



# THE HOLYFORD HERALD

*News from the Holyford Mission Community*

*Serving the Parishes of St Lawrence, Southleigh, St Winifred, Branscombe, St Giles, Northleigh, St Michael, Musbury and St Andrew, Colyton with St Michael, Colyford.*

Website: [www.holyford.org](http://www.holyford.org) Facebook: @holyfordmission

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## **The Rector's Ramblings...**

A belated Happy New Year to you! I had intended to produce a newsletter before now, so my apologies for the delay in sending this. My thanks to all those involved with the services over the busy Christmas period. Thank you to all who assisted so ably both 'behind the scenes' and 'front of house', not least our Ministry Team, our wardens, musicians, servers, flower-arrangers, bell ringers and all those who helped to make our services welcoming. Special thanks to Simon, Naill, Eoin and the team who live-streamed some of our worship over Christmas, which was very successful.

The Christmas season is not quite over yet! Officially it lasts until Candlemass—2<sup>nd</sup> February. Thus Sunday evening we shall be holding a service for Epiphany at St Andrew's Church at 6.30pm. This will be a sequence of music and readings reflecting on the Epiphany—the manifestation of God's love in Jesus Christ. A chance to reflect on the nature of God's incarnation and the power of the Christmas story as our focus turns from the crib towards the cross, and we begin to think about Lent and Easter.

I have been asked about the Church of England's *Living in Love and Faith* project. Last year I directed you towards a course that the Cathedral was running and some have you have attended it and found it very useful. If you would like to attend a *Living in Love and Faith* course, you may wish to consider joining the course run by the Diocese via Zoom which begins at the end of January. Details of this course can be found below. The course deals with questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage and how these questions fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ. It also looks at what it means to live in love and faith together as a Church.

Following Nick Brown's excellent illustrated talk on Beethoven last week, next Sunday Simon Watterton will be coming to Colyton to give a piano recital of Beethoven's music. Details can be found below.

Details of our Holyford Lent courses will be coming soon. We are planning to run things a little differently this year, with an option for people to meet in smaller groups at various times of day to take part in the course around the Mission Community. Please let me know if you would be interested in hosting or helping with a small group.

With every good wish and blessing, Fr Steven.

## **Epiphany Carol Service**

Tomorrow evening at 6.30pm in St Andrew's, Colyton. A reflective sequence of music and readings. All are welcome—the service will last just under an hour.

## **Café St Michael and Musbury Coffee Mornings**

The next Colyford Café St Michael will take place this Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January from 10am to 12noon in Colyford Memorial Hall. Caddie and Ian Doulton are running a weekly coffee morning on Tuesdays at Crossways House, their home in Musbury. For further details about the next one, please contact them: 01297 552558.

## **Friendly Fridays Community Café**

Every Friday, 10am to 12noon. All are welcome to drop in and enjoy a selection of refreshments. Tell your friends!

## **Colytots**

Has resumed on Tuesday mornings, 9 to 10am. If you wish to get involved welcoming young families to church, please let Linda Joy know.

## **Diocese Online Living in Love and Faith Course**

The Diocese will be running a **Living in Love and Faith** course starting in January. This is a 5-session course on Zoom which will take place **on Tuesday evenings starting on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Please book your place by emailing [mandm@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:mandm@exeter.anglican.org) The closing date for bookings is **Tuesday 18 January**.

## **Piano Recital next Sunday by Simon Watterton**

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 3pm in St Andrew's, Colyton there will be a piano recital by the acclaimed concert pianist Simon Watterton, who will perform works by Beethoven. Tickets on the door £12, Fosta members (Friends of St Andrew's Church) £10, to include tea and cakes! If you wish to see a preview of Simon's playing, here is a link to a YouTube recital he gave last year:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOCdoPqajcM> (move the slidy-thing at the bottom of the video on to 11 minutes 50 seconds in, as it is a recording of a live event so takes a time to get started).

