



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

# 7th February 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 | Family Celebration**

(LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel)

**I ♥ SMB**

**Reading:** Ephesians 2: 19-22

**Speaker:** Barney de Berry

### This week

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

**Monday**— Parenting For Faith course online from 7:35pm (for 7:45pm)

**Thursday** - Make Lunch food parcels

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

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

## Ministry Letter - from our Vicar

Dear SMB family,

Today is our commitment Sunday or as it has been known for a few years 'I Love SMB' Sunday. It is a great reminder to us that we belong to the family of God and have been called to be part of the particular manifestation of that called SMB and that we are to commit ourselves to loving Christ's church just as he loves it.

We have been robbed of many things this last year but one of them is the full benefits and joys of being part of the family of God - the community of saints. It is one of the great gifts of the Christian life to be united not only to God but to each other in Christ and we have not been able to enjoy that fully these last 12 months. We trust that Christ through the Holy Spirit is still working in us to unite us, to grow us and through us to grow his kingdom but it hasn't been as easy to feel connected to each other with the absence of physical gatherings. So in some ways commitment Sunday is as important as ever this year. With our separation it has been harder to express our love for each other and our love for the church. So maybe this year we need to be even more intentional in our commitment to the church and to God's family that Jesus has called us to be part of here at SMB.

There are some practical things we can do; it might be that we ring someone who we haven't seen for a while or drop a note to someone who we have missed having fellowship with. The opportunities to serve on rotas has not been there this last year so having had a break from them maybe we commit ourselves all the more to serving in those places when the need returns? Whether that is hosting teams or children's church, for example, we will need people to serve in those areas at some point in the next year. It is also good for each one of us to regularly review our financial commitment to the church to see if the Lord wants us to step out even more in our financial support of the ministry that he has called us to as a church.

So let us use this year's 'I Love SMB' Sunday to recommit ourselves to the life and ministry of this wonderful church family that Jesus has called us to be part of and let's look forward with hope to the time when we can meet again and enjoy again the full benefits of being part of the fellowship of believers, being intentional to gain all we can from this great gift that God gives to us which is his church, his family.

God Bless, *Barney*

## Events & Notices

### **News from Georgie Taylor our Mission Partner YWAM Nuneaton in North**

Hi there everyone, thanks so much for your continued prayers and support. It's such a blessing. Life for us has been quite busy, leading up to this season, so January came with some rest for me which was good. I have also been able to focus on the Masters that I recently started, alongside my work, which has been a benefit of the slightly slower pace. This will be great training for me in what I do as it's in Pioneering Leadership.

As a community we are generally doing well and mostly we have all kept well. Although a lot of the things we would usually do have been stopped and there are the challenges that face us all - especially with so many coming from overseas and having families sometimes far away in this time - we have continued to be able to reach out in different ways, now mostly online. This has been through teaching and also continuing to serve the local church in the ways that we can. Some of these things have been through youth work, English language schools and our different bible teaching, seminars and schools that we run.

Although it's been a tough season we have also seen an opportunity of many blessings in this time. We are continuing to seek God, and for new things, and the way forward in how we can continue to be a blessing in this difficult time.

Please do continue to pray with us for the new things that are coming, and will continue to come, out of this season and for continued protection as we do our best to navigate this time.

Many blessings to you all, *Georgie*

### **Prayer Requests**

If you have a prayer request (for you or someone else) or you require any kind of confidential support during this time, please email Barney and Stephen at [prayer@smb.org.uk](mailto:prayer@smb.org.uk)

### **New Wine Celebration**

Do join us this evening as we gather together with other local churches (at 6.30pm) online. Simon Ponsonby will be preaching on 'Treasure in the darkness'. The service will be livestreamed on our Youtube Channel.

### **Ashburnham 2022**

When bookings open you'll find all the information you'll need at [smb.org.uk/ashburnham](http://smb.org.uk/ashburnham)

## Children

***No groups this morning - back next Sunday!***

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

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

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

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

**Explorers:** Yrs 3 - 5

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

**Adventurers:** Children with additional needs

## Youth

**At 11:00am** (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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