



## **St Mary's Church - Sampford Spiney**

Sampford Spiney Parochial Church Council  
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Dear Parishioner

### **SPRING 2022 PARISH LETTER**

As promised here is the Spring 2022 Parish Letter, a little later than planned but I wanted to wait until some dates and intentions had firmed up a bit more. We have been working with the Parish Council to come up with a joint plan for the HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and trying to avoid clashes with events in other parishes.

#### **Service Schedule**

Let's start with some diary dates:

- The **trial service schedule continues to the end of March**. Your Parochial Church Council (PCC) discussed our experience so far at our January meeting – more below.
- **20 February** – occasional **Eucharist in St Mary's at 6pm**.
- **10 April** – Mission Community **Palm Sunday service at 10am at St Paul's Yelverton**. **There will be no other services in the Mission Community on this day**
- **11 April** – **Holy Week Service of Compline at 6pm in St Mary's**.
- **15 April** – on **Good Friday** there will be the following activity within the Mission Community:
  - **9am - Pilgrimage/Community Walk from Princetown to Sheepstor**
  - **12.30am - Good Friday Service at St Leonard's Sheepstor**

- 1.15pm - walk up Sheepstor with the cross followed by hot soup.
- 17 April – Easter Sunday Eucharist at 9.15am in St Mary’s.

**Annual PCC Open Meeting**

On **6 March** we will hold our **Annual PCC Open Meeting in the church after our 9.15am Morning Service**. All parishioners are invited as this meeting is designed to give you an opportunity to influence how your church is run. We have a number of statutory things to get through namely:

- Changes to Electoral Roll
- Draft Annual Report
- Draft Financial Statements
- Condition of the Fabric, Goods & Ornaments of the Church
- Report on activities of the Deanery Synod
- Note those offering themselves for election to the PCC at the Mission Community Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 6 April 2022 at 6pm in St Paul’s Yelverton
- Note those willing to continue as Secretary and Treasurer to be approved at the Mission Community Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 6 April 2022 at 6pm in St Paul’s Yelverton

The above agenda looks a bit daunting so don’t be put off attending! The vast majority of it will have been drafted and reviewed prior to the meeting and we will be seeking only those points parishioners might feel we have missed.

In addition, we would like to have a **discussion about the future service pattern** so we can accurately represent your views when this is discussed at Mission Community Council Meetings. At its January Meeting your PCC had the following thoughts:

- Continue with 3 services per month (First/Second/Fourth Sundays) plus occasional services Midweek and on Third Sundays.
- Move to sung Eucharists whenever possible and vary the liturgy used e.g. occasional Order 2 instead of straight Book of Common Prayer.
- Continue to support 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Mission Community services.

- On First Sundays move to Morning Service in Winter and Evening Service in Summer and seek to vary the liturgy e.g. Evening Service could be Evensong, Compline or Evening Prayer etc

## Events for 2022

As you know we very much rely on our events to keep the church running and after two years of covid we need to repair our finances somewhat or at least arrest decline. So, working with the Parish Council (PC) in respect of HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Year, we intend to deliver the following:

- **11 May – Coffee Morning** at Rose Villa, Bedford Road, Horrabridge for 10am to 12am.
- **2 June** – lighting a **beacon on Pew Tor** as part of the national event at around 9pm as we did for HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and 90<sup>th</sup> birthday – refreshments will be available...!
- **4 June – Platinum Jubilee Barbecue and Fete at Sampford Manor from 2 - 6pm.** A joint PC/PCC committee is already working on this – tickets will be £10 per person including barbecue and strawberries and cream. Licensed bar, music, games etc.
- **27 August – Sheepdog Trials** at Playing Field on Plasterdown.
- **4 November – Wine Tasting and Bangers & Mash** in the St Eustachius Parish Centre in Tavistock hosted by Charles Steevenson with an intriguing selection supplied by Sovereign Wines. As in previous years the ticket price will be £20 per head.
- **21 December – Christmas Extravaganza** in St Mary's at 7pm; the welcome return of this mixture of carols and entertainment at which we will draw the Parish Christmas Raffle; as in previous years the ticket price will be £5 per head/children free.

The Barbecue/Wine Tasting/Christmas Extravaganza/Parish Raffle all rely on us all selling tickets in advance so I hope you will put your shoulders to the wheel at the appropriate times!

## Finances

As of today, we have c£16421 in the bank as compared to c£15816 when I last wrote in October – much of the increase resulted from the Parish Christmas Raffle which generated a £708 profit so many thanks to all those who contributed. I am happy to say that all the prizes remained within the parish! Clearly, the events programme above should help improve our financial position in 2022.

We have also received a generous donation of nearly £400 from a member of our congregation raised from selling objects at Drake Auctions. Interestingly they waive

their commission in respect of charities and St Mary's now has an account with them so anyone can sell items there to raise money for the church if they so wish.

### **General Matters**

I am happy to report that we have had a noticeable increase in our Electoral Roll, and we judge that this has generated a commensurate increase in our worshipping community.

I am in the process of seeking a List B Faculty for a bench to be placed in the new churchyard in memory of Sir Peter Badge – I will keep you posted on progress.

### **And finally....**

If you receive this parish letter then quite obviously I hold your email or postal address – that information is not used for any other purpose other than to keep you abreast of what is going on in St Mary's Sampford Spiney. Please tell me if you no longer wish to receive this information.

### **In Conclusion**

I hope things brings everyone up to date – it will be a busy year!

Regards

Simon