



“Joy of All Who Sorrow”

No. 161 September, 2022



*“Orthodoxy is not proved, but reveals itself:
“come and see” (Jn 1: 46), this is the whole
apology come and see.”*

St Justin (Popovic) +

Notes & Jottings

College Renovations and the Church

Work did begin of the external renovations in July but this was interrupted by the builder's summer holidays. Consequently progress has been slow. Like so many things here, it can be designated *work in progress*. Two years ago, the original wooden cross on the main cupola was replaced by a splendid stainless steel cross made, installed and donated by Tim Le Vin. More recently, the cross on the smaller cupola over the altar needed replacing. Tim has made a stainless steel replacement to match the large cross and will install it when he returns from holiday at the end of this month.

Christmas Cards

Two new Christmas card designs are currently being printed. One is an ikon of St Nicholas of Myra from the hand of Archimandrite David of St Seraphim's Studio at Walsingham. We often hear about "Father Christmas" being based on St Nicholas but why would we bother with an imposter when we had the great hierarch himself. The other subject is inspired by Holy Trinity – St Sergius Lava and is an original piece of artwork by Anna Moore. These will be sold in packs of 5 cards, with envelopes, retailing at £1.50 per pack. The advertising will be prepared during September and will include many previously published designs.

"Faithless Generation"

In the first millennium, the great saints of these islands thought they had rid our land of erroneous and false beliefs. Sadly, this process went into reverse in the 11th Century when our ancestors found themselves on the wrong side of the Great Schism. The following is an example that many people might not have noticed. Each morning at about 5.40am on Radio 4 there is slot called "Prayer for the Day". The speakers are drawn from various backgrounds, but they are mostly clergy persons, who would describe themselves as Christians. The format is a couple a minutes of general introduction about the chosen subject leading into a seemingly extemporaneous prayer. Usually, this prayer is addressed, non-specifically, to *Living God*, or some similar sobriquet. *Christ* is never mentioned. Indeed, this is so consistent that it tempts one to ask if the word has been banned by the editors at the BBC. Recently, one speaker was a Scottish Presbyterian minister, whose subject was the religious significance of dancing. He addressed his prayer to *Great Love*.

Our great saints laboured with and for Christ, the Lord. Miracles were wrought through their efforts. It will take a major miracle to reverse the spiritual decline of these formerly Christian islands, but such an aspiration should not be absent from our prayers.

NAMEDAYS

To all who are celebrating a nameday at this time we send congratulations and wish you:

Many Years!

1 September – **St Timothy of Palestine, martyr** – Timothy Le Vin

8 September – **Sts Adrian & Natalia of Nicomedia, martyrs** - Adrian Cosby, Natalia Dive, Natalia Weston

11 September – **Beheading of St John the Baptist** – John Barry

12 September – **St Alexander of Constantinople, patriarch** – Alexander Bascu

24 September – **St Deiniol of Bangor, abbot/bishop** – Igumen Deiniol (Davies)

30 September – **St Sophia and her daughters Vera, Nadezhda and Lubov, martyrs** – Nadejda Sacaliuc, Sophia Weston



COLLEGIATE & PARISH CHURCH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

JOY OF ALL WHO SORROW

SEPTEMBER 2022

Saturday 3rd September

7pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 4th September

(Martyrs Agathonicus of Nicomedia and his companions)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy or Hours & Typika

Saturday 10th September

7pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 11th September

(Beheading of St. John the Baptist)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy or Hours & Typika

Saturday 17th September

7pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 18th September

(Prophet Zachariah)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy [Fr Justin Venn]

Saturday 24th September

7pm ~ Vigil

Sunday 25th September

(Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross | Apodosis of Nativity of Theotokos)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy or Hours & Typika

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Unfortunately our priest, Fr Antony Bardsley, is still unable to serve due to suffering acute pancreatitis. Whilst he is sadly indisposed, we will continue to have Reader Services each weekend. Please note that on the weekend of 17th – 18th September we are grateful to Fr Justin Venn of our St Elisabeth's parish in Birkenhead who will be coming to serve the Divine Liturgy. Bishop Irenei is acutely aware of our situation and over the month of September will be training a candidate for ordination to the priesthood who will be assigned to Mettingham, God-willing, in October.