

St German's Church

18 March 2018 - Lent 5 'Passion Sunday'



"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains but a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit." It is difficult to comprehend the will of God, difficult to grasp just what He has done. Difficult too to get to grips with the reasons and purpose of Jesus' death. But we know this: **(and we are called to accept it - and to embrace it)** that his dying was done for us, so that we might live!

Parish Notes:

Patron Saint of Ireland - In honour of St Patrick (and a famous Irish Grand Slam victory) we hope to have an Irish flavour s today and thank you for those wearing green!

Weekday Services - Weekday services as normal this week.

Lent Stations of the Cross - St Saviour's - Tuesdays at 6:45pm; St German's - Mondays at 6:45pm. This week: **Berakah**

Holy Week Services - Poster and leaflets now available. Please take one.

Cardiff Churches Nightshelter Our Nightshelter has now ended for the season and many of us are very grateful for how well it has gone and how many people we managed to 'rescue' from the streets over the past three months. Thank you to all our helpers and those who prayed for the success of this vital ministry. We start it all again this coming December. We will host a celebration evening later in the year for both our homeless guests and the volunteers from all seven of the churches involved. Details in due course.

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 faith.

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

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

Recently Departed: Joan Sylvia Ford, *RIP*

Hymns: 302 I bind unto myself; 412 Lord Jesus think on me; 299 I am the bread of life; 429 Love is his word;

READINGS THIS WEEK

Jer 31:31-34
Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
Heb 5:7-9
John 12:20-33

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 50:4-7
Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20,
23-24
Phil 2:6-11
Mark 15:1-39

PSALM RESPONSE

A pure heart create
for me, O God (3vv)

This week:

Mon 19:

6pm Mass (St G)

St Joseph

6:45pm Stations of
the Cross

Tues 20:

10am Mass (St S)

6:45pm Stations of
the Cross

Wed 21:

10am Mass (St G)

Thur 22:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

St John of God

Fri 23:

6:00pm Mass (St S)

Sat 24:

11am Mass (St S.)

Sun 25: Sunday

(Palm Sunday)

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

11:00 am Sung Mass

Keep in touch:

Parish Priest:

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COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.

FIRST READING

The First reading is from the book of Jeremiah.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

This is the word of the Lord.

Jeremiah 31

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

A pure heart create for me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God,
in your kindness.
In your compassion
blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more
from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart
create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away
from your presence,
nor deprive me
of your holy spirit.

Give me again
the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour
sustain me,
that I may teach
transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.
Psalm 51

SECOND READING

The Second Reading is from the letter to the Hebrews.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

This is the word of the Lord.

Hebrews 5

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - “Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.