PCC Treasurer	David Elliott	01305 259236
Pilates (at First School)	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
Puddletown CPPP	www.facebook.com/puddletownplaypark	
Puddletown Pumpkins Toddler Group	Amy Waldron	ajcinoz06@yahoo.co.uk
Puddletown Society	John Ridout	01305 848 940
Recreational Multi Games Area	David Knight	07890 260 320
Recreation Ground Pavilion	Liz Knight	01305 848 380
Royal British Legion (RBL)	S Ridout	01305 848 940
Rugby Club	Ray Stephens puddletownrfc@hotmail.com	07966 412 467
SCHOOLS		
Pre-school	Sharon Brown www.puddletownpreschool.co.uk	01305 849 533
Pre –school	Laura Evans	
First School (Head Teacher)	Mr D Hunwick www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	01305 848 206
St Mary's CE Middle School	Darren Ayling – Head Teacher	01305 848 293
Short Mat Bowls		
Village Hall Caretaker/Bookings	Kevin Smith (puddletownvh@gmail.com)	07706 798271
Village Hall Committee Secretary	Amy Knight	01305 848602
Yoga	Mandy Cooper	07713 477737

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Young Farmers (Dorset)	01305 263 947
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TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS

Defibrillator (outside Martyrs Inn)	Clare & Roger Angus	07720 059035 or 01305 848286
Orchard Meadow	Anna Bendall—Clerk to PACC	01305 849596
PCC Secretary	Jayne Brayshaw	01305 849 314
PCC Treasurer	John Taylor	01305 848 552
Pilates	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
Streetfair	Annette Pitman	01305 848 219
Tolpuddle Home Group	Simon Dodd	01305 848 171
Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust	tolpud-dleotr@btinternet.com	tolpuddleotr@btinternet.com
Tolpuddle Toddler Group	Maria Palmer	07717 506020
Tolpuddle Village Meeting	Julia Johnstone, Clerk.	tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com
Tolpuddle Village Show	Jo Austwick	austwickjoanne@gmail.com.
Village Hall Bookings Sec.	Julie Batchelor & Jo Austwick	tolpuddlevinfo@gmail.com
Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton - pdwal-ton@btinternet.com	01305 848 034
Whist Drive	Diana Foreman	01305 848 419
Yoga (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848 053

USEFUL & EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Benefit Enquiry Line	0800 88 22 00
Dorset Community Action	info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk
Dorset County Hospital	01305 251 150
Electricity Failure (Southern Electric)	0800 0727 282
Gas Leak or a smell of gas	0800 111 999
POLICE—Local Officers	PC Moore 0229 & PCSO Alison Donnison 6500 101 or "Contact Us" section on Dorset Police Website

DEWLISH CONTACTS

Cricket	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837 696
Ladies Group	Judith Bridgen	01258 837 157
Parish Council	Andrew Booth (Chair)	01258 837 284
Village Hall (Chair)	Bernie Cosgrove,	01258 837 152
Village Hall (Sec)	Alex Carter	01258 837 312

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MILBORNE ST ANDREW CONTACTS		
Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Sheila Ryall	01258 837 504
Athletics (Information)	David Pearson	01258 837 057
Badminton	Bruce Dyer	01258 839 117
Bellringers	Pip Howell	01258 837 329
Busy Bees Group (Under 5s)	Claire Tudge	07970 734 162
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837 089
Food & Wine Club	Rose Frost	01258 837 921
Football (Youths)	Andy Brown	07427 503 373
Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837 061
Ladybirds Playgroup	Liz Dyer	01258 839 117
Milborne First School	Sharon Hunt (Head Teacher)	01258 837 362
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837 033
Nightsabre Dog Training Group	Natasja Lewis	07896 275 357
Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470 333
Parish Council	Richard MacNair	01258 837 912
	Wayne Lewin (Clerk)	07419 136 735
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 880 229
Pilates (at First School)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880 044
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762 035
Sports Club	Richard Lock (& Bookings)	01258 837 929
Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880 601
Tai Chi	Brian Burton	01258 839 033
Tap Dancing (Adults)	Kevin Selby	01305 250 386
Tennis - Member's Secretary	Richard Hawker	07383 309 037
Village Hall	Sarah Ryan (Chair)	01258 839 230
	Alison Riddle (Bookings)	01258 837 148
Wednesday Social Club	Sheila Burton	01258 839 033
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471 732
Yoga –at First School (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848 053
Yoga—at Village Hall	Sarah Ryan	01258 839 230
Youth Club (8-13 years)	Joanne Miller	01258 881 496



