



## The Edgemoor Group of Parishes

Charles.HighBray.NorthMolton.Twitchen.BishopsNympton.Mariansleigh.RoseAsh.Knowstone.EastAnstey.WestAnstey.Molland.

### Easter 2021

As we now move through Holy Week to Easter Day, time to pause for a moment, to reflect. What has this year been like for you? I know from many these past twelve months haven't been easy. It has been and remains, a time of anxiety, a time of concern for each other, our churches, our congregations and those in our villages. Your role as Churchwarden which dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century is needed and as important then as it is now.

*'The churchwarden shall discharge such duties as are by law and custom assigned to them; they shall be foremost in representing the laity and in co-operating with the incumbent; they shall use their best endeavours by example and precept to encourage the parishioners in the practice of true religion and to promote unity and peace among them. They shall also maintain order and decency in the church and churchyard, especially during the time of divine service.'*

I thank you for the service, care and time you give to the office of Churchwarden. I share with you these words from +Robert.

“As we come out of lockdown and return to our church buildings this Easter, we need to renew our confidence in the God who calls us into life. Our primary calling is to be more Christ-centred for the sake of God's world. Looking back on the past year, there are lessons to be learned. Looking forward, there are opportunities to be grasped. Our worship and mission will not be the same; indeed, they should not be the same. We need to embrace a mixed ecology of how we do church, capitalising on the new contacts we have made during the pandemic and better tailored to those among whom we live and minister.

Change comes not in response to informed pessimism or uninformed optimism, but in response to hopeful realism. And hope is born when we see the world through the lens of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's world and we are God's pilgrim people, and God invites us to be communities of grace that speak the hope of good news. “

Be assured of my prayers for you and your families this Easter,