

St Saviour's Church

4 Feb 2018 - Creation Sunday



Lent is almost upon us. Angus Ritchie, writing in this week's Church Times, says: "If we think of Lent as a "world-denying" season, this Sunday's readings may seem odd passages on which to meditate. **All four readings have a focus on creation.** They are an important corrective to Christian "other-worldliness", reminding us that the physical world is a gift from God. As Wendell Berry put it, "There are no unsacred places; there are only sacred places and desecrated places." Since the Fall, violence and greed have desecrated our world and all who live in it. The *asceticism* of Lent should help us to inhabit the world anew — with reverence and generosity".

Parish Notes:

Cardiff Churches Nightshelter Many thanks to all who continue to support our Nightshelter. Please keep our guests and helpers in your prayers over the remaining winter weeks and months. The Nightshelter will continue until 12 March 2018.

Booklet Amnesty - If anyone has a copy of our new mass booklet at home or with a friend please return them as we are now down to 25 (out of an initial print run of 70).

Prize Draw - Please support our parish draw which will be drawn on 15 April after mass. Proceeds will be used to support the work and mission of our parish. Details to follow.

Confirmation Classes - The next meeting will be this Thursday 8 February at 6:30pm in St Saviour's. This is also for those wanting to deepen their understanding of our faith.

PCC Meetings and Vestry AGM - the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council will be: Tues 27 Feb at 7pm. A short meeting after mass on 18 March to approve the audited accounts. The Annual Vestry meeting is Tuesday 17 April at 7:30pm.

Choir Practice - 6 & 13 Feb at 7pm in the Church to look at music for Lent and Easter.

Ash Wednesday - 14 Feb 2018. Mass with Ashes at 10am in St German's and Sung Mass with Ashes at 7:30pm in St Saviour's. Please return any palm crosses you may have.

Lent Charity - This year we will support the Lasallian Developing World Project which looks to build schools and education provision in the developed world. See poster in the hall.

Lenten Supper & Quiz - Sunday 18 March at 5pm. Please join us for this time of support and fellowship. (NB, there no Lenten fasting during the Sundays of Lent!)

Lent 2018 - Each week in Lent St Saviour's and St German's will celebrate the Stations of the Cross preceded by a talk on a Eucharistic theme. Details of days and times to follow.

Lent Courses - St Martin's, Roath will host a Lent talk by Mr John Guess on Thursdays at 7pm. Please see flyers and poster at the back of the church. Bishop June is also leading a Lenten course in Llandaff Cathedral on the first four Thursdays of Lent also at 7pm.

Recently Departed: Jean Davis; Marilyn Soloman, Avril Fielding, Vivian Warren, Betty Evelyn Griffiths, Alice Lewis, Barry Brain **RIP**

This week:

Mon 5:

6pm Mass (St G)
St Agatha

Tues 6:

10am Mass (St S)
Sts Paul Miki &
Companions

Wed 7:

10am Mass (St G)

Thur 8:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 9:

No Mass this week (St S)

Sat 10:

11am Mass (St S.)

St Scholastica **Sun**

12: Sunday

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

8:00 am Said Mass

(Nightshelter);

11:00 am Sung Mass

Keep in touch:

Parish Priest:

Fr Phelim O'Hare,

02922 411229,

phelimohare@gmail.com

(Day off - Friday)

Churchwardens:

Bill Eastwood

07800 946949

Suzu Alabere

02920 331217

www.saintgermanwith

saintsaviour.org

READINGS THIS WEEK

Proverbs 8:1,22-31

Ps 104:24-35

Col 1:15-20

John 1:1-14

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46

Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11

1 Cor 10:31—11:1

Mark 1:40-45

PSALM RESPONSE

(see overleaf)

COLLECT:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

GATHERING:

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest,
to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest,
the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish,
but nought changeth Thee.

Great Father of Glory,
pure Father of Light
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render,
O help us to see:
'Tis only the splendor
of light hideth Thee.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

RESPONSORY CHANT:

**Lord of life I come to you
Lord of all my saviour be
Lord of love come bless us
With the light of your love.**

OFFERTORY:

Longing for light,
we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own,
your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace,
our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power
to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread,
broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter,
many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building,
sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts
that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

COMMUNION:

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That as you love, so may I love,
And do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until my will is one with yours
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fulfil my heart's desire,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with your heav'nly fire.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with you the perfect life
Of your eternity.

FINAL HYMN:

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

1ST READING :

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth - when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Proverbs 8

PSALM

Response:

**Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.**

O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great. R/

These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;
when you give to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are filled with good things. R/

When you hide your face,
they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit,
they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. R/
Psalms 104

2ND READING :

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Colossians.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord.

Colossians 1

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He

came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

John 1