

St Saviour's Church

17 December 2017 - Advent 2 (PREPARATION)



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 'You 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 because our Saviour, Jesus Christ, is alive and well in our midst.

Parish Notes:

Praying the O Antiphons - each night this week we will meet for reflections on the prophetic titles of Christ as found in Isaiah. It is quiet prayer, part Bible study and a stilling of heart, mind and soul in preparation for Christmas. In many ways it reflects the prayer and preparation for Easter in Holy Week. Please join us.

Bonus Ball - Last day for the Bonus Ball tomorrow until the New Year. Monies taken tomorrow will be for the draw on Sat 6th January.

Cardiff Churches Nightshelter Begins this week. Please keep all those involved in your prayers. If you would like to help please contact Fr Phelim.

Christmas Services - Please note that the mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent will be a vigil mass this Saturday at 5:30pm. Mass on Christmas Day will be at 9:30am.

Flowers at Christmas - Final orders for Christmas flowers today. (Sunday) Money with order forms to Gwyneth please. If anyone would like make a donation to the general flower fund for Christmas see Gwyneth.

Rotas - We are looking to update our church tea & cleaning rotas and are hoping to recruit a few more helpers for both groups. Please see Liz if you can help us.

Carols and a Cuppa A reminder that next Saturday 23rd December we're participating in the Great Christmas Get Together at 12 noon with our 'Carols & a Cuppa' event. Please do join us to celebrate everything that makes us a community in Splott! The theme is #mincepiemoments so if anyone is able to make or donate some mince pies please speak to Liz this morning

Christian Unity - the week of prayer for Christian Unity is 18-25 January 2018. There will be a Churches Together joint service in St Alban's RC Church at 6pm on Sunday 21 January 2018.

Mon 18:

6pm Mass (St G)
7pm O Antiphon Prayer -
O Adonai (St G)

Tues 19:

10am Mass (St S)
7pm O Antiphon Prayer -
O Radix Jesse (St S)

Wed 20:

10am Mass (St G)
7pm O Antiphon Prayer -
O Clavis David (St G)

Thur 21:

5:45pm Mass (St S)
7pm O Antiphon Prayer -
O Oriens (St G)

Fri 22:

6pm Mass (St S)
7pm O Antiphon Prayer -
O Rex Gentium (St S)

Sat 23:

11am Mass (St S.)
5:30pm Vigil Mass for
Advent 4
7pm O Antiphon Prayer -
O Emmanuel (St G)

Sun 24: Advent 4

St Saviour's:

**4pm Crib Service & 1st
Mass of Christmas**

St German's:

**8:00 am Mass for the
Homeless**

**6pm Crib Service & 1st
Mass of Christmas**

11pm Midnight Mass

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,
02922 411229,
phelimohare@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Bill Eastwood
07800 946949
Suzy Alabere
02920 331217

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.**

GATHERING:

Hark, the glad sound!
The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long!
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before Him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of His grace
t'enrich the humbled poor.

Our glad Hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with Thy beloved Name.

JESSE TREE SONG

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:

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

COMMUNION:

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race,
With healing gifts of heavenly grace

Thou camest, bridegroom
of the bride,
As drew the world to evening-tide;
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The spotless Victim all divine.

At thy great Name, exalted now,
All knees must bend,
all hearts must bow;
And things in heaven
and earth shall own
That thou art Lord and King alone.

To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From every onslaught of the foe.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore.
Amen.

FINAL HYMN:

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 I
ay 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!

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:

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