



The Lion

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's Church, Basford

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk

OCTOBER 2016



Happy to be Here!

It is really good to have welcomed Patrick among us this summer. Now that he's settled into his new home, he has the opportunity to introduce himself in this edition of THE LION and to share a little of his journey thus far.

Patrick writes....

Having officially started my time here as 'Lay Minister' on 1st August I have had a number of weeks now to acclimatise to the rhythm and patterns of St. Mark's and St. Margaret's. I have enjoyed my initial period of time with you all immensely and look forward to spending the coming time serving the parishes and making many friends and acquaintances.

I am not unfamiliar with the area of Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-under-Lyme having spent two very fulfilling years at St. Joseph's Sixth Form College in Trent Vale. This was a crucial period of time as I had received my sense of vocation in my final year at Madeley High School. The nature of the call was such that I was driven to complete my GCSE's (as many youngsters have so recently done) in the hope that I could achieve the grades required to attend St. Joseph's and there further my interest and passion in theology and have my vocation nourished.

The sixth form proved to be a deeply rewarding period of time and with the help of some wonderful teachers I was able to attend Nottingham University, there to study Theology for three years. There my vocation was thoroughly tested and examined, an experience anyone who has studied 'the quest for the historical Jesus' will understand. However, this period of time was most significant in introducing me to the thought of the Scholastics and especially that of St. Thomas Aquinas. I am indebted to these medieval thinkers in guiding my faith from the Sunday school to the pew. I was

fortunate enough to write my dissertation upon St. Thomas Aquinas in my final year.

As the Vocational journey continued, in conversation with the Diocese I spent a year working at Derby Cathedral where I gathered many valuable experiences of ministry and was able to observe liturgical excellence on a regular basis. This year was followed by a year working in a hospital in Nottingham as a porter. This was an important experience for me to do something different and challenge my vocation. It was during this time that I attended my Bishops Advisory Panel and was accepted into the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield.

Having spent two years at the College I was invited to join all of you here for a year that would deepen my understanding of ministry with a view to ordination to the diaconate in Petertide next year. Running parallel to my time here will be a program of study at Queens Foundation College Birmingham to complete my MA in the mystical writings of Meister Eckhart.

I am incredibly grateful to the Bishop of Stafford and Fr. Terry in pioneering this experience for me. My time here is already proving to be insightful and fruitful and this is, in part, due to the willingness and openness that all of you have shown towards me.

I hope that these few paragraphs give you something of a background about me and my wonderings. I look forward to meeting all of you and I am thrilled to join you in worship. I believe that there are some really exciting things taking place for St. Mark's and St. Margaret's and it is a privilege to be a part of them.

Patrick

Whoever possesses God in their being, has him in a divine manner, and he shines out to them in all things; for them all things taste of God and in all things it is God's image that they see.

[Eckhart von Hochheim c.1260 – c.1328]

Worship Services during October

1 st	Saturday	11.30am	Wedding
2 nd	HARVEST	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Family Harvest Service with HC
		6.30pm	Evensong
5 th	Wednesday	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9 th	20th after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Holy Communion
		6.30pm	Evensong
12 th	Wilfred of Ripon	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
15 th	Saturday	1.00pm	Wedding
16 th	21st after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Family Worship with Baptism
		6.30pm	Holy Communion
19 th	Wednesday	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
23 rd	Last after Trinity	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Holy Communion
		6.30pm	Evensong
26 th	Alfred the Great	8.00am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
29 th	Saturday	1.30pm	Wedding
30 th	All Saints'	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.00am	Holy Communion
		4.30pm	Evensong

Diary Dates for October

1 st	Saturday	6.30pm	Harvest Supper & Generation Game
2 nd	Sunday	10.00am	Harvest Service (FoodBank contributions)
3 rd	Monday	7.30pm	Men's Fellowship Mass at Tunstall
4 th	Tuesday	7.30pm	Deanery Sub-Committee Meeting in Vestry
5 th	Wednesday	10.00am	Selwyn Lecture in Lichfield
		1.00pm	CAMEO Luncheon Club
8 th	Saturday	12.00pm	Table-Top Sale in Church
11 th	Tuesday	11.00am	Pastoral Committee Meeting (Vicarage)
12 th	Wednesday	1.00pm	CAMEO Luncheon Club
		7.30pm	Deanery Synod Meeting at Wolstanton
13 th	Thursday	10.00am	Baptism Course at Doxey
19 th	Wednesday	1.00pm	CAMEO Luncheon Club
26 th	Wednesday	1.00pm	CAMEO Luncheon Club

Early November...

2 nd	Wednesday	1.00pm	CAMEO Luncheon Club
7 th	Monday	7.30pm	PCC Meeting
9 th	Wednesday	1.00pm	CAMEO Luncheon Club
		7.30pm	Men's Fellowship mass at Basford
12 th	Saturday	10.00am	Church Cleaning Party



Happy are those who have bread to eat!

As grain grows in the fields and

Rains bring the water of life we share

Visions of all your people united in

Eternal praise and kneaded together to

Share good news of justice and peace:

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

May the God who gathers and scatters us as seed give us a harvest of peace sown in justice that everyone may have daily bread.

Remember that we will be giving thanks for the harvest on Sunday, 2nd October at 10h00. Donations to the FoodBank are requested.



SANCTUS

Our collections for the SANCTUS Project during October will focus on the usual two standard requirements, viz... (i) Size '6' nappies and (ii) sanitary towels. The third requirement is for toothpaste and shower gel. The Revd Sally Smith who is a director of SANCTUS will be visiting us in October to preach at both our 8.00am and 10.00am services. No doubt she will have lots to say about SANCTUS' work in supporting refugees and asylum seekers.

Table-Top Sale

Tables at £6.00 each can be booked through Diane Downward for our TT Sale to be held in church between 12.00pm and 3.00pm on Saturday, 8th October. We need fund-raising items for the church table please; these can be brought into church at any time before the sale.

CAMEO

Please continue to publicise our CAMEO Luncheon Club as widely as possible. Lunch is enjoyed at 1.00pm every Wednesday.

Advent Carols

This year we will be cancelling the evening service on Advent Sunday to allow attendance at the cathedral's Advent Carol Service. This is a wonderful service to experience which involves the cathedral choir and is held in candlelight. We have priced up a coach which we would like to share with three other parishes, viz. Bradwell, Porthill and Wolstanton. Seats would run out at £7.50 each if we could fill a coach. A sign-up sheet for you to use will be out very shortly so as we can gauge interest.

Church Cleaning

Our church will need a thorough clean in time for Advent and so we've agreed a date for a cleaning party. Please make a note that from 10.00am on Saturday, 12th November we will gather to get stuck into things. Terry and Nick will use the time to uninstall the nativity figures on the porch roof and to make sure we have a good fixing for our new Advent star above the altar.

SPOTLIGHT

There are copies of the diocesan magazine in church for you to take a way. The content has much to say about our new bishop.

Nordkirche Partnership

Some of you will have met Tilman Jeremias on the last Sunday of September. He was in church with Patrick (with whom he had stayed the weekend for the bishop's enthronement). Tilman is himself being licensed to his new position of Pastor for Mission and Evangelism in Mecklenburg on Saturday, 8th October in Güstrow cathedral where Terry will take official greetings from the Diocese of Lichfield. Tilman will be back over here for the Advent Weekend together with a group from the Nordkirche as in former years.

Stewardship

Thanks to all those who have pledged an increase in their giving for the coming year; it really will make a difference to our financial situation. Also, thanks to those who returned their sheet on gifts and abilities. These will all be analysed for our subsequent mission thinking.