

# St Saviour's Church

15 December 2019 - Advent III 'Gaudete'



Last week we heard John proclaim 'ye must repent'. This week we hear another imperative: 'We must rejoice'. Gaudete Sunday, 3rd Sunday of Advent, has a focus on joy born out of the Good News that Jesus preaches and embodies for those who need it most. In our diocese our new vision also points to joy - sharing joyful stories of what God can do in us. Lord help us to be joyful and faithful messengers of your Good News.

## Parish Notes:

**Nightshelter** - Begins this season in St German's next Saturday 21 December. We will be setting up beds after mass and your help would be appreciated. Rota for December has now been sent out via email. January's rota to follow asap. We also need new or nearly new coats - mostly for men but some women's coats also. New gloves and socks would also be greatly appreciated.

**We welcome** Moorland Primary School to St Saviour's on Wednesday 18th December for their Christmas Celebration at 10.00am.

**Antiphon Prayer** - begins this week each evening at 7pm (from Tuesday). It is a quiet reflection of just under an hour when we can escape the busyness and consumption of the season and place our cares and worries on the God.

**Christmas Flower** orders need to be finalised today. Money and dedications with orders please - see Gwyneth for details.

**Posada** - Las Posadas begins its journey today around the parish today. Please sign up on the list provided if you would like to host the Holy Family for the night.

**Christmas Cards** - Our Christmas Greeting display is now available. Why not post a message and donate the money saved to St Saviour's? Don't forget to gift aid if you can.

**Carols and a Cuppa.** Please spread the word (next Saturday at noon) Once again we look forward to opening our doors to our local community.

**Foodbank** - Current urgent items: Tinned Fruit, Long life fruit juice, UHT milk, Rice Pudding, Sponge Puddings. Tinned potatoes.

**Recently Departed:** Violet May Bladen, John Hill *RIP*.

## This week:

### Sun 15: Advent III 'Gaudete'

9:30 Sung Mass (St S)

11am Sung Mass (St G)

### Mon 16:

6pm Mass (StG)

### Tues 17:

10am Mass (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer

- O Wisdom (St S)

### Wed 18:

10am Maass (St G)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Lord (St G)

### Thur 19:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Root of Jesse (St S)

### Fri 20:

6pm Mass (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Key of David (St G)

### Sat 21:

11am Mass

### 12pm Carols and a

Cuppa (St S)

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O Dayspring (St G)

### Sun 22: Advent IV

**St Saviour's:**

9:30 Sung Mass;

**St German's:**

11:00 am Sung Mass

**4pm Christingle (St G)**

7pm O Antiphon Prayer -

O People's King (St S)

## Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

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(Day off - Friday)

## Churchwardens:

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## READINGS THIS WEEK

Isa 35:1-6a, 10

Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10

Jas 5:7-10

Matt 11:2-11

## READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 7:10-14

Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Rom 1:1-7

Matt 1:18-24

## PSALM RESPONSE

Come, Lord and save  
us. (vv.3)

**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**

**GATHERING:**

Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings  
give my spirit voice;  
tender to me  
the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour  
shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of his Name!  
Make known his might,  
the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure,  
from age to age to same;  
his holy Name-  
the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions  
lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills  
are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble  
lifted high.

Tell out, my soul,  
the glories of his word!

Firm is his promise,  
and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children  
and for evermore!

**JESSE TREE**

O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,  
you stand through all the ages.  
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,  
your prophets and your sages.  
Remind us all of every sign  
that speaks of Jesus' love divine.  
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,  
you stand through all the ages.

O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,  
you speak of Jesus' Advent.  
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,  
You tell us all what God meant.  
We see in you the promised King  
who heals our hurts  
and helps us sing.  
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,  
you speak of Jesus' Advent.

**OFFERTORY:**

Like a sea without a shore  
love divine is boundless.  
Time is now and evermore  
and his love surrounds us.

**Maranatha! Maranatha!**  
**Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus,**  
**Come!**

So that mankind could be free  
he appeared among us,  
blest are those who have not seen,  
yet believe his promise.

All our visions, all our dreams are  
but ghostly shadows  
Of the radiant clarity waiting at  
life's close

Death where is your victory?  
Death where is your sting?

Closer than the air we breathe  
is our risen King.

**COMMUNION:**

Like a candle flame  
Flickering small in our darkness  
Uncreated light  
Shines through infant eyes

**God is with us, alleluia**  
**God is with us, alleluia**  
**Come to save us, alleluia**  
**Come to save us**  
**Alleluia!**

Stars and angels sing  
Yet the earth sleeps in shadows  
Can this tiny spark  
Set a world on fire?

Yet his light shall shine  
From our lives, Spirit blazing  
As we touch the flame  
Of his holy fire

**FINAL HYMN:**

You shall go out with joy  
And be let forth with peace,  
And the mountains and the hills  
Shall break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy  
And the trees of the fields  
Shall clap, shall clap their hands.

**And the trees of the fields shall**  
**clap their hands,**  
**And the trees of the fields shall**  
**clap their hands,**  
**And the trees of the fields shall**  
**clap their hands,**  
**And you'll go out with joy.**

You shall go out with joy  
And be let forth with peace,  
And the mountains and the hills  
Shall break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy  
And the trees of the fields  
Shall clap, shall clap their hands.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Isaiah 35*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Come, Lord, and save us.**

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. *R/*

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. *R/*

It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. *R/*

*Psalms 146*

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

*James 5*

the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

*Matt 11*

## GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet