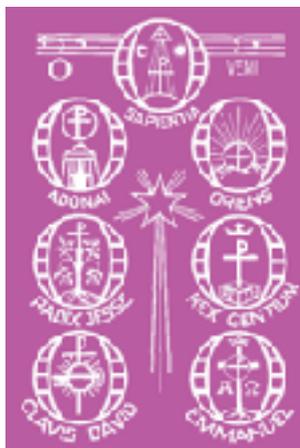


St German's Church

16 December 2018 - Advent 3 'Gaudete Sunday'



Today our focus is on the message and ministry of John the Baptist which is one of Good News and hope in the midst of challenge. The call to celebrate and rejoice is also present in the readings from Paul and Zephaniah. The church keeps these readings for now because the command to 'Rejoice' is the meaning of Gaudete Sunday. "The rose of the Advent candle is indicative of its more festal themes. We can celebrate the wedding feast only if we have prepared ourselves for the arrival of the Bridegroom. Joy flows from an embrace of repentance and a commitment to spiritual renewal" (Angus Ritchie, Church Times 8126)

Parish Notes:

O Antiphon Prayer - Please join us each evening this week at 7pm and help us make it a time of spiritual renewal as we await the joy of Christ's birth.

Tea Rota - We need help with the tea rota after mass on Sunday. Please see Richard about this. Currently it is falling to a small number of people.

Messy Christmas - We urgently need help with the craft activities for the Christmas Eve family service at 4pm. Please contact Fr Phelim for details.

Nightshelter - Begins this coming Saturday. Thank you to all who have agreed to help. Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers. We will also begin our 8:00 am Homeless mass for the season.

Carols and School Services for Christmas in St German's: Mon 17 Dec Local Cluster Schools at 6pm (Willows); Tues 18 Dec Ysgol Glantaf at 7pm;

Healing Service - this Wednesday 19 Dec at 6pm in St Saviour's. We will follow the rite of healing as used at the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Fr John Griffiths RIP - The former parish priest of St German's who was here between the time of Fr Martin Williams and Fr Roy Doxey has died. His funeral will be at the Shrine of Julian of Norwich in Norwich on Wednesday 10 Jan 2019. May he rest forever in the peace of Christ.

Advent and Christmas - Copies of the services and the magazine are now available. Please take a copy home and maybe one to give away.

Recently Departed: Brian Gunstone, Sylvia Lewis, Fr John Griffiths RIP

Sun 16 Advent 2

9:30 Sung Mass (St S)

11am Sung Mass (St G)

7pm - O Antiphon Prayer

- O Wisdom (St G)

Mon 17:

6pm No Mass (St G)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Lord (St S)

Tues 18:

10am Mass (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Root of Jesse (St S)

Wed 19:

10am Mass (St G)

6pm Healing Serv. (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Key of David (St G)

Thur 20:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Dayspring (St G)

Fri 21:

6pm Mass (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O People's King (St S)

Sat 22:

11am Mass (St S.)

12pm Carols & a Cuppa

at St Saviour's

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Emmanuel (St G)

Sun 23: Advent 4

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass

St German's:

11:00 am Sung Mass

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

02922 411229,

phelimohare@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt

02920 763754

Richard Hill

07519 352840

READINGS THIS WEEK

Zeph 3:14-18a

Isa 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

Phil 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Ezek 17:22-24

Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16

2 Cor 5:6-10

Mark 4:26-

PSALM:

**Sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of
Israel. (3vv)**

Hymns: 480 O come, O come Emmanuel; 326 In the bleak mid winter; 330 It came upon the midnight clear; 655 The Lord will come and not be slow. (Mass setting: Rizza 955)

COLLECT:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FIRST READING

The First reading is from the prophet Zephaniah.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has revealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

This is the word of the Lord.

Zeph 3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel.*

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. *R/*

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name.
R/

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds;
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *R/*

Isaiah 12

SECOND READING

A reading from the 1st letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Phil 14

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 3