
FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

When I was a teacher September rather than January was always the start of the New Year, after all the long summer vacation was over, all pupils moved up a year and new courses of study were in place. For the Church the New Year begins on Advent Sunday, this year December 3rd. However, as at least one tree in Churchill Gardens begins to show brown leaves it might be a good thing if we as a Church use September to look forward to a new year. So some dates and some ideas:-

1 - Sunday 22nd October: at the Parish Eucharist we will welcome Fr. Nicholas

Stebbing CR. Fr. Nicholas is a monk of the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield. He is from Zimbabwe and regularly returns to the country of his birth where he is involved in the Tariro Project. Fr. Nicholas will speak to us about this Missionary Project.

2 - Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd November, All Saints & All Souls.

On these two days we will remember before God at his altar those saints, the many millions, known to God alone, and the next day all who have died in Christ. The Eucharist of All Saints will be offered at 7:30pm on Wednesday and the Solemn Requiem

Eucharist of All Souls at 7:30pm on Thursday.

3 - Saturday 11th November: this is St. Martin's Day. On that day we will invite Christians from our Diocese and beyond to join in celebration of our apostolic witness to the Faith of the Church as the C of E has received it under the patronage of St. Martin. We will begin in the Cathedral before moving to St. Martin's. Our worship will be led by the Bishop of Wakefield, the Right Revd Tony Robinson. Some may know that Bishop Tony knows of our Church and Salisbury; he was trained for the priesthood at Salisbury & Wells Theological College as it was then.

4 - Wednesday 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th November. During Advent we will be able to spend time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and during that time we will pray the Jesus Prayer. In order to prepare ourselves for this, at a time to be fixed, we will explore the practice of this pillar of Orthodox prayer life.

5 - Sunday 3rd December: We begin to look forward to the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ as Advent begins. *Put these dates in your diary now and so join in the richness of the life of the whole Church as she seeks to live as Christ in the world.*

Fr. David