

St German's Church

26 November 2017 - (Christ the Universal King)



Modern Western culture does not have many kings - or queens. The few left do not exercise real power; they play ceremonial roles and we associate them with pomp and pageantry. In the biblical culture, kings are real leaders of their communities. They are 'judges' in the sense that they set moral standards for the community. Rightly then, today's gospel reading celebrates Christ's kingship as an act of 'judgement' ... the feast celebrates the 'good news for the poor'. It is also a call to repentance addressed to us as individuals and as a Church, since our 'judgements', words and actions, are often far removed from those of Jesus. (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.

Bishop June Osborne - We are delighted to welcome Bishop June to St German's to preside and preach on the 2nd Sunday of Advent (10 December). It will be a momentous occasion and it would be great to see as many as possible to greet her.

Rome Pilgrimage - No weekday services 4-8 Dec because of the Rome pilgrimage.

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

Warm Clothes Appeal - We hope to have a small collection of clean, dry and warm clothing available of our Nightshelter guests this winter. Please see the wardens for details about donations.

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

Reconciliation Service - St Saviour's at 7pm on 13 December. All are welcome.

Praying the O Antiphons - in the week before 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.

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.

Christian Unity - Advance notice of the week of prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January 2018. This year's theme: 'That all may be free'. More details of a joint service to follow.

Recently Departed - Please pray for Barbara Millett. *RIP*

This week:

Mon 27:

6pm Mass (St G)

Tues 28:

10am Mass (St S)

Wed 29:

10am Mass (St G)

Prayer for the Mission of the Church

Thur 30:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

ST ANDREW

Fri 1:

No mass this week

Sat 2:

11am Mass (St S.)

Sun 3:

St Saviour:

Sung Mass at 9:30;

St German:

Sung Mass at 11:00;

**Advent Carol Service
by Candlelight at
6:00pm**

Keep in touch:

Parish Priest:

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

Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt
02920 763754
Richard Hill:
02920 495326

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 25:14-15, 19-21

READINGS NEXT WEEK

*Isa 63:16b-17, 19b;
64:2-7
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Cor 1:3-9
Mark 13:33-37*

PSALM RESPONSE

**'The Lord is my
shepherd; there is
nothing I shall
want' (4vs)**

COLLECT:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; 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 405 Lo he comes; 381 Let all mortal flesh... ; 649 The king of love... 137 Crown him with many crowns

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose. **R/**

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name. **R/**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R/**

Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R/**

Psalms 23

SECOND READING:

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

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king *until he has put all his enemies under his feet* and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be *put under his feet*. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

1 Corinthians 15 20-28

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are

blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

Matthew 25:31-46