St John's Church Tolpuddle - February 2022

Is spring around the corner? Will spring bring renewed life in the church and village as well as in the fields and meadows? Who knows what the future holds, yet we have to make plans to assume that we WILL get back to a normal routine and indeed this WILL include coming

back to services in the church.

Jayne and I support Sarah in all her initiatives, but we need support from the village and the general community. We do offer a variety of services, for those who appreciate their familiar traditional prayers as well as those who are willing to try something new. So do note these for the coming month....

February 6th- Parish Communion- 9.30am

February 13th Sunday Reflection- 5.30pm

February 20th- Parish Communion- 9.30am

February 27th- Go Fourth- 10.00am

PARISH COMMUNION- needs no introduction- but we would like to ask for volunteers to do the occasional Bible reading and also the intercessions (prayers) – the latter seems a little intimidating at first but we are happy to help and advise.

SUNDAY REFLECTION- this is in response to suggestions from some of our friends in the village who appreciate music but are wary of a regular service, and is a collection of music assembled by Dr Richard Hall (who has recently retired as Director of Dorset Rural Music School), some readings, a story, poem and Bible reading, and some thoughtful prayers and silence.

GO FOURTH- this is currently the most popular of the services, as we have fabulous input from our local band, as well as the opportunity for the congregation to participate, and we have refreshments and it starts a bit later!! We will, of course, listen and take note of feedback as the church is there for YOU and if we don't begin to use it, we might find that services will be restricted.

Continued on Page 35



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There is little else to report this month; Christmas is well behind us all packed away ready for another year. We have many happy memories-although almost all families have been affected by Covid in some way so arrangements have had to be changed or cancelled at the last minute. We are planning various things for the coming Jubilee Year as well as the Church Camping, once the weather gets warmer. We hope to start up the Thursday Coffee Mornings again in due course and a meeting of the joint Tolpuddle Events Committee, which incorporates the Church Events and Village Hall Events, will be gathering other ideas for the weekend of June 3rd and 4th as well as a Summer Sizzle etc etc. Any ideas for future events are always welcomed, particularly as the pub is still closed!

Meanwhile- we would like to say a huge thank you to all those who have raised such generous funds for the church and more recently the Children's Society-through the Hamper Raffle, the Carol Singing, the Bonfire Party and the Summer Sizzle.

Keep safe and happy and healthy

Hilly and Jayne

Church Mouse Stock

- Piddle Duck APRON (blue or pink) £15
- River Piddle & Duck TEA TOWEL £4.50
- Picture of St Mary's Church £2
- Duck cards (pack of 4) £5
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- Flower notelets (pack of 4) £3

Please contact Caroline Cox on 01305 848514 if you wish to purchase any items.

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TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

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Happy New Year to everyone.

We are very much hoping that normality returns this year following nearly two years of the pandemic, but, in any event, at least the Hall is open and available for use.

With the pub still closed, we're delighted that it is now the venue for coffee mornings on Tuesdays and for Community "bring your own" Drinks on Fridays from 5-8pm. Some in the village have hired the Hall to give a bit more space to entertain their families over the Christmas period – at £6 per hour, it's great value for Tolpuddle/Southover residents who want to have private events. Booking is easy – just e-mail tolpuddlevhinfo@gmail.com or visit our new website at tolpuddlevillagehall.com.

With the Tolpuddle Events Committee now firmly established, we will be looking to work closely with it on events that may be staged at the Hall during the year. Watch out for more details in due course.

Village Hall Trustees

150 Club 2021 - Draw

In aid of the Tolpuddle Village Hall Development Fund

The new 150 club is now underway and the first draw has taken place. It is drawn live on the Tolpuddle Facebook Community page with results published here as well.

