



ST MARY BREDIN CHURCH // FAMILY NEWS

# 14th March 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 | Playing our part in mission**

(LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel)

with Youth and Children's Work

**Reading:** Matthew 28: 16-20

**Speaker:** Barney de Berry

### This week

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

**Thursday** - Make Lunch food parcels  
(from 2:30pm packaging, from 3:30pm delivering)

**Thursday** - Student Night online (7.30pm)

**Saturday** - Men's Prayer Session online at 8am

## Today's Ministry Letter

Dear SMB members,

Today we have a special focus on mission and want to highlight our mission partners and the work they are doing around the world. At SMB we are passionate about mission and we currently support fifteen mission partners, some of which are organisations. These people are serving in Uganda, South Sudan, Mozambique, Egypt, Hong Kong, China, Vietnam, Argentina and the UK. Ten percent of the church's general fund is given to mission and we also support people on short-term mission.

Usually, we have partners visiting throughout the year, although sadly not this past year. We keep in regular contact via newsletters, Facebook, email etc, but it's always great to actually have people here. Some of the partners have been joining the online services from around the world and recently it has been wonderful to have some of them doing the readings and prayers.

The Mission Partner Group (MPG) meets four times a year, under the leadership of John Ward. The other members are Martin Williams, Tiffany Carter, Rosy Atkinson, Tom Gilbert and myself. We are responsible for distributing the ten percent pot among the partners and help to coordinate mission activity at SMB. We seek to ensure that all the partners are prayed for, supported well and have regular contact. Each partner also has a champion, who is their main point of contact. Every week, we focus on a particular mission partner in Family News.

We hope you have seen the video in the mid-week email featuring almost all of the mission partners. You can find out more in the mission section of the website or by contacting the office or any member of the mission partner group. Please do pray for all our partners, especially in these challenging times. They are all so grateful for our prayers and support.

*Anne Young, MPG Administrator*

## Events & Notices

### **News from Margaret Griffin, about Juba Diocesan Mixed Secondary School, our Mission Partner South Sudan**

Like most countries South Sudan has been hit by the Coronavirus. At literally a moment's notice the school was told to close and no further arrangements were made. I was contacted and advised of the practice being used; a parent comes to the school to collect 'homework' on a weekly basis, and as each set of work is received for marking another batch is ready to take home. This essential arrangement was vital to the Year 4 students about to take the School Certificate in March this year and has been very successful so far.

Please pray for:

- a) the Headmaster, Staff & students that the results will be as successful as in previous years,
- b) that the reputation of the school will continue as one of the very best secondary schools in the country,
- c) that 'normality' may return soon and the new intake will not be impaired by this 'close down'
- d) for the commitment of the Headmaster and Staff for providing this excellent provision at this vital time.

### **Youth Evangelist vacancy**

We are now recruiting for our Youth Evangelist role, and the advert is online on our website [www.smb.org.uk/vacancies](http://www.smb.org.uk/vacancies) Please pray about who God is calling to this role, and if you know of anyone who may be suitable, please do share the link with them.

**The Church Office** will be closed from Tuesday to Thursday of this week. Enquiries during this time will be dealt with as soon as possible after this.

### **Easter at SMB**

On Good Friday we will be having an online 'Hour at the Cross' and on Easter Sunday we hope to have a Family Gathering both online and in person. More details of these will be shared soon.

### **Alpha Online**

Our next Alpha course will be starting online on 21st April 2021. For more details please go to [www.smb.org.uk/alpha](http://www.smb.org.uk/alpha)

### **Ashburnham 2022**

All our allocated spaces for Ashburnham have now been filled. We are operating a waiting list in the hope that more accommodation will become available [www.smb.org.uk/ashburnham](http://www.smb.org.uk/ashburnham)

## Children

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

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

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

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

**Explorers:** Yrs 3 - 6

**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

**Vicar:** Barney de Berry  
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