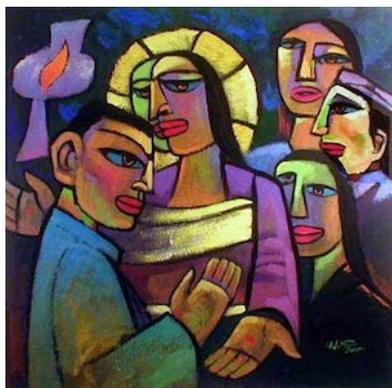


St German's Church

28 April 2019 - Easter II



We need to be clear on how we understand Thomas. The popular interpretation puts him in a bad light, as 'doubting Thomas'. This, however, is not supported by the movement of today's gospel story, which culminates in Thomas' admirable act of faith, the most explicit of any individual within the New Testament: 'My Lord and my God!'. Thomas becomes for us a model of faith rather than doubt. He teaches us that we should not separate the Resurrection of Christ from his death on the Cross. Growing spiritually as disciples means we must learn to embrace both.

Parish Notes:

Easter Course - begins tomorrow - During the season of Easter we will have a course (similar to a Lent course) in each Church - Mondays after the 6pm mass in St German's and Tuesdays after the 10am Mass in St Saviour's. It is called Faith Pictures and is about helping us share faith and gain confidence in doing so. See details on our website. Open to all.

Parish lunch The lunch begins in the Church Hall after the service on Sunday 5 May. Please sign the form at the back of the church to indicate if you will be coming.

Next PCC Meeting - on Monday 20 May after mass at 6pm.

Messy Church - The next Messy Church is in St German's on Sunday 12 May at 4pm. Volunteers urgently needed. Please see Fr Phelim

Lenten Giving - The soup lunches raised £311 for Christian Aid and of this £225 is eligible for Gift Aid.

Count Your Blessings - Please put your completed Christian Aid 'Count Your Blessings' forms and cheques into the envelope at the back of the church as soon as you can.

Social Events - Forthcoming dates: 25 May BBQ; 22 June Summer Fayre; 20 July Ceili Night). Social Committee - brief update meeting today after mass.

Recently Departed: Joan Margaret Howes RIP

Today's Hymns: 132 Come ye faithful; 96 Christ is alive; 34 And now O Father; 53 At the lamb's high feast

This week:

Sun 28 Easter II

9:30 Sung Mass (St S)

11am Sung Mass (St G)

Mon 29:

6pm Mass (St G)

ST MARK

Tues 30:

10am Mass (St S)

Wed 1:

10am Mass (St G)

St Joseph the worker

Thur 2:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

St Athanasius

Fri 3:

6:00pm Mass (St S)

SS. PHILIP & JAMES

Sat 4:

11am Mass (St S.)

Sun 5: Easter III

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

11:00 am Sung Mass

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

02922 411229,

phelimohare@gmail.com

(Day off - Friday)

Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt

02920 763754

Richard Hill

07519 352840

www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org

READINGS THIS WEEK

Acts 5:12-16

Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

John 20:19-31

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41

Ps 30:2+4, 5-6,

11-12a+13b

Rev 5:11-14

John 21:1-14

PSALM RESPONSE

Give thanks to the Lord
for he is good, for his
love has no end. (3vv)

COLLECT

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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

The First reading is from the book of Acts.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured..'

This is the word of the Lord.

Acts 5

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **R/**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R/**

O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord, grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light. **R/**
Psalm 118

SECOND READING

The Second Reading is from the book of Revelations.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Rev. 1

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

John 20