

PARISH NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL: - We would request all the parents to send their children to Sunday school classes for their spiritual growth and development which starts along with Sunday church worship service.

WFCS: - Every Second Sunday of the month we shall have women's fellowship meeting we would request all the women's fellowship members to attend this meeting.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: We are pleased to inform you that the Youth Fellowship of Christ Church Cathedral, C.N.I. Jabalpur (M.P.) will be organizing **Youth Week Programme from 11th September to 14th September, 2017** in our Church. The Youth of our Church will be organising several competition, in the evening everyday from 6:30 pm.

DATE	COMPETITIONS	TIME	FEE
11.9.2017	Solo/Duet Singing	6:30 pm	Rs.30/- Rs.50/-
12.9.2017	Antakshari	6:30 pm	Rs.50/-
13.9.2017	Bible Quiz On book of Mark	6:30 pm	Rs.50/-
14.9.2017	Group / Prize Distribution	6:30 pm	Rs.50/-

COTTAGE PRAYER MEETING:- Every Saturday we will be having the Cottage Prayer Meeting in the Parishioner houses from 7 pm onwards. We request all our Parishioners, to attend and also let us know if you want to have Cottage Prayer Meeting in your home.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, (C.N.I), JABALPUR



(Est.1844)

Church Service: 8:00 am

Rev. Bruce Thangadurai
Hon. Presbyter-in-charge
bruce_scmi@rediffmail.com

Sunday School: 8.00 am

926, North Civil Lines,
Jabalpur-482001 (M.P.)
Mob: 09893169749
www.christchurchcnijbp.org

CHURCH CALENDER FOR SEPTEMBER - 2017

3 RD SEPTEMBER	2017	HARVEST / TEACHERS SUNDAY
10 TH SEPTEMBER	2017	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
17 TH SEPTEMBER	2017	YOUTH SUNDAY
24 TH SEPTEMBER	2017	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FROM THE PRESBYTER

Dear Parishioners,
A celebration of the fruits of harvest is one of the oldest forms of offering of thanks to his maker. It is interesting to record that, apart from Christmas Carol Festival, Harvest Thanksgiving is one of the one most popular services in the church's calendar. It may be that the idea of saying thank you to God for something tangible is easier and more satisfying than offering gratitude for things that are more vague and nebulous. It may be that the fruits of the harvest, often displayed in great profundity in our churches, give a real, physical sense of making an offering to God.

Robert Hawker was acutely aware of the life-and-death importance of the harvest to his parishioners and he was convinced that the germination of wheat was a supernatural event. He liked the old customs and, despite criticism from neighbouring clergy who thought him most peculiar, he designed and held a special service in 1843, when everyone was invited to bring their produce as a way of saying thank you to God. Thereafter he urged his parishioners each year

to come to church for Harvest Thanksgiving. But how relevant is this historic act of thanksgiving in the 21st century? You only have to go into a modern supermarket and see the wide variety of food on display – food from every corner of the world. Today few people live or work on farms and fewer fish the seas. Most live in complete ignorance about what actually goes on in agriculture, and, to a lesser extent, horticulture. These people are unaware to say whether, in any year, there's been a good harvest or a bad one. Even those who live in towns and cities within largely rural areas will read nothing in their local newspapers to tell them whether local farmers have had satisfactory harvests. So, is Harvest Thanksgiving really very meaningful today and why do we continue with this annual service? Living, as we do, on an island that is dependent in so many ways on the harvest of land, forest and sea we should, above all others, appreciate the need to thank God for his abundant providence. But, the true significance is not that we reflect on our various harvests, but that we re-affirm and re-cultivate the Christian virtue of thankfulness. Through the symbolism of Harvest, we remember to give thanks. The purpose of service is not to wallow in the nostalgia of Robert Hawker's first Harvest Thanksgiving, but to give thanks. We must pause in the daily round, the common task: pause and say, 'Thank you! Thank you for all those good things that have come our way this year.' Yet, is it enough simply to feel thankful for our blessings and say 'thank you'? Well, on one level certainly, it is enough, if that 'thank you' comes from the heart. But, on another level it may be just enough, but it's hardly a complete fulfilment of what thanksgiving is all about. Thanksgiving is both a mental attitude and a physical response; it's both faith and works. The writer of the Epistle of James said, in effect, 'Faith without works is dead' (James 2: 14-17). Some verses in the Book called Leviticus note that the ancient Hebrews were told to leave the remnants of their harvest for the poor and the stranger in their midst. The harvest thanksgiving in Israel wasn't complete if the people gathered up all their crops and kept it all for themselves. Gratitude without sharing was no gratitude at all.

If we can remember that we are celebrating thanks-giving, and not thanks-getting; if we can reclaim the attitude and actions expressed in the ancient Hebrew celebrations which rejoiced in the harvest and remembered the needs of the poor and the stranger; perhaps then, and only then, can we honestly say with that a simple prayer of 'thank you', honestly expressed in word and in deed, is enough. In fact, it will be more than enough.

Abundant and overflowing with grace our love will be made manifest. So, let us thank God for life; thank God for food; thank God for family and friends; thank God for the opportunity of living our lives in this rich and beautiful land, a land that could be said to be 'flowing with milk and honey'. Let us thank God for being able to express our gratitude in acts of love, sharing and giving. Only then will we be able to gather in church, stand before God and celebrate the festival of Harvest Thanksgiving with thankfulness and gratitude.

BIRTHDAYS

1. James Page, Ranya Deborah Warren
2. Richerd Moses
3. Ivick Dorothy Williams, Eva James
4. Sakshi Noel, Lalrammawi
7. Sandeep Sathe, Zara Patrick
8. Lionel Clement, Shalini Samuel, Julius Thangadurai, M. Samuel, Lillian Raymer
10. Mrs. Deanna Raymer, Shirley Vince
12. Dr. Alfred Chien Ho Liao, Bryan Munzey, Rosyline Linda Jones, Jane Brook Jones
13. Joyce Joel, Lt. Col. Stanley Page, Brandon Ernest Russel
14. Su Ying Liao
15. Marian Deepanjali Ellis, Anan Williams, Bernice Clements
16. Ernest Kane
17. Pamela Thangadurai, Jason Langan,
18. Alvin Lazarus
19. Elvis Kane, Abhay Kumar Sathe, Samarth Gaekwad, Ashley Samuel
21. Millicent Gee
22. Ralph Russell, Beatrice Rushton, Michael Thangadurai, Ronald Raymer,
23. Shilpa Chowdhary
24. Dorothy Warren
25. Mrs. B. C. Melville, Enosh Masih
26. Sophie Palmer, Stephanie Ali
27. Eshan Masih
29. Arul Parmer

Wish you all a very Happy Birthday with God's Blessings.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1. Royston & Jasmine Gee
2. Ronald Brooks & Elizabeth Rushton
11. Mrs. & Mr. Ryan & Stephganie Ali
15. Aashima Bernard & Amit Jacob Samuel
17. Elizabeth Ruston & R. B. Rushton
21. Mr. David & Mrs. Priya Masih
25. Mr. & Mrs M. R. Melville

We wish the Couple Happy Long Married Life with God's Choicest Blessing