

Benefice of St Nicholas Newport and St Michael and All Angels Chetwynd
Newsletter 23/8/26

Musings

It is not often that we celebrate saints who are family members. We know of some brothers, such as St Chad and St Cedd, St Peter and St Andrew and some who are brother and sister, such as St Benedict and St Scholastica, but this week we remember a mother and son. On 28th August we remember St Augustine and the previous day, the 27th, we remember his mother St Monica. They lived in the 4th century and St Augustine became one of the foremost Christian theologians. He had studied pagan religions and Greek philosophers as he developed his theological thinking and he influences Christian thought to this day. It was not always like this, however, as a young man, Augustine was wayward, taking his pleasures wherever he pleased and rejecting the teachings of Jesus. But his mother never gave up on him. She prayed for him constantly and followed him from place trying to persuade him to change his ways. Eventually she succeeded. Augustine listened to God. He was baptised and later ordained as a priest in 391. The rest, as they say, is history.

I expect some of us, like Monica, pray for family members or friends who do not yet know Jesus. At times it can feel as if our prayers fall on deaf ears. The years pass and nothing seems to change. It must have sometimes felt that way to St Monica, as she despaired over her wayward son, but she persevered and her faithfulness was rewarded. With God nothing is impossible and he always listens to our prayers, but his ways are sometimes hard for us to fathom. But Jesus tells us to keep knocking on the door. Our prayers will be answered, we don't know how or when.

Sandra

This week beginning 23/8/26

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion

St Nicholas

Sunday 10.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 10.30am Morning Prayer

Next week beginning 30/8/26

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion

St Nicholas

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion

(Book of Common Prayer)

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Readings 23/8/26 Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

30/8/26 Romans 12: 9-end, Matthew 16: 21-end

Message from Bishop

Sarah, Bishop of Shrewsbury has announced that the next Rector of Newport with Longford and Chetwynd will be the Rev Pippa White. The Licensing Service will take place on Saturday 17th October at 2pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, Chester Road, Chetwynd.

Lunches

The Ladies and Gentlemen's lunches will be on Friday 28th August at 12.30pm. The ladies will meet at the Hub and the gentlemen at the New Inn. Please add your name to the lists on the noticeboard in St Nicholas Church.

Signposts Summer Festival

An afternoon of fun for all the family. There will be crafts, games, snacks, bingo, prayer spaces and free Bibles.

Free entry Saturday 29th August 12pm-3pm Victoria Park

Heritage Day

Newport Heritage Day will be on Saturday 12th September. There will be opportunities to go up St Nicholas Church tower.

Ride and Stride

Ride and Stride Day in aid of Shropshire Historic Churches Trust will be on Saturday 12th September.

We pray for Rev Pippa White as she prepares to be licensed as Rector of our Benefice. We pray for our Benefice and for the people of Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch as they say goodbye to Pippa.

We remember in our prayers: Joyce and Geoff, Minoo and Iraj, Margaret and Maurice and Jo and Mike.

We pray too for Sue and all the family of David Askin

Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

Ephesians 6 verse 18