

St German's Church

19 July 2020 - Ordinary Time 16 (6th after Trinity)



Patience is the central message of this Sunday's parable. The householder holds back from dramatic and destructive intervention to save as much as possible of the harvest. As our first reading reminds us, God's power is shown forth in mercy: "Your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all." God's patience reflects the nature of his harvest. His Kingdom cannot be brought about by violence of empire, for it consists in "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14.17). The refusal to uproot the weeds too early does not betoken indifference or detachment. While he refuses to compel our obedience, he offers us his very life — the life poured out on Calvary, and given to us as heavenly food. (Angus Ritchie, ChurchTimes 8209)

Parish Notes:

Churches Open for Private Prayer - the opening times reflect when our churches would normally be open each week (before the lockdown): In St German's: Sundays from 10:30-12:00; Mondays 17:30-18:30; Wednesdays 10:00-11:00; on Saturdays 11:00-12:00. N.B. There are strict guidelines on safety that must be followed by all visitors to church as well as those volunteering to be stewards supervising each opening time.

Resumption of Public Worship - It is with great delight that we welcome the news that our churches can resume public acts of worship. Our PCC officers have met and looked at the necessary steps and assessing of risk and submitted these to the archdeacons for diocesan approval. If approval is gained we will resume public worship with said masses in both churches from next Sunday, 26 July. Social distancing is key as well as hand and face hygiene practices and so this will effect serving at mass and also distribution of Holy Communion. We are not yet able to share communion from the chalice.

Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings - Are also now permitted but there are still very strict and separate guidelines for each service. We are preparing the risk assessment for funerals at the minute but not ready yet for baptisms and weddings (but hope to complete these by the end of August). For funerals the key changes are that no Requiem Masses are permitted as yet. Also, attendance of church based funerals is strictly by invitation only.

Online Worship - As we await the reopening procedures a church we are still very conscious that some of our of our people will still be shielding and so we will maintain some online worship services in addition to those taking place in church. More details asap.

Faith Nurturing - Next meets on 12 August looking at 'In Search of a Way' by Gerard Hughes SJ. at 7pm via Zoom. Contact Fr Phelim for details. We'll look at chapters -4-6.

Lift Up Your Hearts - Spiritual Support during the pandemic. This week's reflections are from the Rev'd Tom Clammer, former Canon Precentor of Salisbury Cathedral.

Recently Departed - Dorothy French (RIP)

This Week - Church events & when open for private prayer:

Sun 19 - 6th Sunday after Trinity (OT16)

09:00-10:30 (St Saviour)
10:30-12:00 (St German)
Cwmbach, Christopher Smith (PinC), Anglican Church in the Philippines.

Mon 20:

17:30-18:30 (St German)

Tue 21:

10:00-11:00 (St Saviour)

Wed 22:

10:00-11:00 (St German)

Thur 23:

17:00-18:00 (St Saviour)

Friday 24:

Saturday 25:

10:45-11:45 (St Saviour)
11:00-12:00 (St German)

Sun 26 - 7th Sunday after Trinity (OT17)

09:00 Mass (St Saviour)
11.00 Mass (St German)
Cwmafan, Elaine Jenkyns.
Lambeth Conference Team

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,
02922 411229,
phelimohare@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt 02920 763754
Richard Hill 07519 352840

Online Services:

Sunday Mass will be recorded each week and links to these films are available on our website on Sunday morning.

READINGS THIS WEEK

Wis 12:13, 16-19
Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Rom 8:26-27
Matt 13:24-43

READINGS NEXT WEEK

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
Ps 119
Rom 8:28-30
Matt 13:44-52

PSALM:

O Lord, you are good and forgiving. (3vv)

COLLECT

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

This is the word of the Lord.

Wisdom 12

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. **R/**

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. **R/**

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord,

abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. **R/**

Psalms 85

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Romans 8

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow

till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables.

This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.'

He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels.

Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 11