

# St German's Church

4 Feb 2018 - Creation Sunday



Lent is almost upon us. Angus Ritchie, writing in this week's Church Times, says: "If we think of Lent as a "world-denying" season, this Sunday's readings may seem odd passages on which to meditate. **All four readings have a focus on creation.** They are an important corrective to Christian "other-worldliness", reminding us that the physical world is a gift from God. As Wendell Berry put it, "There are no unsacred places; there are only sacred places and desecrated places." Since the Fall, violence and greed have desecrated our world and all who live in it. The *asceticism* of Lent should help us to inhabit the world anew — with reverence and generosity".

## Parish Notes:

**Cardiff Churches Nightshelter** Many thanks to all who continue to support our Nightshelter. Please keep our guests and helpers in your prayers over the remaining winter weeks and months. The Nightshelter will continue until 12 March 2018.

**Social & Fundraising Committee** - meets today after mass to agree a programme of events.

**PCC Meeting** - the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council will be on Sunday 11 March at 1pm. The Vestry meeting at Easter will be on Sun 15 April at 1pm.

**Mass Settings** - Please bear with us as this year we are expanding our mass settings from the Murray setting (introduced mid 1980s) to a setting by Margaret Rizza (no. 955 in the hymnals). Today we learn and sing the doxology and Great Amen.

**Thank You** - To all who helped prepare and promote the recent visit of Llandaff Cathedral Choir for a service of Choral Evensong in the Church. We were delighted with how many came to support the service and overwhelmed with how beautifully they sang.

**Confirmation Classes** - The next meeting will be this Thursday 8 February at 6:30pm in St Saviour's. This is also for those wanting to deepen their understanding of our faith.

**Ash Wednesday** - 14 Feb 2018. Mass with Ashes at 10am in St German's and Sung Mass with Ashes at 7:30pm in St Saviour's. Please return any palm crosses you may have.

**Lent 2018** - Lent soup lunches each Friday for charity with a short talk beforehand. All are welcome. Also each week in Lent St Saviour's and St German's will celebrate the Stations of the Cross preceded by a talk on a Eucharistic theme. Details of days and times to follow.

**Lent Courses** - St Martin's, Roath will host a Lent talk by Mr John Guess on Thursdays at 7pm. Please see flyers and poster at the back of the church. Bishop June is also leading a Lenten course in Llandaff Cathedral on the first four Thursdays of Lent also at 7pm.

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

**Recently Departed:** Jean Davis; Marilyn Soloman, Avril Fielding, Vivian Warren, Betty Evelyn Griffiths, Alice Lewis, Barry Brain **RIP**

## This week:

### Mon 5:

6pm Mass (St G)  
St Agatha

### Tues 6:

10am Mass (St S)  
Sts Paul Miki & Companions

### Wed 7:

10am Mass (St G)

### Thur 8:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

### Fri 9:

No Mass this week (St S)

### Sat 10:

11am Mass (St S.)

St Scholastica **Sun**

### 12: Sunday

*St Saviour's:*

9:30 Sung Mass;

*St German's:*

8:00 am Said Mass

(Nightshelter);

11:00 am Sung Mass

## Keep in touch:

### Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,  
02922 411229,  
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(Day off - Friday)

### Churchwardens:

Peter Lovitt  
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Richard Hill:  
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[www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org](http://www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org)

## READINGS THIS WEEK

Proverbs 8:1,22-31  
Ps 104:24-35  
Col 1:15-20  
John 1:1-14

## READINGS NEXT WEEK

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46  
Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11  
1 Cor 10:31—11:1  
Mark 1:40-45

## PSALM RESPONSE

'Send forth your  
Spirit, O Lord, and  
renew the face of the  
earth.' (3vs)

**COLLECT:**

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Hymns: 137 Crown him with many crowns ; 494 O God, our help; 429 Love is his word; 716 We have a gospel to proclaim**

**1ST READING :**

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth - when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.'

This is the word of the Lord.

*Proverbs 8*

**PSALM**

**Response:**

**Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. **R/**

These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. **R/**

When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. **R/**

*Psalm 104*

**2ND READING :**

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Colossians.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Colossians 1*

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*John 1*

**GOSPEL:**

