



ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

An Anglican / Episcopal
Christian community in Lugano

newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2017 – Welcome back everyone from summer travels! Autumn is gracing us with cool mornings and evenings. School has started and we must prepare ourselves for the busy schedules, weekly routines and traffic. Please join us Sunday 3rd for the Family Service when we commission the Sunday School Teachers, followed by a BBQ and organ recital later in the day.

CHURCH SERVICES

A Sung Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
All denominations are welcome to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

Sunday School Lessons will take place on Sunday 10th and 24th of September.

Mid-Week Service: Unless announced to the contrary, there will be a short service of Holy Communion (said) every Wednesday in the side chapel at 10:30 a.m. All Welcome.

EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 3rd

Family Service followed by a fellowship BBQ in the Church garden.
Organ Recital by Alessandro Bianchi 2:30 p.m. at St Edward's
Decorating the Church for Harvest Festival with the children

Saturday 30th 10:30

OCTOBER

Saturday 1st

Harvest Thanksgiving Service
Back-to-Church Sunday to celebrate our patron saint,
Edward the Confessor, followed by a Lunch in Casa Benson

Sunday 15th

Sunday 3rd September Family Service

To include the commissioning
of our Sunday School Teachers



We look forward
to seeing you all for our
Fellowship Bring & Share BBQ
after the 10:30am Eucharist

Chaplain's Message



Dear Friends,

I am writing this just a few days after returning from a fantastic summer holiday visiting some of the remotest areas of rural Scotland. Everyone said the weather would be horrid. It wasn't. For the most part it was gloriously sunny and mild, quite unlike the recent oppressive heatwave in Lugano!

One of the highlights was a visit to the sea cave of St Ninian, four miles from Whithorn Abbey, in stunningly beautiful Galloway. Tradition has it that Ninian used this secluded cave as a place of solitude and retreat, and from the Middle Ages until now it has been a place of pilgrimage for Christians from all over the world.

During an excavation of the site, many Christian symbols dating from the 10th and 11th centuries were found beneath the collapsed roof. These are now neatly displayed in the nearby Priory Museum at Whithorn.

The cave itself is small, more a recess under a rocky slope and easily accessible after a quick scramble over some rocks. Once inside it feels very poignant - very much like a holy shrine. For years people have been wedging coins into the rocks and leaving notes for departed loved ones.

Standing in that remote place on a beautiful summer's day overlooking a glorious bay, my friend and I experienced a profound sense of peace and tranquillity. Later we reflected on Ninian's ministry and how Christianity came to Scotland through his unrelenting missionary work, and how this holy place inspires you to do what Ninian himself used to do there - pray!

As it happens, Ninian's feast day falls on the 16th of this month. As a young man he visited Rome, where he received training in the faith. He was consecrated Bishop of Galloway in the year 394 and returned to Britain, where he set up a community of monks at Candida Casa (*White House*) from where they went out on missionary journeys all over Scotland. Almost certainly this *White House* was the oldest Christian foundation in Scotland. Ninian died in about the year 432.

Ninian shows us the possibility of living a God-centred life, however imperfectly we do it. Like many of the ancient saints, he was simply a person who chose to point his life in what he passionately believed was God's direction, and he encourages us to do the same.

Ninian stressed the importance of daily prayer and practicing stillness. Yet for many Christians it can be a challenge to do either, on account of our busy, hectic schedules. And even for those who have journeyed with the Lord for many years, daily prayer may become stale and lack reverence. Whether one is a new believer or an established one, prayer should always be considered as the best way to speak to God.

Imagine not speaking to a loved one or a close friend. How long would the relationship last? Daily prayer with God is daily fellowship with our heavenly Father. Actually, it's truly amazing that God would want to have fellowship with us at all! And yet, daily prayer remains the best way to understand the marvellous privilege God has given us.

Ninian would certainly say a profound 'Amen' to that.

Fr Nigel

ORGAN RECITAL

Sunday 3rd September 2:30 p.m.
in St Edward's Anglican Church
(immediately after the Parish BBQ in Casa Benson)



ORGANIST: ALESSANDRO BIANCHI

*"A PROGRAMME OF POPULAR
ORGAN MUSIC"*

Featuring works by:

Bach, Pachelbel, Verdi,
Mendelssohn and others

All are welcome!

TIME TO SAY GOODBYE



On the 3rd August we bade farewell to Miriam Ankele, who will shortly be furthering her theological studies as a student at the 'Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry' (BSSM) in Redding, California. Her objective is to learn more about the manifold gifts God has placed in the Church to build it, for example, *healing, prophesying, and words of knowledge*. She especially loves how Bethel really applies these in everyday life, whether it's church, family, business or any organisation. Attached to the school is Miriam's new spiritual home – Bethel Church, a non-denominational charismatic church.

During her time with us Miriam served on St. Edward's Church Council and spearheaded our environmental protocol. Everyone feels sorrow in her leaving, yet we rejoice with her in anticipation of this new, exciting and God-led phase in her life.

Go well, Miriam! We will pray for you and for everyone at BSSM - your new church family.
Fr Nigel

SUNDAY SCHOOL *(During the scholastic year)*

Sunday School lessons **usually** take place on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month during the 10:30 morning Eucharistic Service. **Please see Front Page for Sunday School dates**. All children from the age of 3 are very welcome to join **Pebbles** for our youngest members, or **Rocks** for those with more reading ability. Children are encouraged to participate in the monthly Family Service. For further info contact: Diana dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com

TODDLERS CORNER

Welcome bags are available at the back of the church for the youngest children to enjoy quietly during the Service.

SOUL CAFÉ

A welcoming place to meet together for friendship and fellowship in the relaxed atmosphere of Casa Benson. Meetings are usually held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

September 6th and 20th

For further information please contact [Linda Denkinger 091 605 3576](mailto:Linda.Denkinger@091.605.3576)

NEWS SUBMISSION

Copy for the October edition is due 14th September.

Email to emily.lingeri@bluewin.ch



Fr Nigel will lead an Intercessory Prayer Course from 1p.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday 7th October in Casa Benson. Those already involved in this ministry, and anyone who would like to receive instruction on leading prayers in public worship, are warmly invited to attend. Further details: fnigel-lugano@bluewin.ch

CHILDREN'S SPONSORED WALK-ALONG



Message from our brothers and sisters in Karachi:

***Jesus colours our lives when we invite
Him into our hearts***

At the end of May St. Edward's Sunday School met for the children's annual stewardship event which raised a grand sum of **CHF 2,385- in aid of the Educational Institute Charity in Karachi**. Well done to all those who took part! Thank you, to all those who generously sponsored and supported the children.

CHURCH CONTACTS

The Anglican Church of St. Edward the Confessor
Via Clemente Maraini 6, 6900 Lugano, Switzerland Office: 091 968 11 49

CHAPLAIN

Fr Nigel Gibson 075 416 33 00 fnigel-lugano@bluewin.ch

CHURCH WARDENS

Diana Dell'Acqua 091 967 32 57 dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com
Brian Bodnar 079 569 90 33 brian_s_bodnar@vfc.com

www.stedwards.ch



PARKING is available during every Sunday morning Service inside the parking garage of the ProCrea Clinic next door to the church.

