

From The Vicar....

Dear Friends,

September is a month I look forward to every year –who was it who wrote about it being a time of ‘mellow fruitfulness’? I am not one for very hot weather (what hot weather?- I hear you say!) – I like the cool breezes and subtle variations that come along with the autumn season. The Harvest is winding down gently – unless it has been wet. In Canada, it is a month of rushing around madly on the farms – for because the spring is later there, so is Harvest, and everything has to be got in between mid-September and freeze-up in early October.

As nature winds down in September, so Church life begins to pick up again after the lassitude of August. I’ve already written about our ‘Junior Church’ project – please keep it in your prayers, as one of our Mission projects. Also, on September 27th (Harvest and back-to-church Sunday) we are going to hold a special Baptism Renewal Service at 3 p.m. Many of you will be getting letters, but if you don’t, come anyway with all your children and we will have a wonderful and probably noisy time celebrating and remembering. The service will be specially designed with children in mind, and a great time will be had by all. We will be thinking about God and his world, and our place in it.

As for Harvest itself (27th) there will as usual be Communion services in the morning, but also a special Harvest Evensong in the evening. Everyone is very welcome at any of these services.

September makes me smile also for a personal reason. My parents welcomed me into this world on September 13th 1950. Having been told by their Vicar in Johannesburg that they should choose the names of Christian saints for me, they had chosen Stephen William. However, September 13th was St Cyprian’s day; so they threw that in for good measure. The unfortunate result is that my middle initials for evermore are W.C. - an embarrassment I have had to live with ever since!

My love and prayers,

Stephen