## **Open the Book with Adults with Additional Need: a message from the Reverend Ann Stuckey**

Open the Book, by The Bible Society, in primary schools has been a marvellous success in involving children in collective worship in a very accessible way. I have adapted this method and am now using this ready-made tool to help adults with additional needs in their devotional time. I go to a residential home once a month and take a service involving Open the Book. The residents love it and are always sat waiting expectantly for us to arrive. It is a very happy and joyful half and hour together.

It would be lovely to extend this provision to the residential homes for adults with additional needs within the Mission Community. We have two homes at Musbury – The Old Rectory and Barley Close. I have the resources and am very willing to help set this up. All we need is a couple of volunteers who would like to have a go. It is not difficult or involves too much preparation. Take a look at my website for more inspiration – [www.revannstuckey.wordpress.com](http://www.revannstuckey.wordpress.com) You will see how much fun it can be and very rewarding to volunteer in this sector.

Do give me (or Father Steven) a ring or email if you would like to find out more – 07473664328 [annstuckey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annstuckey@hotmail.co.uk)

## **A Message from Linda Joy, our Children and Families Worker**

As Children & Families Worker for the Holyford Mission Community, it has been such a joy to welcome many new families to Colytots from far and wide as well as within the community of Colyton. We launched this new venture of a parents & baby/toddler session in May, in response to the desperate need that some families had to be able to reconnect safely once again. A very enthusiastic team of volunteers has grown and started to build friendships and relationships with the children and their parents, grandparents and carers. Father Steven keeps everyone entertained with his renditions of *Old Mac Donald* and *What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor?* and others serve refreshments and get to know the families.

Families have started joining in the main Sunday Services at Colyton and we have started Funday Club. We now have a small team, but are still looking for people to help with Funday Club. If this is something that you feel you would like to be involved in, please do contact me and we can chat it through.

In addition, we are planning to re-launch our Messy Church in February as an after-school type venture, in St Andrew's, in place of our previous Sunday afternoon sessions at the Reece Strawbridge Centre. Again, it is hoped that families feel welcome and that they belong within our church building and

our church family. If this is an activity that you feel you would like to be involved in, please do contact me to discuss.

As we are re-emerging out of this Covid crisis, I feel that even more families are looking for ways to connect and places where they feel understood, welcomed and loved. Would you like to be a part of these exciting new opportunities, as we aim to show the love and light of Christ to the youngest of our communities and their families? I'd love to hear from you. [lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com](mailto:lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com) tel. 07796 063208.

## Pastoral care

With six churches and several people involved in visiting and pastoral care already, it has been important to draw together the pastoral work across the six churches so that we can support one another and co-ordinate the pastoral work across the Mission Community. We now have in place a team of existing and new people working with Fr Steven and the Ministry Team offering pastoral care and support. Alongside Fr Steven, Mrs Hilary Smith has taken on the role of being the central point of contact as our Pastoral Care Coordinator. If you know of someone who would benefit from contact or a visit from the Church, please contact Hilary: 01297 551577.

## Do you knit?

January 2022 onwards: The Lantern Shop is seeking knitters with spare capacity! Recently the shop has been gifted with quantities of wool/yarn which are enough to knit actual items e.g. jumpers etc. If you could help in a voluntary capacity and would enjoy making some items that the shop would then be able to sell as garments, please contact Christine Sansom on 01297 552065.

## Prayers

Please continue to pray for all those who are struggling at this time, especially those ill at home or in hospital. Prayer requests can be sent to us via the [office@holyford.org](mailto:office@holyford.org) or to Fr Steven. We remember those who have died recently, among them:

Richard Rogers, Jeremy Bremridge, Maureen Bowery, Christine Stacey and Graham.

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*



*Would you like to know why Jesus turned the water into wine at the wedding feast he attended in Cana?*

*Come to church tomorrow to find out!*

*Bring a friend....or a stranger ... with you...*