

# St German's Church

19 November 2017 - (Kingdom Season 3)



**The Parable of the Talents** - This can be a hard passage to understand especially considering the master's exaggerated anger. As ever, the context of Jesus' situation is key. He is surrounded by enemies and approaching his last weeks. He is frustrated at the hardness of heart of those around him. Yet there is 'Good News' to be found in this story: it shows what trusting and free spirited servants of God can do; it shows us a 'master' who does not cling to power but enables us to be fulfilled. The last word is also challenging and encouraging: "Get off your butt and stop pitying yourself! Otherwise you will lose everything you have." (Michel de Verteuil)

## Parish Notes:

**Cardiff Churches Nightshelter** Forms available at the back of the Church for those who want to sign up to help. There will be a training session on Mon 11 December in St German's Hall at 7pm for all our helpers. More details on training to follow.

**Rome Trip** - Meeting today in the hall after coffee.

**Bazaar** - Many thanks to all who came and helped at yesterday's bazaar. We raised over £600 for the Church and are confident this will rise to £800. A wonderful achievement in fundraising and in offering a service to our local community.

**Advent Lessons & Carols by Candlelight** - Sun 3 Dec 2017 at 6pm. Join us as we begin to celebrate the season of Advent. Mulled wine and Mince pies afterwards.

**Cardiff Foodbank** - Urgent items: tinned tomatoes, fruit juice (concentrate), rice pudding tins, sponge pudding, tinned fruit. Not now needed: beans, cereals, tea.

**Advent Benediction** - St Saviour's at 6pm on Sunday 10 December.

**Reconciliation Service** - St Saviour's at 7pm on 13 December.

**Oshi's World in Penarth** - a facility that supports families with disabled children by voting for it through the Aviva Community Fund ([www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk](http://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk))

**Praying the O Antiphons** - in the week preceding Christmas we will have some quiet reflections at 7pm, inspired by the O Antiphons (prophetic titles of Christ), in St German's and St Saviour's. It is meant to be a spiritual preparation for Christmas and the anti-dote to the noise and glitz of the 'shopping season'.

**Advent and Christmas** - Please see poster at the back outlining some of our other services for Advent and Christmas. Copies are available online and at the back.

**Recently Departed** - Please pray for Sara Meah & Colin Ford. *RIP*

## This week:

### Mon 20:

6pm Mass (St G)

### Tues 21:

10am Mass (St S)  
Presentation of BVM

### Wed 22:

10am Mass (St G)  
St Cecilia

### Thur 23:

5:45pm Mass (St S)  
St Clement

### Fri 24:

No mass this week

### Sat 25:

11am Mass (St S.)  
St Catherine

### Sun 26:

*St Saviour:*

Sung Mass 9:30;

*St German:*

11 am Sung Mass;

## Keep in touch:

### Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,  
02922 411229,  
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(Day off - Friday)

### Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt  
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[www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org](http://www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org)

## READINGS THIS WEEK

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20,  
30-31  
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
1 Thess 5:1-6  
Matt 25:14-30

## READINGS NEXT WEEK

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20,  
30-31  
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
1 Thess 5:1-6  
Matt 25:14-15, 19-21

## PSALM RESPONSE

'O blessed are those  
who fear the  
Lord.' (3vs)

**COLLECT:**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Hymns - 70 Be thou my vision; 12 Alleluia, sing to Jesus; 428 Love Divine; 580 Rejoice the Lord is king**

**FIRST READING:**

A reading from the book of Proverbs  
A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

*Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Response: 'O blessed are those who fear the Lord.'**

O blessed are those  
who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands  
you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **R/**

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children  
like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **R/**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life. **R/**

*Psalms 127*

**SECOND READING:**

A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

*1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*

**GOSPEL:**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

[Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples.] 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received

the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*Matthew 25:1-13*