2021	1st (£20)	2nd (£15)	3rd (£10)
December	Diana Foreman	Melissa Spencely	Julia Johnstone

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Do you have holiday accommodation in Tolpuddle?

We are adding an additional page to the village website

(www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk) as this is a busy holiday area with little accommodation available.

It is hoped that this will bring more business to the local area and enable more holidaymakers to enjoy our beautiful countryside.

Please email

Tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com if you have any comments or suggestions.

Julia Johnstone



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Milborne St Andrew's Church News

Christmas was celebrated in St Andrew's

Despite the increasing cases of the Omicron Covid virus, we were lucky enough to celebrate Christmas in our church this year. At St Andrew's we had a wonderful candle lit Carol Service, which was not as well attended as our last one, but still enough people to raise joyful sounds when singing the carols. Sarah kept the children involved and enthralled at the Christmas morning service. The Christmas Eve service also went ahead and was attended by a few hardy congregational members. Our Celebrate service was held on the first Sunday of Epiphany which is when the Wise Men visited the Manger. The team planned the service to focus on journeys. The church was beautifully decked with colourful, beautiful. flower displays, thanks to our small but productive flower arranging tea.

Last year we had a Quinquennial Inspection, which identified some minor works, mostly of slipped or damaged roof tiles. In order to get the work done a 'Faculty' is required. Faculties are permissive rights to undertake any repair or building works to the church and have to be gained in order to do the work. This is now an online application process which I found challenging but eventually succeeded. However, we are still waiting for permission to carry out the necessary works. Hopefully it will be soon.

Pam Shultz
Churchwarden

The Friends of Puddletown Library 200 Club.

Draw winners

1st. £40	136	Sylvia Hanby
2nd £20	35	Emma Hughes
3rd £10	67	Ian Miller

**Please note the library is now open
3pm-5pm on Wednesday
10am-12noon on Friday & Saturday**



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Watch this space for news.

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jplegg48@googlemail.com

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club... Container Competition



Are you looking forward to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in our village in a few months time?

Why not enter our competition, plant up a container and display it in your front garden for all to see. It'll brighten up the village and you could win a prize! If you're worried that you don't know enough about planting in containers to be able to take part, then worry ye not!

On Thursday 24th February at 7.30pm in the village hall, Philip Gamble, formally a lecturer of horticulture at Kingston Maurward College, will be talking about 'container planting' to the gardening club and you're invited!

So do come along and learn something new, you'll be most welcome.

Mark Johnson

email: manda.johnson@outlook.com



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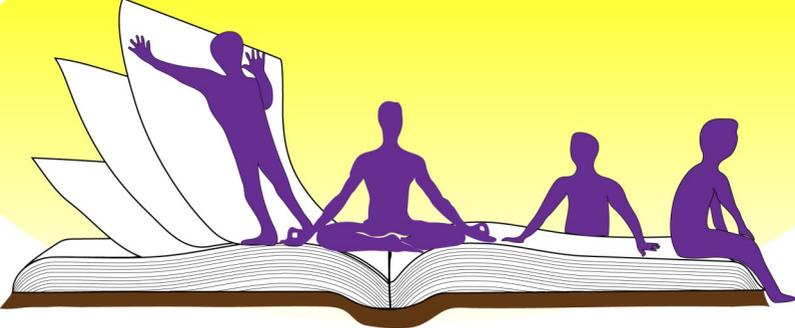


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The image shows a promotional graphic for Manna Kitchen. At the top, it says 'AWARD-WINNING FROZEN MEAL DELIVERY' and 'www.mannakitchen.co.uk'. Below this, there are two white dishes: one with a green salad and another with a baked meal. The Manna Kitchen logo is overlaid on the salad, and the phone number '01305 851 551' is at the bottom left.

Help keep our library open



The Community Library in Puddletown is now open on Wednesday afternoons (3.00 to 5.00) and Friday and Saturday mornings (10.00 to 12.00).

As part of Libraries West Service, a very wide range of books can be ordered online and collected here. Or just browse the shelves for a good read - fiction, non-fiction, local history and children's books.

