

St German's Church

30 December 2018 - Christmas 1 (Holy Family)



The feast of the Holy Family seeks to present the domestic community of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as the model and exemplar of all Christian families. Comparatively little is known about the early life of this family from within scripture (sojourn in Egypt, return to Nazareth and a journey to Jerusalem when Jesus was 12) yet they are still held up as a model of faithful living and devotion to each other. What is also clear is that in our modern age the institution of the family is often under pressure and needs to be defended and encouraged as the first, if not, the highest form of a Christian community of persons seeking the glory of God and the common good.

Parish Notes:

Thank You - To Fr John Lewis for preaching and presiding today.

Epiphany - We will celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord next week with a special service in St German's led by Geraint, at 6pm.

Nightshelter - Has now begun and goes on to the end of March. Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers. The 8:00 am mass is provided for our shelter guests and helpers.

Week of prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 Jan. More details next week.

Fr John Griffiths RIP - The former parish priest of St German's has died. His funeral will be at the Shrine of Julian of Norwich in Norwich on Wednesday 10 Jan 2019. May he rest forever in the peace of Christ.

PCC Meeting - the Parish Council next meets on Mon 4 Feb 2019 at 6.45 pm.

Recently Departed: Fr John Griffiths RIP

This week:

Sun 30 Christmas

1 - The Holy Family

8am Said Mass (St G)

9:30 Sung Mass (St S)

11am Sung Mass (St G)

Mon 31:

No Mass (St G)

Tues 1:

10am Mass (St S)

Mary, Mother of God

Wed 2:

No Mass (St G)

Thur 3:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Holy Name of Jesus

Fri 4:

6pm mass (St S)

Sat 5:

11am Mass (St S)

Sun 6: Epiphany

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass

St German's:

8am Said Mass

11am Sung Mass

6pm Epiphany Liturgy

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,
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(Day off - Friday)

Churchwardens:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2:41-52

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 60:1-6

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11,
12-13

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matt 2:1-12

PSALM:

**They are happy who
dwell in your house, O
Lord. (3vv)**

Hymns: 564 Praise my soul; 486 Of the Father's love begotten; 755 Ye holy angels bright; 242 Good King Wenceslas; (Mass setting: Rizza 955)

COLLECT:

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING

The First reading is from the book of Samuel.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.' When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Samuel 1

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for
the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul
ring out their joy
to God, the living God. **R/**

They are happy,
who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.
They are happy,
whose strength is in you,
in whose hearts are the roads to
Zion. **R/**

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer,
give ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. **R/**
Psalm 84

SECOND READING

A reading from the 1st letter of John.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his

commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us

This is the word of the Lord.

1 John 3

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 2