



The Lion and The Dragon

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford and St Margaret's, Wolstanton

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk and www.stmargaretswolstanton.org

September 2023



Boast nothing but the Cross of Christ, for it has won your victory!

It says in 1 Corinthians 1.18–25... For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written:

'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Beloved,

I generally enjoyed my time in education – school, college and university – in particular the structure of half terms and summer holidays. When I originally graduated from University, I

thought the shape of my life would then change, but it wasn't long before I was back in the school timetable system as I became a teacher in China. Following that it wasn't long before I was back at University whilst at Theological college and Priest-School! Even as a minister of religion for 10 years now – I still find myself very much in the 'school-system', enjoying my summer holiday (even if I'm working) and now getting ready to start a new term, and a new academic year.

We seem to be in the period of the winding down of holidays and the getting 'back-to-school'.

However, in the life of the Church we are plodding on through ordinary, green, Trinity, time.

Our lives though, are connected through the Church year – in the month of September there is a rather interesting feast day on the 14th September which is the 'Exaltation of the Cross' – generally known as 'Holy Cross Day'.

It always feels special to me, as the Church I was born and brought up in, and baptised into was 'Holy Cross', in Lincoln and indeed the date of September 14 is that which is engraved on the engagement ring that I still wear (that's another story!).

Of course we must proclaim the Cross EVERY DAY OF OUR LIVES. Paul's passage above is an extraordinary guide to us of the cross, and echoing his further words of those in Galatia – may we "*never boast of anything except the*

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cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."

The cross is a difficult symbol to represent our faith – An instrument of shameful death as he carried up our sins in his body to the tree, and yet it has become for Christ a throne of glory, and to us a victory sign of love and joy which gives us life. But we must adore it, for through it, HE has redeemed the world. May you always boast in His cross.

So I get ready to head off on retreat, Please pray for me, as I pray for you.

Blessings, In Christ

Your Shepherd, Fr Tommy

Worship Services during September

(St Mark's, Basford (B), St Margaret's, Wolstanton (W))

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------|
| 3 rd | 13 th after Trinity | 9.30am | Holy Communion (B) |
| | | 11.15am | Mass (W) |
| 6 th | Wednesday | 10.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) (B) |
| 10 th | Queen Crowning | 9.30am | Holy Communion (B) |
| | | 11.15am | Mass (W) |
| 13 th | Wednesday | 10.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) (B) |
| 17 th | 15 th after Trinity | 9.30am | Holy Communion with Baptism (B) |
| | | 11.15am | Mass (W) |
| | | 1.00pm | Baptism (W) |
| 20 th | Wednesday | 10.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) (B) |
| 24 th | 16 th after Trinity | 10.00am | Joint Worship with Holy Communion, (W) |
| 27 th | Wednesday | 10.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) (B) |
| 30 th | Saturday | 2.00pm | Wedding |

Church Crowning:

Come and share in the crowning of St Mark's new church queen Sarah Morley during our morning service on **10th**

September at

9.30am. This

will be followed by a 'bring and share' buffet.

Queen



Diary Dates for September

| | | |
|------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| 8 th | Friday | 10.00am Ministry team meeting (B) |
| 10 th | Sunday | 9.30am Church Queen Crowning (B) |
| 11 th | Monday | 10:00am Ministry team meeting (B) |
| 16 th | Sunday | 10.00am- 4.00pm Heritage Day (W) |
| 23 rd | Saturday | 1.30pm Autumn Fayre (B) |
| 25 th | Monday | 7.00pm PCC meeting (B) |
| 26 th | Tuesday | 7.00pm PCC meeting (W) |
| 30 th | Saturday | 10.00am -12.00pm Open Garden |

Early October Dates

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 15 th | Sunday | 9.30am Harvest Festival (B) |
| 16 th | Monday | 7.30pm Deanery Synod |
| 18 th | Wednesday | 7.00pm Baptism Prep (B) |
| 21 st | Saturday | 7.30pm Autumnal Evening of Music (B) |

St Margaret's Heritage Day:

St Margaret's church will be holding their annual Heritage Day on **16th September, 10.00am - 4.00pm;** with an exhibition and refreshments.



Autumn Fayre:

Our Autumn Fayre will be held in St Marks Church, Basford on **Saturday 23rd September at 1.30pm.**

Autumnal Evening of Music:

Come and join us for a lovely evening of music with the Coombs Trio of Strings while enjoying cheeses and wine at St Marks church. It will take place on **21st October at 7.30pm** in the church.

Deanery Synod meeting:

The next Deanery Synod meeting will be held on **16th October, St Marys, Knutton at 7.30pm.** This is an open meeting to all covering the topic of youth. The guest speaker will be Dr. Ruth Fish who will be talking about Children's Ministry.