

St German's Church

19 April 2020 - Easter II



'Happy are those who have not seen and yet believed' (John 20) This is the opposite of what many in our society have become used to: 'seeing is believing'. Yet, as we gradually get used to social isolation and staying in our homes we are starting to get a clearer view as to how this crisis will impact on the future of our lives as a church community. We cannot yet see the distant scene or even a way out of the current lockdown yet we still believe, we still have hope and we still have the Risen Christ who is in our midst and in our homes - drawing us together into a new dispersed 'people of God' as church.

Parish Notes:

Online Services - The liturgical life of our community continues with online services. The format of these are youtube videos taken in either our churches or in the vicarage. Church based videos are allowed involving the priest/minister and one other person to film or say the responses. From this Sunday we hope to return to our churches for Sunday and other services. We also have scope for other use of video in our exploration of digital ministry in this time of social isolation. If you have any suggestions on digital ministry let us know.

Coronavirus Support - If you know of anyone who is in need or can't access food shopping or collecting medicines please let at least some of us know as we may be able to help.

Parish Giving - Whilst many homes and businesses are under financial pressure (partly relieved by recent government intervention) our diocesan and parish church finances are also feeling the pinch. Whilst we have some small reserves to tide us over for a short while we would greatly appreciate if each of us could review our giving and especially the form it takes. Our treasurer would really appreciate it if regular giving was by way of standing order or perhaps the Church in Wales' own scheme: Gift Aid Direct. Please see Angela or the wardens for details. The Church of today & tomorrow really needs whatever help and support you can give.

Easter Course - Regardless of the coronavirus, we still hope to have an Easter course this year. Last year we followed Faith Pictures. If you would like this please let Fr Phelim know and we can source material and the best format (distance or virtual learning) it should be in.

Liturgical Ministries - Readers and intercessions are still needed every week for our online services. If you are willing and able to be involved please let Fr Phelim know.

Foodbank - Please continue to donate food locally. Whilst some foodbank distribution centres have closed others have remained open (please see Cardiff Foodbank website for details of these). For dropping off donated food Cardiff Foodbank Hub remains open in Splott on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 09:30-13:30 plus many supermarkets. Again see website for details.

Recently Departed - Gwenllian Jones (RIP)

READINGS THIS WEEK

Acts 2:42-47
Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 Pet 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Acts 2:14, 22-33
Ps 16:1-2a+5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
1 Pet 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35

PSALM:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. (3vv)

Llandaff Diocese Prayer Cycle:

Sun 19

2nd Sunday of Easter

Penarth & Llandough,
Mark Jones (V), Rose Hill
(C) Alison Reeves (C)

Mon 20:

Penmark w Llandarfon w
Llantrithyd, Derek Belcher,
Melanie Prince

St Beuno

Tues 21:

Porthkerry & Rhose,
Melanie Prince (PinC)

St Anselm

Wed 22:

The Bishop of Llandaff, June
Osborne & family

Thur 23:

St Andrews Major &
Michaelston-le-Pit, Andrew
James (PinC)

St George

Friday 24:

Sully, Jonathan Ormrod
(PinC)

Saturday 25:

Wenvoe & St Lythans,
Jonathan Ormrod (PinC)

ST MARK, evangelist

Sun 26

3rd Sunday of Easter

Archdeaconry of Margam,
Michael Komor (Aden)

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,
02922 411229,
phelimohare@gmail.com
(Day off - Friday)

Churchwardens:

Bill Eastwood
07800 946949
David Gibbins
07813160825

COLLECT

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Acts.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

This is the word of the Lord.

Acts 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
‘His love has no end.’

Let the sons of Aaron say:
‘His love has no end.’

Let those who fear the Lord say:
‘His love has no end.’ **R/**

I was thrust down, thrust down and falling,
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. **R/**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **R/**

Psalm 118

SECOND READING

A reading from 1st letter of Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God’s power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

This is the word of the Lord.

1 Peter 1

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: ‘You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’ Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood

among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you’, and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. ‘As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.’

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

‘Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.’

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him: ‘You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life

through his name.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

John 20