

St Saviour's Church

15 March 2020 - Lent III



Jesus Meets the Samaritan Woman at the Well

Samaritans were a despised minority, and this woman is marginalised even in that group, coming to the well at the hottest point in the day, when no one else would be likely to be there. Tired and thirsty, Jesus asks her for a drink. Having no home, he is constantly dependent on the hospitality of others (Matthew 8.20). In this encounter, we see the fruit of such vulnerability. By approaching the woman as someone who bears a gift that he needs, Jesus builds up the confidence of someone who is used to being overlooked and ostracised. By the end of the story, she bears a much greater gift to her neighbours. (*Church Times 8191*)

Parish Notes:

Coronavirus Latest - The Church in Wales has issued more guidance on how we as a community should respond to this latest crisis. We are now advised to: discontinue sharing the peace; communion under one kind only; collection plate should not be circulated; no common provision of food in bowls, trays or from shared packets. We also advise those who have cold or flu like symptoms should refrain from Church attendance. See our website for most up to date guidance. If you are need any kind of assistance please contact us and we will do our best to help. We also pray especially for our health care workers as they come under increasing pressure and strain these coming weeks.

PCC & Electoral Roll - Roll needs to be renewed in 2020 and everyone has to reregister. All those eligible (those aged over 16 who are confirmed) should fill in a new form. Please see Wendy, our Electoral Roll Registrar. The next PCC meeting is Sun 29 March after mass.

Easter Flowers - Please see Gwyneth if you'd like to sponsor an Easter flower arrangement.

Walsingham Pilgrimage - £20 deposit by next Sunday 22 March. For more details see Liz. Non returnable deposit of £20 to secure a place.

Holy Week Services - Please take a copy of Holy Week services page at the back of the church. For those who like to attend the Ebbsfleet Chrism mass there will be a bus to Bristol Cathedral on 6 April. List at the back. Llandaff Chrism mass will be on Maundy Thursday.

Geraint's Farewell - leaving party on Sun 10 May at 3pm. (his last day with us).

Easter Vestry - The AGM for our Church will be on Tuesday 28 April at 7pm.

Nightshelter - Nightshelter finishes next weekend (22 March). Many thanks to all who give generously of their time. If you helped we'd welcome some feedback on 'even better if'.

Recently Departed: Samantha Ewers, Pauline Williams, Harry Rohman, Patricia Alice Mannings *RIP*.

This week:

Sun 15: Lent III

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

Mon 16:

6pm Mass (St G)

6:30pm Stations of the Cross (St G)

Tue 17:

10am Mass (St S)

6.45m Stations of the Cross (St S)

St Patrick

Wed 18:

10am Mass (St G)

Thur 19:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 20:

No Mass

12pm Lent lunch (St G)

St Joseph

Sat 21:

11am Mass (St S)

Sun 22: Lent IV

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8am Nightshelter Mass

11:00 am Sung Mass

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

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(day off is Friday)

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Churchwardens:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Exod 17:3-7

Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39

40-42 - Samaritan Woman

READINGS NEXT WEEK

1 Sam 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Eph 5:8-14

John 9:1-41 - Man Born

Blind

PSALM RESPONSE

O that today you
would listen to his
voice. Harden not your
hearts. (vv.3)

GATHERING:

I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three.

I bind this day to me forever,
by pow'r of faith,
Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan river,
his death on cross for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb,
his riding up the heavenly way,
his coming at the day of doom,
I bind unto myself today.

I bind unto myself today
the virtues of the starlit heaven,
the glorious sun's life-giving ray,
the whiteness of the moon at even,
the flashing of the lightning free,
the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
the stable earth, the deep salt sea
around the old eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself today
the power of God to hold and lead,
God's eye to watch, God's might to stay,
God's ear to hearken to my need,
the wisdom of my God to teach,
God's hand to guide,
God's shield to ward,
the word of God to give me speech,
God's heavenly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the name,
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation,
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;
salvation is of Christ the Lord!

OFFERTORY:

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me,
save that Thou art;
be Thou my best thought
in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom,
and Thou my true Word;
be Thou ever with me,
and I with Thee, Lord;
be Thou my great Father,
and I Thy true son;
be Thou in me dwelling,
and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my Breastplate,
my Sword for the fight;
be Thou my whole Armor,
be Thou my true Might;
be Thou my soul's Shelter,
be Thou my strong Tow'r,
O raise Thou me heav'nward,
great Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not,
nor man's empty praise;
be Thou mine inheritance,
now and always;
be Thou and Thou only
the first in my heart,
O high King of heaven,
my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven,
Thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys, after vict'ry is won;
Great Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

COMMUNION:

O God, you search me
and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down,
you are before me,
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting
you besiege me:
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning
through and through.
You are with me beyond my
understanding:
God of my present,
my past and future too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth
I can escape you:
Even the darkness is radiant
in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am,
I praise you:
Safe in your hands,
all creation is made new.

Repeat verse 1

FINAL HYMN:

Hail, glorious Saint Patrick,
dear saint of our Isle,
On us thy poor children
bestow a sweet smile;
And now thou art high
in the mansions above,
On Erin's green valleys
look down in thy love.

**On Erin's green valleys,
on Erin's green valleys,
On Erin's green valleys
look down in thy love.**

Hail, glorious Saint Patrick,
thy words were once strong
Against Satan's wiles
and an infidel throng;
Not less is thy might
where in heaven thou art;
O, come to our aid,
in our battle take part. **(Refrain)**

In the war against sin,
in the fight for the faith,
Dear saint, may thy children
resist unto death;
May their strength be in meekness, in
penance, their prayer,
Their banner the cross
which they glory to bear. **(Refrain)**

Thy people, now exiles
on many a shore,
Shall love and revere thee
till time be no more;
And the fire thou hast kindled s
hall ever burn bright,
Its warmth undiminished,
undying its light. **(Refrain)**

Ever bless and defend
the sweet lands of his life,
Where the shamrock still blooms
as when thou wert on earth,
And our hearts shall yet burn, wherever
we roam,
For God and Saint Patrick,
and our heavenly home. **(Refrain)**

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?'

Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

This is the word of the Lord.

Ex 17

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R/**

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us:
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R/**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' **R/**

Psalms 95

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Rom 5

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world: give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman

said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

This is the gospel of the Lord.

John 4