Can you help keep our library open? The library relies on volunteers to continue providing books, information and activities. If you are interested in joining the friendly volunteer team, contact puddletownlibrary@gmail.com

The illustration shows four purple silhouettes of people sitting on a large, open book. One person is standing and holding up a large white sheet, while the others are sitting in various reading or listening postures. The background is a yellow oval.

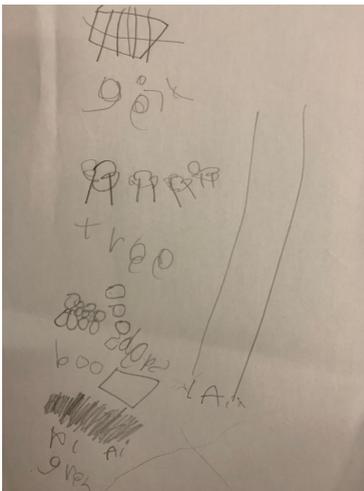
Milborne First School

Reception Class - Understanding the World: Skilful Scientists

Following on from our tracks and trails learning where we talked about the different tracks we could make using our hands and feet and how they compare with others, we thought about animals and birds making tracks with their feet and claws as they move, when using animal toys in paint and sharing the story 'Footprints in the Snow'. We made our own trail for our friends to follow and travelled to Moors Valley to follow the Gruffalo trail!



We have now started to think about mapping our natural world and drawing a route. We walked from the school gate around the one way system to the classroom, noting things that we thought were important along the way. Once back in the classroom we recalled the order and described the route we took using directional language: first, then, past, next to and up.



Continued on Page 45

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Pastoral Support Assistant

We are looking for someone with energy and empathy to work with the minister and the Pastoral Committee at the United Church Dorchester. You will be alongside members of the congregation and others, providing pastoral support in a range of forms. The successful applicant will be self-motivated, caring and able to empathise with fellow Christians and non-Christians, alike.

This is a part-time appointment fixed term for 2 years in the first instance. Working hours are 10 hours per week, to be worked flexibly as agreed, including some weekends. The salary is £5850 (based on an hourly rate of £11.25).

Satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from DBS will be required.

For further information and an application package please contact Di Lawrence office@unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk or 01305 457477

Closing date Monday 28th February 2022

There is an occupational requirement that the post holder is a practising Christian.

Rabbits Class have been reading the story 'Owl Babies' ... We have been investigating nests. We talked about the word 'fragile' and looked at materials that the birds had decided to build their nests from. We talked about where we might find things such as moss, twigs, bark and leaves and decided that we were going to build our own nests for the owl babies. We also made our own in creative funky fingers. We used a Pom-Pom dipped in paint and held with a peg to press a white pattern onto the card for the owl feathers. Then we cut around an oval shape drawn on by Miss Wittman before adding features using pens and tissue paper.





Sunday 6th February 2022

4.00pm

Dewlish Village Hall

Activities, crafts, songs, games, bible story and prayers
followed by tea

Worship for all ages in a creative and messy way

Children must be accompanied by an adult

For more details contact Sarah

sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com

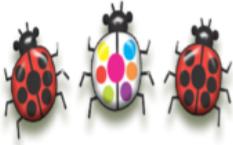
01305 848784

Future Dates:

Sunday 6th March - Tolpuddle Village Hall

Sunday 3rd April - Milborne Village Hall

Sunday 1st May - Puddletown Church



Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

Moving forward into 2022

January signifies new beginnings, and we all hope for better times. So far, the challenges are still with us. Illness, staff shortages and Early years regulations have stretched us but we're holding up and looking forward to the future. Our little Ladybirds returned after Christmas, excited to be back playing with their friends. We have talked about New Year Resolutions and the children have thought about what they could do. The promise to help tidy up, have quieter voices and not to run indoors are certainly popular with adults.

Our topics this term include reading some of the traditional stories starting with the 3 Billy Goats Gruff. This has been popular, being retold over and over again using the puppet characters. The older children have looked at pictures of bridges and talked about bridges they have seen or been over. Then they had a go at building bridges with various materials. The boys decided the best was the brick and plank one which a car could travel over.



