

# St German's Church

2 August 2020 - 8th Sunday after Trinity (Ord Time 18)



In today's gospel, Matthew's version of the feeding of the five thousand we hear: 'All eat of the bread and are satisfied'. This satisfaction is a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven, where all sorts and kinds of people are welcome, no one is excluded and all are called to accept the invitation to share at the table of the Lord. Table fellowship, of course, has been missing for most people during these lockdown months and it is still with a sense of renewed joy and spiritual satisfaction that we can at last respond to the invitation of the Lord - come, eat be satisfied. Isaiah echoes this invitation when he says 'Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come!'

## Parish Notes:

**Public Worship** - The pandemic, it is clear, has not gone away and is very much still with us. Please attend carefully to the safety instructions, posters and guidance from stewards and parish officers during the services. During Holy Communion please stay in your seats and Fr Phelim will bring Holy Communion to you. Social distancing remains our key safety precaution. Face coverings may be worn, according to Welsh government guidance, but are not compulsory. We are not yet able to share communion from the chalice or exchange the peace. Recorded hymns will be played but we can't yet sing along with them.

**Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings**- Are also now permitted but there are still very strict and separate guidelines for each service. The risk assessment for funerals has now been approved but not we are not yet ready for baptisms and weddings. For funerals the key changes are that no Requiem Masses are permitted as yet. Also, attendance at church based funerals is strictly by invitation only. For more details see Fr Phelim.

**Memorial Garden** - the summer season has resulted in a lot of growth which is wonderful to behold. Many thanks to those who are currently maintaining and restraining the growth of shrubs and weeds. We are also exploring more social use of the garden and especially now given the news that up to 30 individuals can gather outdoors. If you would be willing to join in to such an event please let us know. Ideas so far: BBQs, Cream Teas, Pizza Nights etc.

**PCC Meeting** - next meets on Monday 3 August at 7pm on zoom. We will discuss the memorial garden, church and hall re-opening, finances, and also how our ministry and service to the local community and neighbourhood might adapt to the pandemic and recent experience of lockdown. See Fr Phelim for details.

**Year of Pilgrimage** - We had planned to go to Rome as in previous years yet this is unlikely for the foreseeable future. Instead, we would like a St German's pilgrimage day (or days) to take place. Caldey Island is also not open this year to pilgrims. If you have any suggestions for a local or regional pilgrimage please let Fr Phelim know.

**Faith Nurturing** - Next meets on Wed 12 August looking at 'In Search of a Way' by Gerard Hughes SJ. at 7pm via Zoom. Contact Fr Phelim for details. We'll look at chapters -4-6.

**Recently Departed** - Dorothy French, Joan Bennett, Beryl Olive Bridges (RIP)

## Services This Week

### Sun 2 - 8th Sunday after Trinity (OT18)

09:30 Mass (St Saviour)  
11.00 Mass (St German)  
Deanery of Neath, Chris Coles (AD), Province of Alexandria

### Mon 3:

18:00 Mass (St German)

### Tue 4:

10:00 Mass (St Saviour)  
St John Vianney

### Wed 5:

10:00 Mass (St German)  
17:00 Funeral Reception at St Saviour's

### Thur 6:

14:00 Funeral of Dorothy French (St Saviour)  
17:45 Mass (St Saviour)  
Transfiguration of the Lord

### Friday 7:

No Mass today

### Saturday 8:

No Mass today

St Dominic

### Sun 9 - 9th Sunday after Trinity (OT19)

09:30 Mass (St Saviour)  
11.00 Mass (St German)  
Vale of Neath, Andrew James (V), Province of Rwanda.

## Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,  
02922 411229,  
[phelimohare@gmail.com](mailto:phelimohare@gmail.com)

## Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt 02920 763754  
Richard Hill 07519 352840

## READINGS THIS WEEK

Isa 55:1-3  
Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18  
Rom 8:35, 37-39  
Matt 14:13-21

## READINGS NEXT WEEK

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a  
Ps 85:9ab+10, 11-12,  
13-14  
Rom 9:1-5  
Matt 14:22-33

## PSALM:

**You open wide your hand, O Lord; you grant our desires. (3vv)**

## TODAY'S MUSIC

Hymns and live organ music are not yet permitted. Until they are we will play recorded choral versions of familiar hymns.

- Alleluia, sing to Jesus
- Gifts of bread and wine
- Come to the water
- Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer

## COLLECT

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern us in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, 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 Isaiah.

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

This is the word of the Lord.

*I Kings 3*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**You open wide your hand, O Lord; you grant our desires.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **R/**

The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live. **R/**

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. **R/**

*Psalm 145*

## SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Romans 8*

## GOSPEL:

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining; twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

*Matthew 14*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessings on the King who comes,  
in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven  
and glory in the highest heavens!  
Alleluia!