

St German's Church

18 Feb 2018 - Lent 1



The Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness.

Being in a wilderness or desert is hard for us who live in cities to comprehend. Because of this it might be difficult for us to relate to this Sunday's gospel. We have questions as to how he survived physically and mentally as well as how did he cope with boredom. However, our re-enacting of a desert pilgrimage can make sense if we understand that the desert may not necessarily be a physical location. In biblical context, the desert is any situation where a person can be in solitude. And in this solitude, two things can happen: an encounter with God, and an encounter with the Tempter. One other thing about deserts, they can be incredibly beautiful and clear the way for a closer encounter with God. May our own Lenten journey be as graceful.

Parish Notes:

Cardiff Churches Nightshelter Many thanks to all who continue to support our Nightshelter. Please keep our guests and helpers in your prayers over the remaining winter weeks and months. The Nightshelter will continue until 12 March 2018.

PCC Meeting - the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council will be on Sunday 11 March at 1pm. The Vestry meeting at Easter will be on Sun 15 April at 1pm.

Mass Settings - Thank you to everyone as we introduced the Rizza Mass setting to our repertoire. We now return to the Murray setting and will revisit the Rizza in due course.

Confirmation Classes - The next meeting will be this Thurs 1 March at 6:30pm in St Saviour's. This is also for those wanting to deepen their understanding of our faith.

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.

Lent Lunches - Lent soup lunches each Friday for charity with a short talk beforehand.

Lent Courses - St Martin's, Roath will host a Lent talk by Mr John Guess on Thursdays at 7pm. Bishop June is also leading a Lenten course in Llandaff Cathedral on the first four Thursdays of Lent also at 7pm.

Lent Charity this year is for Christian Aid. Sleeves at the back of the Church.

Social Events - Forthcoming events for your diary: Quiz evening Tues 6 March at 7pm; Parish lunch on Sun 8 April; Night at the Races & Bingo on Saturday 28 April at 7:15pm.

Recently Departed: Beryl Denning. Maria Churcher, *RIP*

Today's Hymns: 190 Forty Days, 249 Great is thy faithfulness; 412 Lord Jesus think on me; 303 I cannot tell

This week:

Mon 19:

6pm Mass (St G)

Tues 20:

10am Mass (St S)

Wed 21:

10am Mass (St G)

Thur 22:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

St Peter's Chair

Fri 23:

6:00pm Mass (St S)

St Polycarp

Sat 24:

11am Mass (St S.)

Sun 25: Sunday

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

13:30 Baptism

St German's:

8:00 am Said Mass

(Nightshelter);

11:00 am Sung Mass

Keep in touch:

Parish Priest:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Gen 9:8-15

Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

1 Pet 3:18-22

Mark 1:12-15

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Ps 116:10,15, 16-19

Rom 8:31b-34

Mark 9:2-10

PSALM RESPONSE

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant. (3vv)

COLLECT:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1ST READING :

A reading from the book of Genesis.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

This is the word of the Lord.
Genesis 9

PSALM

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R/**

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me.
because of your goodness, O Lord. **R/**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.
R/

2ND READING :

A reading from the 1st letter of St Peter.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of

eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

This is the word of the Lord.
1 Peter 3

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

And the Spirit immediately drove Jesus out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Mark 1