



**ST MARY BREDIN CHURCH // FAMILY NEWS**

# 24th January 2021

## **Welcome to SMB online!**

We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to  
'Be Holy and Be a Blessing'

Welcome to St Mary Bredin (SMB) and a special welcome if this is your first visit. We hope you enjoy your time with us and quickly feel at home here. We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to 'Be Holy and Be a Blessing' and we love welcoming others into the church family to join us on that journey. We would love to say hello to you so please do get in touch.

God bless, Barney

### **Today at SMB Online**

#### **11:00am | Morning Worship**

(LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel)

with Youth and Children's Work

#### **A secret devotional life**

**Reading:** Psalm 1

**Speaker:** Charmaine Muir

### **This week**

**Monday to Friday** – Morning Prayers at 9:10am

**Monday - Parenting For Faith** course online from 7.35pm

**Thursday** - Make Lunch food parcels

(from 2:30pm packing, from 3:30pm delivering)

**Thursday** - Student Night online at 7:30pm

# Ministry Letter - from our Vicar

Dear Friends

It is with great excitement that I am able to announce that on 21-23 January 2022 we will be having our next church weekend away at Ashburnham. These weekends have always been a fantastic time in the life of the church. They are a time of great fun, of brilliant and deepening fellowship and they have always been really important times of inspiration and equipping for us as a church family. Of course in this season we can't be certain of anything that we plan going ahead but I hope that this is far enough ahead that we might have some normality restored and that we are able to spend time together with confidence. The date of the weekend in a year from now is slightly different from our past weekends which were in March. This is due to the high demand of churches who had to cancel their previous bookings rebooking with Ashburnham. So we will see how it works in the January slot and can always return to a March date in subsequent years.

I will be looking to confirm a speaker in the next few months and I look forward to seeing who God has called to minister to us this time. At previous church weekends the speaker has been a great source of inspiration and encouragement but alongside that it is just a joy to spend time together in fellowship. We will of course be holding the now legendary 'SMB's Got Talent' evening, so make sure you dust off your talents so we can all be entertained by them.

As always I am aware that it is not a cheap weekend and the prices might seem prohibitive for some of us. But, as in previous years, we want to make sure everyone who wants to be there can be so we have a payment plan that will allow you to pay in instalments and we also have some funds put aside to help if you are not able to make the payments. It isn't a cheap weekend but I have yet to hear anyone who has come along to one of the previous weekends say it isn't worth it. I am so excited that we have this planned as the weekends at 'AshyB' have always been a wonderful time to make new friends, to deepen existing friendships and for God to work among us as a church and as individuals. So do look out for the details about how to book and how to pay and make sure you reserve your place for Ashburnham 2022.

God Bless, *Barney*

## Events & Notices

### News from Bex Henderson, our mission partner in Uganda

Covid 19 has impacted my work at the LOVED centre in many ways. We had a national lockdown, involving a curfew, and schools and businesses being closed so many of our parents lost work and our children were not able to attend the day centre.

Despite the challenges, we adapted our approach, providing weekly food for our 64 families as well as daily home visits from a key worker to make sure the children who struggle with malnutrition and abuse were at minimal risk.

Over the 7 month lockdown we gave out 14,500kg of food, 4500 cups of milk and 3700 eggs. We supported 30 new children to overcome severe malnutrition which had developed as a result of the lockdown. 20 children had physiotherapy sessions and new equipment to use from home. 80 families were given a tap facility that works without touch, soap and training on hand washing. Loved was recognised by the senior nutritionist in our district as being the best nutrition partner in Mbale. Our new centre was built last year and we have got permission to re-open under the government guidelines. We currently have 60 children each day at the centre and 6 families still receiving home support.

I am overwhelmed by God's grace and provision for this community which I call home. Thank you for your prayers and support which continue to have such a huge impact here.

Please pray for:

- a serious breakthrough in parents with addictions,
- protection over all the families and staff at Loved,
- continued peace in Uganda,
- weight gain for every child struggling with malnutrition.

### New Wine Celebration evening

On 7th February, we will be joining together online with other local churches for a New Wine Celebration evening. Simon Ponsonby will be the preacher, speaking on the theme of 'Treasure in the darkness.' Do put this date in your diaries!

**Make Lunch food parcels** are being made up and delivered every Thursday afternoon throughout lockdown. If you would like to make a financial contribution towards these, please go to [smb.org.uk/](http://smb.org.uk/) finances. Please use 'Make Lunch' as a reference.

### Ashburnham 2022

Information about prices and how to booking places will be shared very soon.

## Children

**At 9:30am today** (online)

**Scramblers:** Pre-school (with parents)

**Climbers:** Reception - Yr 2 (online)

**At 11:00am today** (online)

**Explorers:** Yrs 3 - 6

**At 2:30pm today** (online)

**Adventurers:** Children with additional needs

## Youth

**At 11:00am today** (online)

**Younger Youth:** Yrs 7 - 10

Parents — please contact Mim for more information if you are new to SMB Online, or if you would like to know about provision for Older Youth (Years 11-13).

## Giving at SMB

We believe that God calls us to tithe to our local place of worship as part of our discipleship and worship. We can only continue to fulfil God's calling on us as we, His church, continue to tithe and give as God calls us. The best way to give is by standing order and, if you're a taxpayer, to ensure that you gift-aid your donation. More information at [smb.org.uk/finance](http://smb.org.uk/finance)

## Get Connected

Our Fellowship Groups are central to our life and fellowship as a church and we hope that every member of SMB is a member of a Fellowship Group. This is one of the best ways to get to know others as well as serving in teams and using our gifts. Please phone or email the office for a form which we can send by email or in the post.

## Staff Contacts

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