

St German's Church

1 March 2020 - Lent 1



Connecting the beginning of Lent, when we recall Christ's sojourn in the desert, and St David may be liturgically contrived. However, if we think of David's motto 'Keep the Faith' we might begin to make progress. Jesus desired above all to be faithful to the Father's will; to reach out to us from heaven and invite us to join the fullness of life enjoyed in heaven. David too was motivated with this call to reach out to the broken, the sinful, the weary and lost and to bring them something of the riches of Christ. We thank God today for David and the example of living faith he gives still to the people of Wales. Most of all we journey into the desert with Christ in prayer to understand more clearly our call from the Father.

Parish Notes:

Season of Lent - Heather will introduce the Christian Aid prayer resources today which will help us prepare spiritually during Lent. We also have our Friday Soup Lent lunches in support of Christian Aid with reflections from Fr Malcolm (12pm).

Messy Church - The next Messy Church is in St Saviour's this afternoon at 4pm. Theme: St David of Wales. All are welcome.

Stations of the Cross - Praying the stations of the cross during Lent helps us walk with Christ in our pilgrimage back to our heavenly Father. As we walk and pray we realise he is already walking with us. Mondays in St G's after the evening mass.

Social Committee - The next social event will be Irish Coffees after mass on 15 March in honour of St Patrick.

Gardening Club - resumes next Saturday from 11am. Meets 1st Sat of each month.

I Ffordd Tangnefedd - IFT, our new Sunday evening contemplative services, will pause during Lent for a time of reflection and consolidation before a bigger launch later in the spring (26 April).

Nightshelter - Rota for March now available. Nightshelter finishes at the end of March (22 March). Many thanks to all who give generously of their time.

Easter Vestry - The AGM for our Church will be on Sunday 15 March after the Sunday mass when we hear reports from the incumbent, wardens, treasurer and also elect our PCC for the coming year. We also need to renew the Electoral Roll by next Sunday to allow members to vote at the vestry.

Recently Departed: David Pinder, Marina Williams *RIP*.

This week:

Sun 1: Lent 1 (St David)

9:30 Sung Mass;

4pm Messy Church

St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

Mon 2:

6pm Yr Offeren (St G)

Tue 3:

10am Mass (St S)

Wed 4:

10am Mass (St G)

Thur 5:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 6:

No Mass

12pm Lent lunch (St G)

Sat 7:

11am Yr Offeren (St S)

Sun 8: Lent II

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

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(day off is Friday)

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Churchwardens:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 14+17

Rom 5:12-19

Matt 4:1-11

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Gen 12:1-4a

Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20+22

2 Tim 1:8b-10

Matt 17:1-9 -

Transfiguration

PSALM RESPONSE

Have mercy on us, O
Lord, for we have
sinned. (vv.4)

Today's hymns: Opening hymn: (190) Forty days and forty nights. We will be using the Welsh English service booklet today which has 3 of our hymns: Gwahoddiad (offertory), Calon Lan (Communion), I Bob un syn (Recessional); Mass Setting: Rizza (955).

COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; 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 Leviticus.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

This is the word of the Lord.

Lev 19

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

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. *R/*

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. *R/*

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. *R/*

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. *R/*

Psalm 103

SECOND READING

A reading from the 1st letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: *The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or*

again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

1 Cor 3

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

'You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Matt 5