Our rhyme of the week has been Incy Wincey Spider which led to water play with plastic spiders and pieces of pipe and guttering. Thank you, Barry for these – the children have loved pouring water down them. Also, a thank you to Clare for cars, play dough cutters and paw patrol vehicles. And a third thank you (we are so lucky to have such a supportive community) to Kirstie for the climbing frame which is currently outside as a look-out for birds. We have been learning the importance of looking after the birds in winter and have a feeder out for them. Throughout the month we will continue to study the birds and take part in the RSPB bird count at the end of the month.



Liz Dyer (Leader)

01258 839117 or 07771 512427

Kelly Haggett (Secretary)

secretary@milborneladybirds.com

www.milborneladybirds.org.uk

New Bishop of Salisbury

The Diocese is delighted to announce that the Queen has approved the nomination of the Very Reverend Stephen Lake, Dean of Gloucester, for election as the next Bishop of Salisbury, succeeding the Right Reverend Nicholas Holtam who retired last July.

Stephen trained for ministry at Chichester Theological College and is returning to his roots with this appointment. He grew up in Poole, held his curacy at Sherborne Abbey with Castleton and Lillington and was ordained Priest in 1989.



He became Vicar of St Aldhelm's, Branksome, Poole from 1992 and was additionally appointed Rural Dean of Poole in 2000. In 2001, Stephen was appointed Sub Dean of St Albans, and took up his current role as Dean of Gloucester in 2011.

Stephen is a Church Commissioner and Lead Dean for Safeguarding.

He is married to Carol, and they have three adult children.

Acting Bishop of Salisbury and Bishop of Sherborne, the Rt Rev Karen Gorham, said:

'I am delighted that Stephen has accepted the invitation to be the 79th Bishop of Salisbury. Stephen brings significant creative gifts of leadership to the diocese at an important time in our life as we continue to encourage the local church to be the best that it can be, bringing hope to our local communities in sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Stephen knows the diocese from the past and understands the challenges and opportunities for both our urban and our rural contexts. Bishop Andrew and I are very much looking forward to working with Stephen and welcoming him and Carol into the diocese later in the year.

Following this announcement there will be plenty of opportunities to get to know Stephen as he plans to make some further visits into the Diocese before his consecration. We anticipate that Stephen will be consecrated as Bishop sometime after Easter and will be enthroned in Salisbury Cathedral late in the summer'.

Gillian Clarke, Chair of the House of Laity and a diocesan representative on the Crown Nominations Commission, said:

'I am delighted that Dean Stephen Lake is to be our new Bishop of Salisbury. During the discernment process he radiated warmth, good humour, and an

engaging confidence that together, in our churches and communities, we can achieve great things.

‘I was struck by his boldness, his vision, and his passion for sharing God's love with all people, everywhere. Stephen brings energy, experience, and a deep-rooted love of Salisbury Diocese.

I am excited and encouraged as we face the future, challenging and often uncertain, with such a caring and inspiring leader and pastor, who can enable and empower us to build and grow in confidence, hope and common purpose.’

In responding to his appointment Dean Stephen, said:

‘It is such a privilege and a joy to be called back to the Diocese of Salisbury as Bishop. To be able to serve in the places that formed me will be something rare and special. I will enjoy visiting Dorset and Wiltshire today and look forward to meeting as many people as possible on this announcement day.

Coming from leading a major cathedral I have a clear sense of the importance of great organisation, of good culture and rootedness in place. I hope to lead a confident diocese as we move out of the pandemic together.

After today, preparations can begin for this new ministry in the Diocese and in due course, with the Channel Islands, and I look forward to arriving just as soon as possible.’

Notes:

The Diocese of Salisbury contains 434 parishes with 573 churches in 138 groups (known as benefices). 90% of the parishes are rural, and many of these are in benefices of up to 15 churches.

The population of the parishes range from a rural 50, to up to 23,000 in urban areas. 50% of the people live in 7% of the parishes.

In 2020 it was agreed that the process should begin for the Bailiwicks of Jersey and Guernsey to be linked to the Diocese of Salisbury. Therefore, Dean Stephen will in due course, once the process is complete, also be Bishop for the Channel Islands.

On arrival, Stephen will be the 79th Bishop of Salisbury. The first Bishop of Salisbury was St Osmund, appointed in 1078, when the dioceses of Sherborne and Ramsbury were merged.

