Parish Notes:

Next Sunday - Reserve your seat at St Saviour's mass via Liz on 07718918846.

Faith QI - Returns this month on Wed 20th Jan at 7pm. This will be on zoom. Each evening we explore a different topic related to our faith and spirituality - sometimes prayer, sometimes philosophy, sometimes theology. At the heart of it is a desire to understand the faith we follow more and perhaps deepen our understanding through discussion. We expect this to last six to eight sessions and probably meeting once every two weeks.

Foodbank - Many thanks from Cardiff Foodbank to St Saviour's parish for donating 283.5 kg of food from October to December 2020.

Zoom Bingo - With the tier 4 lockdown rules in place (and likely to get more stringent) we are exploring ways to support our parish community life. We hope to launch this later on in January with a Zoom bingo. We've had quite a few expressions of interest. We are thinking of an evening in the week to allow those in work to join in. If there's a particular evening you're interested in please let us know. We hope to play five games and proceeds (if any) will go to charity. We are also hoping for donations of small prizes.

Ministry Area - Our MA council reps meet with Bishop June and diocesan staff on 19 Jan at 7pm via zoom. If you've questions you'd like posed please see Fr Phelim.

Recently Departed - Leonard Innocent, John Frayne, Kathleen Cartlidge RIP

Today's music: On Jordan's banks, Power of the cross, Come to the water, I the Lord of sea and sky

John's baptism of Jesus marks the beginning of the Lord’s ministry. It also shaped later Christian expectations of what a baptism should be. There must be water; then, on coming up out of the water, there would be the Holy Spirit. The picture in Acts is similar: those disciples were baptised in the Lord’s name, but the Spirit came upon them afterwards, when Paul laid hands on them. Human action and divine response form a progressive sequence rather than combine in a single moment. ... [Our] Faith is about seeing the meaning under, or within, ordinary things. It is not about dismissing ordinary things, because God has chosen to work through them, not in spite of them. (Cally Hammond, Churchtimes 8234)
COLLECT:

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant that we who are born again by water and the Spirit may rejoice to be called your children; 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 Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: 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. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you. Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts. Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty; without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

This is the word of the Lord. Isa 55

PSALM

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. R/

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. R/

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds; make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R/

SECOND READING:

A reading from the 1st letter of John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God’s children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth – so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God’s testimony is much greater, and this is God’s testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

This is the word of the Lord. 1 John 5

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia! John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said: This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Mark 1:4-11