

## **Benefice of St Nicholas Newport and St Michael and All Angels, Chetwynd**

### **Newsletter 21/9/25**

#### **Musings**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September is the autumn equinox. The time of year when day and night are of equal length. Long summer evenings are just a memory and we begin to fetch out warm jumpers, scarves and gloves. Our weather recently has been rather wet, but after the rain, as the sun gets lower in the sky, raindrops sparkle on branches and spiders' webs. I think we are fortunate to live in a part of the world where there is this period of seasonal change.

Mind you, if you look in the shops you could be forgiven for thinking that Christmas is just around the corner! Commercial interests encourage us to look to the next big event rather than living in the present. And yet there is so much to enjoy in this season of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness' as the poet John Keats puts it, late flowering plants and leaves changing colour, the sharpness of the first frosts.

Fortunately our church calendar keeps us firmly in today. No signs of Christmas there. It tells us firmly that we are still in ordinary time, green vestments and altar fronts. Not until All Saints Day (1<sup>st</sup> November) will we begin a countdown to Advent. And, when Advent comes, there is still 4 weeks to go to Christmas.

But for now we are in ordinary time. But there is never anything ordinary about God's creation. So, as we enjoy the changes of autumn, we give God thanks for our senses so that we can see, hear, smell and touch and we thank him for our tongues so that we can praise him.

Sandra

#### **This week beginning 21/9/25:**

##### **St Michael and All Angels**

Sunday 11.00am Matins

##### **St Nicholas**

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 10.30am Morning Prayer

#### **Next week beginning 28/9/25:**

##### **St Michael and All Angels**

Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion

##### **St Nicholas**

Sunday 10.30am Harvest Service

Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion

*(Common Worship)*

### **Readings (St Nicholas)**

21/9/25 2 Corinthians 4:1-6, Matthew 9:9-13

28/9/25 Deuteronomy 8:7-18, Mark 4:26-28

### **St Nicholas Leadership Team**

St Nicholas Leadership Team will be meeting in the vestry at 2.00pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Lunches**

The Ladies and Gentlemen's lunches will be of Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September. The Ladies will be meeting at Gunero and the gentlemen at the New Inn. Please add your name to the lists on the noticeboard in St Nicholas.

### **Harvest Festivals**

St Nicholas Harvest Service will be on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am. We will be collecting gifts for the Food Bank (tinned or packet good or cash please).

A team will be meeting at 10.00am on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September to decorate the church. Help with this and donations of flowers or greenery will be welcome.

Chetwynd Harvest Service will be on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Church Cleaning**

The St Nicholas church cleaning team will be meeting on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October from 9.15am

### **'Ride+Stride'**

The sponsorship money totalled £330. Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity. Chris Gregory

We pray for all refugees forced to leave their homes by war, natural disasters, famine and persecution. May they find safety and help

We remember in our prayers; Chris, Joyce and Geoff, Jo and Mike, Gill, Ron, Angela, Lisa and Peter.

**'There will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety nine righteous people who do not need to repent.'**

*Luke 15, verse 7*