(Taken from Salisbury Diocese Grapevine)



Tolpuddle Toddlers

Every Monday
During term time

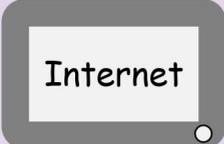
Friendly group for under 5's

10am-12pm

Tolpuddle village hall

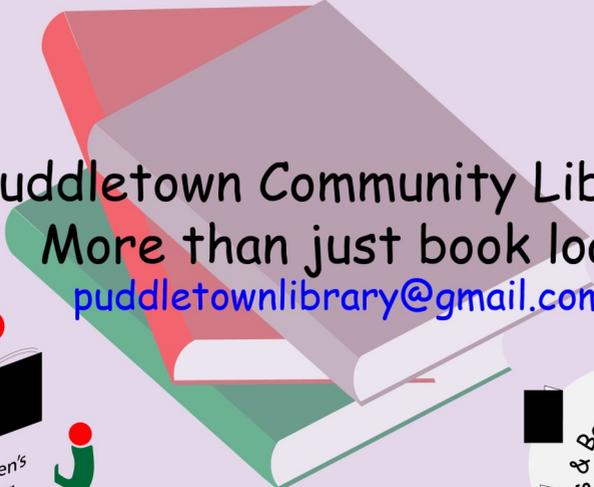
£1.50 per family

Crafts | Singing | Snacks | Play

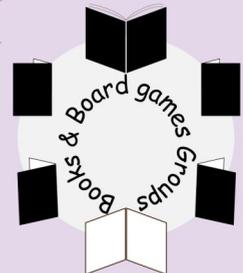


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photocopying
Free Wifi



Puddletown Community Library
More than just book loan
puddletownlibrary@gmail.com



LIBRARY HOURS:
Wednesday 3pm-5pm
Friday 10am-12pm
Saturday 10am-12pm

Churches prepare Platinum Jubilee plans



Churches, Christian charities and youth organisations are working together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June. A new website has been created – www.theplatinumjubilee.com – to provide ideas and resources for communities to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service.

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June 2022.

HOPE Together is working with a wide range of partners to help churches around the Commonwealth to mark this special occasion and, in particular, to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service. As with the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, HOPE Together and partners will provide a range of ideas and resources for communities, schools, churches and youth organisations.

Dr Rachel Jordan-Wolf, HOPE's executive director, says, "Churches are in an ideal place to bring communities together for these national celebrations."

HOPE's Platinum Jubilee Highlights will include:

Our Faithful Queen – a gift book using rarely-seen prayers the Queen prayed as she prepared for the Coronation will be published by HOPE Together and Biblica in January 2022 to buy and give away.

A Happylands animation and book 'The Girl Who Grew Up To Be Queen', for under-5s is to be published by HOPE Together in partnership with The Entertainer and Hope for Every Home.

A new anthem 'Rise Up and Serve' has been commissioned by HOPE Together and written by contemporary hymn writers Graham Kendrick, Mal Pope and Rend Collective for choirs to sing as part of the celebrations.

70 Acts of Service – an invitation to communities to celebrate by serving others with 70 community service ideas drawing on Stewardship's 40 Acts.

On Her Majesty's Service for 11-14s – youth organisations, schools and uni-
formed organisations are involved (Pais, CofE, Youth For Christ, YouthScape,
The Message, Prayer Spaces In Schools, Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade). Re-
sources include ideas for action and videos to use.

Also – the following websites may be of use to you!

www.theplatinumjubilee.com – a dedicated website with all the ideas and re-
sources you'll need to bring your community together to celebrate.
Banners, posters and other Platinum Jubilee branded resources will be availa-
ble from CPO – www.cpo.org.uk/queen-platinum-jubilee

The Platinum Jubilee – Celebration of Faith & Service logos can be download-
ed from www.theplatinumjubilee.com

As the four-day Bank Holiday ends at Pentecost, our partners [Thy Kingdom
Come](#) are also providing a Cheeky Pandas film, song and book for primary
school children – with resource packs for home/church/school and communi-
ty events.

