

St German's Church

11 March 2018 - Laetare/Mothering Sunday



The 4th Sunday of Lent is also known as *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* means to rejoice. The day takes its name from the first words of the opening antiphon - Rejoice, O Jerusalem! On this day the Lenten colour of Purples is softened to Rose and flowers may make an appearance. It is also Mothering Sunday which was when people in the past returned to their 'mother church' or the church where they were baptised bearing offerings. Celebrations were offered also to Mary, the mother of the Church.

Nowadays we take this opportunity to honour all mothers in our families and communities. We celebrate this because it provides us with encouragement as we progress towards the end of Lent. Today is a small break from the penitential seasons that reminds of the joy and hopes ahead at Easter.

Parish Notes:

Patron Saint of Ireland - St Patrick's Day is this coming Saturday, 17 March 2018. We hope to have an Irish flavour to our hymns next Sunday and maybe a few splashes of green?

Weekday Services - No weekday masses this week in St German's as Fr Phelim will be on retreat. The stations of cross continue as normal at the usual time of 6:45 on Monday.

Lent Stations of the Cross - We pray the Stations of the Cross each week preceded by a talk:

St Saviour's - Tuesdays at 6:45pm; St German's - Mondays at 6:45pm. This week: **Koinonia Holy Week Services** - Poster and leaflets now available. Please take one.

Cardiff Churches Nightshelter Last night is on Sat 17 March. It has been very tiring yet a real blessing and privilege to offer this ministry to our homeless friends. If you help in the mornings, the nights or the evenings please feel free to come along next week to say a farewell and happy St Patrick's day to our guests.

Thank You - to all who helped support our recent Quiz night and especially to Mr Richard Davey for leading the quiz. We raised £181.

Blessed are the Cake Makers - thank you to Heather Ralis who week after week makes us cakes for our Sunday morning teas.

Telstar Theatre Company will perform in the Church Hall on Fri 23 March at 7:30pm. Details are in the Church Hall but many still recall their previous very enjoyable events.

Confirmation Classes - The next meeting will be this Thurs 22 March at 6:30pm in St Saviour's. This is also for those wanting to deepen their understanding of our faith.

Lent Lunches - Lent soup lunches each Friday for charity with a short talk beforehand by Fr Malcolm. It begins at 12 noon in the lunch and the proceeds go to Christian Aid.

Social Events - Forthcoming events for your diary: Parish lunch on Sun 8 April; Night at the Races & Bingo on Saturday 28 April at 7:15pm

Recently Departed: Joan Sylvia Ford, *RIP*

This week:

Mon 12:

6:45pm Stations of the Cross (St G)

Tues 13:

10am Mass (St S)

6:45pm Stations of the Cross

Wed 14:

No mass this week (St G)

Thur 15:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 16:

6:00pm Mass (St S)

Sat 17:

11am Mass (St S.)

St Patrick

Sun 18: Sunday

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8:00 am Said Mass

(Nightshelter);

11:00 am Sung Mass

Keep in touch:

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

02922 411229,

phelimohare@gmail.com

(Day off - Friday)

Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt

02920 763754

Richard Hill

07519 352840

READINGS THIS WEEK

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

Eph 2:4-10

John 3:14-21

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Jer 31:31-34

Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15

Heb 5:7-9

John 12:20-33

PSALM RESPONSE

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you
not! (4v)

www.saintgermanwith

saintsaviour.org

Hymns: 625 Take my life and let it be; 29 Amazing Grace; 605 Sing we of the Blessed Mother; 649 The King of Love my Shepherd is

COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

1ST READING :

A reading from the 2nd book of Chronicles.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

They burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit

of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "the Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

This is the word of the Lord.
2 Chronicles 36

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung up our harps. **R/**

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' **R/**

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! **R/**

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! **R/**

Psalm 137

2ND READING :

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you

have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

This is the word of the Lord.
1 Cor 1

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
John 3