

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

Newsletter 17/5/26

Musings

On Friday 15th May, the Church celebrated Matthias the Apostle. If we are asked to name an Apostle, Matthias is probably not the first name that comes to mind. It is fitting, though, that he is remembered at this time because, we are told in the Acts of the Apostles, that he was the one chosen by lot to replace Judas Iscariot after the ascension of Jesus (*Acts, 1:26*). Not much more seems to be known about Matthias. We are told that he was one of those who had followed Jesus from the beginning of his ministry when he was baptised by John. Tradition says that he was brought before the Jewish authorities in Jerusalem for telling people about Jesus. Undaunted, he told them that Jesus who was crucified, rose again from the dead and ascended into heaven. Jesus truly is the Messiah. Like Stephen before him, he was dragged outside the city and they stoned him. But, before he died, he was beheaded by a Roman soldier. Other reports, however, say that he travelled to the area around the Caspian Sea and even to Ethiopia. All agree though, that he was martyred.

Although we don't hear of Matthias in the gospel accounts, he was obviously well thought of by Jesus's followers because they chose him to be one of the Twelve.

Throughout the centuries, many Christians we have not heard of have spent their lives quietly serving God in the role to which he called them. God calls us too to play our part in growing his kingdom. Like Matthias, we may seem to go unnoticed, but God knows how we try to serve him – you in your small corner and I in mine. So that, one day, we may hear God say, '*Well done, good and faithful servant.*' (*Matt 25:23*)

Sandra

This week beginning 17/5/26:

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 11.00am Matins

St Nicholas

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion

Next week beginning 24/5/26:

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion

St Nicholas

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 10.30am Morning Prayer
(*Common Worship*)

Readings: 17/5/26 Acts 1:6-14, John 17:1-11
24/5/26 Acts 2:1-21, John 20:19-23

Lunches

The combined Ladies and Gentlemen's lunch will be on **Friday 27th May** at 12.30pm in the New Inn. Please add your name and menu choices to the list on the noticeboard in St Nicholas church.

Church Cleaning

The cleaning team will meet in St Nicholas church on **Saturday 6th June** from 9.15am. More willing hands always welcome.

Carnival

Newport Carnival will take place on **Saturday 13th June**. As usual there will be activities taking place in the church and church grounds. Help is needed to serve refreshments. If you can spare an hour or two on the day or if you are able to donate a cake please put your name on the list on the noticeboard in St Nicholas church. For more information, speak to Sue Wilson

Fashion Show

There will be a Fashion show on **Tuesday 23rd June** at 7.00pm in the Parish Rooms in aid of St Nicholas Church Funds. For tickets and more information speak to Irene Evans on 07570 296304.

Newport Bellringers

Newport Bellringers now have two collection points for your used ink cartridges. Newport community library and St Nicholas church porch. Your donations help to keep Newport bells ringing.

Many thanks from Newport Bellringers

We continue to pray for our troubled world and for all those suffering from war and violence

We remember in our prayers: Pat, Iraj and Mino, Chris, and Vanessa

We pray too for the families of Michael Parker, Joyce Parton, Joan West and Ron Howard.

'This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.'

Acts 1, verse 11b