		5			7	3		
	1					2		
7				1	5			6
	5	9			6			
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6			5	4				7
		1					8	
		8	2			6		

DORSET POVERTY ACTION (DPA)

The need to 'level the playing field'



As many will know, the DPA is a local charity that helps local people who have hit a financial crisis. We make grants to those living in the DT1 and DT2 areas. We are able to do this through the incredible support that we get from the community.

The requests for funding always come via a professional who knows the person and their circumstances. The needs for funds are varied, and might include requests for furniture, help with energy debt, school uniform, transport costs for hospital visiting - the scope is wide.

We get an average of 3 grant requests each week and we rarely say 'no'. The maximum grant is currently £250 for one family or individual in any one financial year.

Prices are rising all the time and sometimes there is an urgent need for help where the cost is more than £250. In these cases, if the individual or family live in the DT1 area, we can approach the Dorchester Anglican Parish Trust Charity. This charity will often agree to match the amount the DPA is granting which makes an enormous difference to the help that it is possible to provide. Unfortunately, those living in the DT2 area are unable to access this additional funding.

We feel that it is important to be able to offer the same provision to all our applicants. So we are setting up a DT2 fund that can be ring-fenced to help 'level the playing field'.

We are now looking to everyone living in the DT2 area and village organisations and groups to help get this DT2 fund up and running. If any groups would like more information, or would like someone to come and talk about our work, we are very happy to see you and support any fund raising activities you think about having.

Individual donations are always very welcome as well.

Please donate either through the website www.dorchesterpovertyaction.org.uk or, alternatively cheques can be made out to Dorchester Poverty Action and sent to DPA c/o United Church Dorchester, 49-51 Charles Street, and state if the money is for the DT2 fund.

Thank you.



Dewlish Church Notes

IT WAS a joy to be able to hold the Carol Service, with singing and the delightful children taking part again! Sadly, illness and isolating meant we were without Mary and a king but the children very ably improvised, providing us with some lovely singing as they joined in the carols with gusto! Well done, all of you!

Many thanks also to Aidan and Becky who provided the music and, of course, to Jim who managed to put it all together despite a very fraught time! The collection amounted to £100, and this will be donated to the Children's Society.

The next evening, carol singing was held around the Christmas tree on the village crossroads. The collection of £40.80 was kindly donated to our church. Thank you very much everyone!

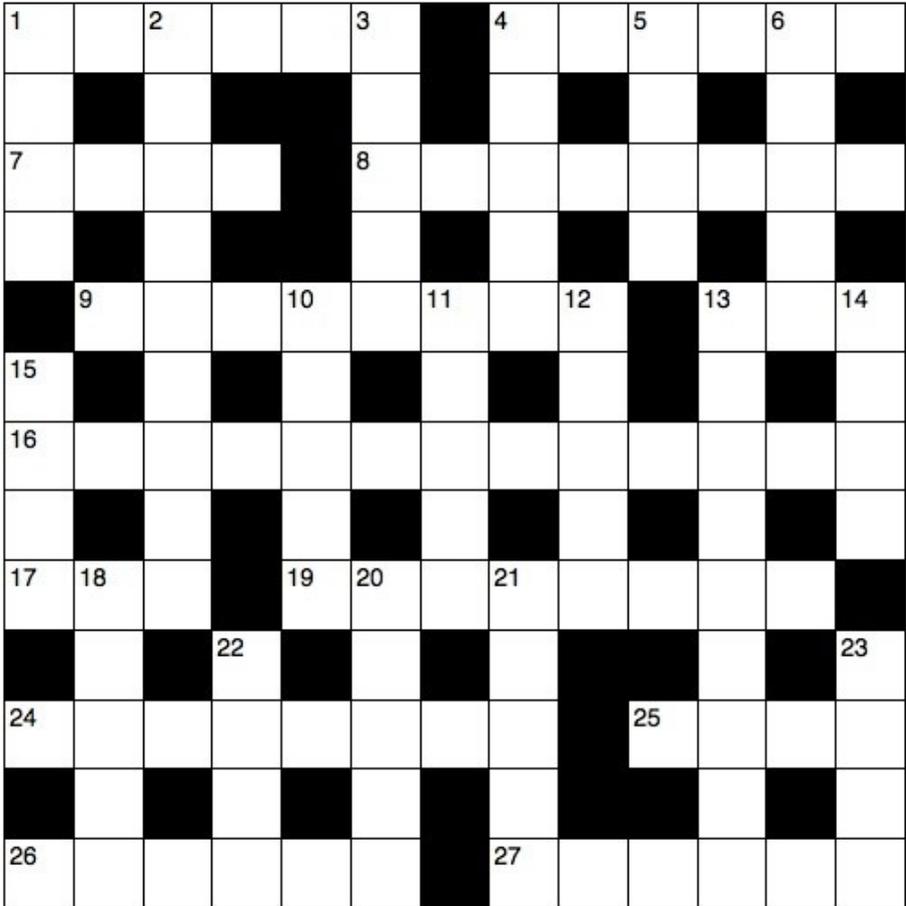
The church looked really beautiful for our Christmas services, all thanks to our dedicated flower ladies, and to Jim. Sarah led our service which was attended by 16 people.

