

BUCKLAND ST. MARY CHURCH NEWS

February 2017

'Perfect love casteth out all fear' 1 John 4 v18

The 2017 Buckland St Mary Annual Parish Church Meeting – will be held on the **19th April in Buckland St Mary Village Hall @ 7.30** – all parishioners and interested persons most are welcome. This is the meeting where the Churchwarden and PCC members are appointed and details given and questions can be asked, on income and expenditure and all the facilities and activities of Buckland and Birchwood churches.

New Family Service at Buckland St Mary – a new style family service will be held at **10.45am on the 4th Sunday** of each month **starting on the 26th February 2017**. Please come and support this new event which is suitable for all ages and also those who do not normally attend church. Please give it a go and let us have your feedback. The especial good news is that the later start time means the church bellringers will be ringing for this service – many thanks to Keith Every and his Team

Alpha Course – The Alpha Course is continuing **each Tuesday from 7pm at the Queens Arms pub at Pitminster**. Whether you are a Christian or not you may have questions you wish to ask about the meaning of life, the universe and everything! The evening start with a free light meal (although donations welcome) and a short video and gives a chance to explore life and faith, and share your views if you wish, in an open, friendly and informal environment. James Hall, the Benefice Youth worker, leads each event and it doesn't matter if you can only attend certain dates as each event will stand alone.

Benefice Services – these are services where all the churches in the Blackdown Benefice – Buckland St Mary, Birchwood, Otterford, Churchstanton, Corfe and Pitminster - come together to share a service. It gives a great opportunity to visit a new church, meet new people (or old friends) and see how they do things elsewhere; as each church has its own style and atmosphere. **A Benefice services is held on the 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month – the CBO services pages will show you where** the service will be held that month. **February's Benefice service is at Corfe starting at 10.30am**. Please come and support these services and let us know if transport is an issue for you attending.

Ash Wednesday Benefice Service – to mark the start of Lent - will be held at 7pm **@ BIRCHWOOD (not Corfe as stated in last Month's CBO – apologies for the error)**. All welcome

There is no **Community Coffee Morning** booked for the 11th February but in case someone comes forward after CBO News has gone to print please keep a look out for posters on the church gate and support it if you can

Community Coffee Mornings for 2017 – if you would like to run a Community Coffee Morning, at Buckland St Mary Church, for a charity of your choice, please contact the co-ordinator, Margery Harkness, on 01460 234599 or email royandmarge@btinternet.com Coffee mornings are usually held on the 2nd Saturday of the month but other dates may be possible so please enquire if a specific date is wanted.

Buckland Big Breakfast – raising funds for Fiveways School – is on **Saturday 25th February from 8.30am till 11.00am at Buckland St Mary Village Hall** – see advert for more details. Veggie options available.

REMINDER – the **Benefice Office at Churchinford Village hall has closed** however the same services are **now available at the Vicarage at Pitminster on Mondays from 9.30 till 1pm**. This move allows considerable savings to be made on overheads and you are still able to use the photocopier, for church related activities, on this day.

Dates for your 2017 Diary

Sat 25th March – Bingo by FOBS at Buckland St Mary Village Hall. Doors open 7.00am for a 7.30 start. Good prizes and refreshments available.

13th May 2017 – School May Fair – in the school grounds – **12.00 to 3pm** – more details to follow. **N.B. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

Sat 20th May 2017 – Benefice Concert including Male voice Choir and bands etc (and friends) Concert in Buckland St Mary Church – details to follow

Lynda Creek, Churchwarden