

St Saviour's Church

13 December 2020 - Advent 3 (JOY)



'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all, for the Lord is near at hand; have no anxiety about anything, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God. Lord, you have blessed your land; you have turned away the captivity of Jacob'.

Gaudete means 'Ye must rejoice!' and it is a softening of the Advent penitential focus symbolised by the rose coloured vestments, candle and altar decorations. It is an opportunity in the midst of waiting and expectation to consider the source of our joy as Christians and the command from God that we become a joyful people (even within a pandemic) because our Saviour, Jesus Christ, is alive and well in our midst.

Parish Notes:

Next Sunday - Reserve your seat at St Saviour's mass via Liz on 07718018846. Please adhere to posters and advice from sides people about keeping safe and adhering to social distance, face masks (compulsory) as well as hand hygiene.

Nine Lessons and Carols - this evening we will have a shortened nine lessons and carols service in St Saviour's at 6pm. Carols will be sung by a small group of up to six singers which complies with current government guidance. Please join us and book in.

O Antiphon Week of Prayer - A week of prayer begins this Thursday and continues each evening in either St Saviour's or St German's. It is an opportunity for us to prepare spiritually and spend more time in prayer as we look forward to the coming of Christ at Christmas. NB Next Sunday the earlier time of 3pm in St Saviour's because of the 9 lessons service later in the evening at St G's.

Advent and Christmas - Please take a copy of the Advent and Christmas services flyer from the back of the church. It will be crucial to book a place in advance for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and so there will be a services sign up page at the back of the church for current congregation members. If you are inviting family please also fill in their names. Priority will go to current church members yet we want to also keep some space for those who only visit once a year or so.

Christmas Card Display - Instead of sending individual cards why not consider our display which is kinder to the environment and supports our church. Donations please to St Saviour's. Many thanks already to those who have posted and donated.

Christmas Flowers - Please speak to Gwyneth for more details.

Llandaff Matters - In place of Croeso the diocese has moved to a weekly online update on life and ministry in the diocese. It is called Llandaff Matters and we are encouraging everyone to sign up to the weekly email list. Details on our website and on a poster at the back of the church.

Recently Departed - John Lambert RIP

This week:

Sun 13 - Advent III

Pray for:
Dulais Valley Parish
(vacant); Falkland Islands.

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;
18:00 Nine Lesson & Carols

St German's:

11:00 am Mass

Mon 14:

18:00 Mass (St G)
St John of the Cross

Tues 15:

10:00 (St S)

Wed 16:

10:00 (St G)

Thur 17:

17:45 (St S)
19:00 O Antiphons (St G)

Fri 18:

No Mass
19:00 O Antiphons (St S)

Sat 19:

No Mass (St S.)
19:00 O Antiphons (St G)

Sun 20 - Advent IV

Pray for:
Tonypany w Clydach Vale
& Williamstown, Terry Cox
(V); Mission Agencies in the
Anglican Communion inc
Mothers' Union.

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;
15:00 O Antiphons (St S)

St German's:

11:00 am Mass
18:00 Nine Lesson & Carols

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,
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Churchwardens:

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07813160825

www.saintgermanwithsaints

READINGS THIS WEEK

Isa 61:1-2a, 10-11
Luke 1:46-55
1 Thess 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

READINGS NEXT WEEK

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
Ps 89
Rom 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

PSALM RESPONSE

'My soul rejoices in
my God.' (3vs)

COLLECT:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

TODAY'S MUSIC:

Tell out my soul
Christ be our light
Gaudete
You shall go out with joy

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Isaiah 61

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her
nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.
R/

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R/**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R/**

SECOND READING:

A reading from St Paul's First letter to the Thessalonians.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

This is the word of the Lord.

1 Thess 5

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John.

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.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

John 1