Many thanks to all who have kept our church going during such tough times. We all hope for a better 2022!

Daphne Burg



Today's hymns are based on last week's trend in petrol prices...



Crossword Clues

Across

- 1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)
- 4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)
- 7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)
- 8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)
- 9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)
- 13 Solicit money or food from passers by (Acts 3:2) (3)
- 16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)
- 17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)

- 19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1-2) (5,3)
- 24 Simon had (anag.) (8)
- 25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)
- 26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)
- 27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)

Down

- 1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)
- 2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)
- 3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)
- 4 Belief (5)
- 5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)
- 6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)
- 10 A seer (anag.) (5)
- 11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10) (5)
- 12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)
- 13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)
- 14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of
- 16 Across, — and Dolls (4)
- 15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)
- 18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)
- 20 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)
- 21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)
- 22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)
- 23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)



DATE: January 2022

News from the Dorchester office of Central Dorset Citizens Advice

Beware Pension Scams!

The last few years have seen a rise in the number of people who have been defrauded out of their pension savings by scammers and until now pension schemes have been powerless to stop them. Fraudsters frequently offer “too good to be true” incentives such as free pension reviews or early access to pension cash. Lured in by these offers, people are then tricked into transferring their pension into bogus schemes and defrauded out of their hard-earned savings. Fortunately, the Pension Scams Industry Group has worked with the Government and new regulations have been introduced, aimed at providing better protection for pension savers. The new regulations mean that pension scheme trustees and managers now have powers to prevent a request for a transfer taking place by raising a “red flag” where there are tell-tale signs of fraudulent activity taking place. Where suspicions are less clear an “amber flag” will pause a transfer until the scheme member can prove that they have taken scam specific guidance from the Money and Pensions Service. The government has committed to reviewing the new regulations within 18 months to ensure that they remain as efficient as possible in targeting the evolving methods used by scammers.

This is welcome news but serves to remind us of the need to be vigilant about the possibility of being scammed in almost all areas of life today where money is involved. Remember that if anything seems too good to be true then it almost certainly is.

Should you have concerns about pensions, employment, benefits, housing, family, household and energy bills, consumer issues etc, you can contact Citizens Advice via our Freephone Dorset Advice line number on 0800 144 88 48 between 10am - 4pm, Monday to Friday. Alternatively visit our national website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

For information about local Citizens Advice service go to: <https://centraldorsetca.org.uk/>

Services in the Benefice

6th February - 4th Sunday before Lent

Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Celebrate...	Milborne
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	1662 Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Dewlish
4.00pm	Messy Church	Dewlish

13th February - 3rd Sunday before Lent

Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15.12-20; Luke 6.17-26

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00am	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections NEW	Tolpuddle

20th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

Psalm 65; Revelation 4; Luke 8.22-25

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00am	Parish Communion + Baptism	Puddletown
11.00a.	Family Service	Dewlish

27th February - Sunday Next before Lent

Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2; Luke 9.28-43a

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00am	1662 Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

MORNING PRAYERS (Mon. – Thurs. 8.30 a.m.; Sat. 9.00 a.m.) On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman (sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com) for the link (Please note that the calendar of services may be subject to change)

Need some extra help and support at home?

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[care-south.co.uk/
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