

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

Newsletter 2/8/26

Musings

On 5th August, the church remembers Oswald, King of Northumbria. He became king in 633 and is credited with spreading Christianity throughout his kingdom. He sent to Ireland for a bishop to come and help to grow the Church. Aidan came and Oswald gave him Lindisfarne for the seat of his See. The two travelled together around Northumberland. Aidan did not speak any English and so Oswald acted as his interpreter and many were converted.

Although Oswald was the king of Northumberland, there is a connection with the saint closer to home. The town, Oswestry, on the English/Welsh border is called after him. The name is derived from 'Oswald's Tree'. In 642 Oswald was killed in a battle with the pagan king of Mercia, Penda. The Battle of Masefield is believed to have taken place on what is now the playing fields of Oswestry School. (Although some historians disagree.) Tradition says that after the battle a raven flew off with one of Oswald's arms and carried it into an ash tree (Oswald's Tree) which never aged. Where the arm fell to the ground a spring appeared. The water of this spring had healing properties, especially for eye problems. The spring is still there, on Oswald's Well Lane, and is topped by a sculpture of a great bird holding an arm.

God calls some into the priesthood or into a religious community, but for most of us, God calls us to follow him as we live our ordinary daily lives, as Oswald used his role as king to grow the kingdom of God and spread the Good News of Jesus.

Sandra

This 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

Next week beginning 9/8/26:

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion

St Nicholas

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 10.30am Morning Prayer

Readings 2/8/26 Isaiah 55: 1-5, Matthew 14:13-21
 9/8/26 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28, Matthew 14:13-21

Church Cleaning

The St Nicholas church cleaning team will be meeting on **Saturday 8th August** from 9.15am. More volunteers are always welcome.

Lunches

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

We pray for all those forced from their homes through natural disasters or violence. We pray at this time for those affected by the earthquake in Japan, and the wildfires in France, Spain, Greece and Suffolk. We pray too for those affected by war in the Middle East and Ukraine.

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

'Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.'

Psalm 37, verse 7

If you would like to receive our weekly church newsletter by email, please email the Parish Administrator at stnicsnewport@gmail.com By requesting to join, you consent to receive email communications from St Nicholas Church, Newport. You can unsubscribe at any time.