

St German's Church

1 December 2019 - Advent I



In today's gospel we hear Jesus reflecting on the end of the world. No one every knows when the Lord will come or when our time on earth is ended.

Advent means Coming. It is the time of preparation for the coming of the Son of Man into our life. Jesus exhorts us to be vigilant. He asks us to be attentive to the events in order to discover in them the hour of the coming of the Son of Man. At the beginning of Advent, we commit to learning anew how to read the signs of our times in the light of God's promise of Hope and Good News for the world. And this in order not to be surprised, because God comes without telling us, when we least expect.

Parish Notes:

Welcome & thank you to Fr Keith Kimber for preaching & presiding today. **Candlelit Advent Carols** - Our annual service of carols and lessons for advent will take place this evening at 6pm. For more details see Geraint.

Refreshments - No tea and coffee today after mass because our hall is hosting a large lunch. Instead we will have some soft drinks and, for those who wish, freshly made Gins & Tonic. All are welcome.

Congratulations - to Joyce who was confirmed this morning by Bishop June at the 9am Eucharist in Llandaff Cathedral. Thanks to all who supported her catechesis.

Nightshelter - Thank you to all who turned up at our meeting last Monday. We are currently preparing the rotes for the next few weeks. If you are able to help us on the night shift or in the kitchen we would be very grateful.

Advent & Christmas - service details on our website & at the back of the Church.

Weekday services - because of this week's pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi our services in St German's will be slightly different. On Monday we will have the opening pilgrim mass at 11am for pilgrims and parishioners alike. On Wednesday Geraint will lead an all age service for the primary school class who will be visiting.

Foodbank - Current urgent items: Tinned Fruit, Long life fruit juice, UHT milk, Rice Pudding, Sponge Puddings. Tinned potatoes. For an up to date overview of the plight of hungry people in the UK please visit www.stateofhunger.org which is research and policy conclusions conducted by the Trussell Trust.

Concerts at St German's - There is a list of these events at the back of the church as well as a sign up page for those who are willing to help set up and tidy away.

The Departed: In November we pray for all the repose of all the faithful departed.

This week:

Sun 1: Advent I

9:30 Sung Mass (St S)
11am Sung Mass (St G)

Mon 2:

11am Pilgrim Mass (StG)

Tues 3:

10am Mass (St S)
St Francis Xavier

Wed 4:

No mass today (St G)
St John Damascene

Thur 5:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 6:

6pm Mass (St S)
St Nicholas

Sat 7:

11am Mass
St Ambrose

Sun 8: Advent II

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

11:00 am Sung Mass
6pm Advent Carols by
Candlelight

Parish Priest:

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www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org

READINGS THIS WEEK

Isa 2:1-5
Ps 122:1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5,
6-7, 8-9
Rom 13:11-14
Matt 24:37-44

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 11:1-10
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Rom 15:4-9
Matt 3:1-12

PSALM RESPONSE

I rejoiced when I heard
them say: 'Let us go to
God's house.' (vv.3)

Today's hymns: 282 Hills of the North; 135 Creator of the stars of night; 263 Hark a herald voice; 128 Come thou long expected Jesus. Mass Setting: Rizza.

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

Isaiah 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R/*

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of
judgement
of the house of David. *R/*

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!' *R/*

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. *R/*
Psalm 122

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Romans 13

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Matt 24