

St German's Church

29 March 2020 - Lent V (Passiontide begins)



'A Jesus who never wept could never wipe away our tears'.

Whilst the truth of this statement may be debatable, the sentiment behind it is powerful all the same: Jesus is with us in our suffering and pain - one with us - as we suffer and struggle so too does he. As Holy Week and Jesus' final earthly trial gets closer we take some solace from our faith that he walks with us out of love and compassion for us. Likewise as this coronavirus crisis deepens and impacts on the lives of us all, we take some comfort that we are never alone in our anxiety, loneliness, frustration or fear. At this time we continue to pray for God's help - for ourselves as a community of faith yet also for all those families grieving the loss of loved ones because of the coronavirus. May they know the

Parish Notes:

Message from Fr Phelim How quickly things have changed from one day, one week to the next. All because a coronavirus has disturbed and constrained our lives like never before. Yet, in the midst of this challenge and uncertainty has been the light of hope that sustains many of us as Christians in our local church. Last week we celebrated online masses which was much appreciated by many people. We hope to do the same again this Sunday and in the weeks and months to come. Much of my week has been spent in keeping in touch with family, friends, parishioners by email, phone, text, WhatsApp and other forms of new media. We want to encourage this as much as we can. In the old BT advert of years ago we were told 'It is good to talk' and in this time of social isolation please seek each other out and not least me. One thing is certain we are going anywhere and so you know where I am. May God bless you all with a vision of what is possible as we seek to care for and mind each other in the midst of fear and crisis. May God also bless us with healing and mercy.

Sunday Worship - Pre-recorded Online masses can be viewed on: (www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org.uk) each Sunday from 9:00 am. Below you can find the readings for this Sunday to follow and pray at home

Holy Week 2020 - Next week our most Holy Week of the year begins with Palm Sunday. As we can't process communally maybe you'd like to process in your gardens or in your houses with palms (or other branches if you can't access a palm cross). Our newsletter will have the readings for the palm gospel as well as the reading of the passion. In this vein, we are also hoping to prepare a Triduum leaflet to help and guide us in practical prayer tips during Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. We will publish these online. If you have any other ideas as to how we can pray communally from our diverse homes please let us know and we'd be happy to share these. Holy Week reflections (from Geraint) will also be available for each day of Holy Week in print or video format using youtube.

Recently Departed: Samantha Ewers, Pauline Williams, Harry Rohman, Patricia Mannings RIP.

This week:

Churches Closed until further notice due to Coronavirus outbreak.

Sun 29: Lent V St Saviour's and St German's Online

Masses: available on our websites from 9am Conv. district of St Anne's Roath, Will Souter (PinC).

Mon 30:

Llandaff Deanery, Michael John (AD)

Tue 31:

Caerau & Ely, Jesse Smith (V).

Wed 1:

Provincial Safeguarding Team: Dorian Davies, Fay Howe, Wendy Lemon.

Thur 2:

Fairwater, Colin Sutton (V)

Fri 3:

GlanEly, Jan Gould (PinC) and David Jones©

Sat 4:

Cathedral Parish of Llandaff, Gerwyn Capon (Dean), Jan Van der Lely (Can. Chancellor), Mark Preece (Can. Precentor).

**Sun 5: Palm Sunday
Holy Week begins
Online Masses and Reflections**

Parish Priest:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Ezek 37:12-14
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Rom 8:8-11
John 11: 11:3-7, 17, 20-27,
33b-45 - Raising Lazarus

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 50:4-7
Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Phil 2:6-11
Matt 27:11-54

PSALM RESPONSE

With the Lord there is
mercy and fullness of
redemption. (vv.4)

COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son 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

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. *R/*

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. *R/*

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) *R/*

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. *R/*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

The sisters, Martha and Mary, sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She

said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When Jesus saw Mary weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the gospel of the Lord.