

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

Newsletter 26/7/26

Musings

On 30th July, the church will remember William Wilberforce. Wilberforce was born in Hull in 1759 and became an independent Member of Parliament in 1780. Shortly afterwards, in 1785, he had a religious experience and his life changed. He was actively involved in the founding of the Church Missionary Society and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals but is best known for his campaign against the slave trade. After 20 years, finally the Act banning the slave trade was passed in 1807. Wilberforce went on to campaign for the complete abolition of slavery in the British Empire. The Slavery Abolition Act was passed in 1833, just 3 days before William Wilberforce died.

On the same day that we remember William Wilberforce, we also remember 2 other anti-slavery campaigners. Olaudah Equiano was himself a victim of the slave trade but eventually bought his freedom in 1766. After moving to London, he joined the campaign to abolish slavery, speaking from his own experience. Thomas Clarkson gathered evidence about the slave trade which formed the basis of Wilberforce's speeches in Parliament. Three courageous and Christian men.

Today we think of this as history but, sadly, many continue to be discriminated against because of their ethnicity or colour. And still slavery persists around the world, hidden away and hard to detect. We must all be alert even within our own society and ready to support those suffering. We must not forget those who struggled to obtain freedom for all.

Sandra

This week beginning 26/7/26:

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion

St Nicholas

Sunday 10.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion
(Common Worship)

Next week beginning 2/8/26:

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 26/7/26 Romans 8:26 – end, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
 2/8/26 Isaiah 55:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

Concert

CCSM Chamber Choir will be holding a concert in St Nicholas Church on **Friday 31st July** at 12.00 noon.

Church Cleaning

The team will be meeting in St Nicholas Church on Saturday 8th August from 9.15am. More volunteers always welcome.

Job Opportunity

We have been advised by the Deanery Secretary that ReSource, based at Meeting Point House, Telford has a vacancy for an Administrative Assistant to support their growing Alongside Scheme and the wider administration of the charity.

The role is Administrative Assistant

 16 hours per week

 Based in Telford

 £13.50 per hour

 There is a genuine occupational requirement that the postholder is a practising Christian.

For details contact www.resourcingrenewal.org/jobs

Closing date for applications 12noon Monday 24th August

We pray for all those subjected to modern slavery and for the authorities and voluntary groups who work to stamp it out and rescue those of God's children who are suffering.

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

Jesus said: 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me.'

Matthew 25, verse 40