

# NEWSLETTER

St Catherine's | St John's | St Luke's

## Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
666	9	9
74	8	754
84	12	74
637		

## Collect:

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## Psalm Response:

How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.

## Gospel Acclamation:

St John's:  
Alleluia ...  
Speak Lord your servant is listening, you have the words, you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia ...

St Luke's:  
Alleluia.



### The Risen Jesus with his People

Today's gospel describes another one of the post resurrection appearances of Jesus. He comes to console and encourage his disciples who were still full of fear and unsure what to do next. One disciple, Thomas, was missing at previous meetings and doubted the reports of the Rising of Jesus. Here Jesus helps him to believe. For us, we also take inspiration as to how we can trust and act as followers of Jesus. The fact remains, God helps us to be his people, to be true and faithful Christians.

## Easter 2

**St Catherine's** - 8:00 Eucharist; 10:30 Sung Eucharist with Baptism

**St John's** - 8:00 Morning Prayer; 9:15 Sung Eucharist; **No Explore this evening.**

**St Luke's** - 10:30 Sung Mass;

*For Weekday Services and Regular Events see the Website or Church Notice boards for times and days.*

## Today's Readings

Acts 4.32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1.1 - 2.2; John 20.19-31

### Psalm 133

- 1 Behold how good and lovely a / thing it / is: when brethren / dwell to-/gether • in / unity.
- 2 "It is like the precious ointment upon the head, \* that ran down / unto • the / beard:" even unto Aaron's beard, \* and flowed / down up-/on his / clothing.
- 3 It is like the / dew of / Hermon: which falleth up-/on the / hills of / Zion.
- 4 For there the Lord / promised • his / blessing: even / life for / ever-/more.

**Next week's readings:** Acts 3,12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3.1-7, Luke 24.36b-48

## Benefice Notes:

**Churches Together** - Thank you to all who helped support our gathering at Calvary for Churches Together last Sunday evening. It was a great occasion to celebrate what unites Christians. The next ecumenical service will be near Pentecost.

**Pastoral Care Team** - the next meeting is on 14 April in St John's at 7:00 pm.

**Messy Church** - There is a planning meeting for the April Messy Church this Sunday 12 April at 5:00 pm in St John's. Please note there is no Explore this month.

**Joint DCC Meeting and Evening Prayer** at 6:00 pm in St John's next Sunday, 19 April. Refreshments to follow.

**Electoral Roll** - Don't forget to fill in an electoral form (available at the back of the Church). Please note, the old Electoral Roll will no longer be valid and everyone needs to enrol on the new one to vote at the Easter Vestry.

**Easter Vestry** - The Annual Easter Vestry is on Wednesday 29 April at 7:30 pm in St Luke's Church. All are welcome.

**Piano Recital** by Elizabeth Preece w music by Beethoven, Chopin and Debussy - Sat 18 April 1.15pm at Llandaff Cathedral.

**Benefice Noticeboard** - If you would like to include something in the notes please send it to [linsaycoolhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:linsaycoolhouse@hotmail.com). Please try to keep contributions brief as space is often very limited.

**Messy Church** - the next Messy Church is on Sunday 26 April at 4pm in St John's.

**Confirmation Classes** - The next confirmation class is on Sunday 26 April at 3pm in St Luke's.

**Same Sex Marriage** - The current edition of Croeso describes a series of discussions taking place in our diocese, and across the Church in Wales, about possible changes in our approach as a Church to people who would like to celebrate same sex marriages. Next week we'll have information pages about the various options up for discussion and there'll be pages at the back of our Churches for you to register your support for whichever option you think the Church in Wales should adopt. Please take a copy of Croeso and see the Church in Wales website for more information on this issue.

**Youth Team** - The next meeting is on 22 April at 6:30 pm in the Vicarage. **New Initiatives: Battle of the Bands** - this will be a music event for young people from year 9 upwards taking place on Saturday 4 July - application forms will be available after the Easter holidays; **Youth Club** - launches on the week beginning 1st June beginning with two nights a week but hoping to move to three in September. We are in urgent need of a team of adult helpers who will help oversee the activities each evening. There is a sign up sheet at the back of our churches. **Soul Survivor August 2015** - Soul Survivor is a 5 day event for Christian Youth Groups and teenage Christians (aged 12+) in Shepton Mallet. It has a festival atmosphere with lots of activities, camping and worship that is designed for young people. Application forms at the back of the Church. For more info: [soulsurvivor.com](http://soulsurvivor.com) **May Half Term Sports** - Sign up sheet and information at the back of the church for a proposed sports/activities club for children to take place during the May half term. Could you give us a day (or more) during this week? Please help us.

## St Catherine's Notes:

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**Hall Bookings** - To book the Hall please contact Angharad Elias 07989 747026 [hall.stcatherines@gmail.com](mailto:hall.stcatherines@gmail.com)

## St John's Notes:

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**Ty Bronna** - The collection this month (April) is Gravy granules

## St Luke's Notes:

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**Hall Bookings** - To book the Hall please contact Jackie or Haydn Page on 029 2091 3808 [haydnpage@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:haydnpage@hotmail.co.uk)

**Women's Group** On the afternoon of Thurs May 7 a trip to the Mansion House for a tour and a very special tea has been arranged. All are welcome. Names to Jeanie asap.

**Recently Departed:** Gillian O'Neill, Gerald Moss

## This Week in the Benefice: (Diocesan Prayer / Anglican Prayer Cycle / Events and Services)

**Sun 12** Bargoed and Deri w Brithdir, Jonathan Widdess (V); Nandyal, India.

**Mon 13** Caerphilly, Gareth Combes (TV), Sue Pratten (C); Nasik, India;

**Tues 14** Eglwysilan; Nassau and Bahamas; **Brynach, Abbot**

**Wed 15** The Archbishop's Chaplain, Mark Dimond; Natal, S. Africa; **St Padarn**

**Thur 16** Gelligaer, Gary Powell (R); Indigenous Bishop, Ontario; **Saints, Martyrs, Missionaries of South America**

**Fri 17** Pontlloftyn w Ffochriw; Navajoland; **Griffith Jones, Priest and Teacher**

**Sat 18** Ystrad Mynach and Llanbradach, Steven Kirk (V); **George Augustus Selwyn, Missionary Bishop**

**Sun 19** Cynon Valley Deanery, Michael Jones (AD); Nebbi, Uganda

**12 April 2015 – Second Sunday of Easter****First Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*Acts 4.32-35*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 133*

**R How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.**

O how good and pleasant it is,  
when a family lives together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head  
that runs down upon the beard,  
Upon the beard of Aaron,  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe. **R**

It is like the dew of Hermon  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.  
For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:  
life for evermore. **R**

**R How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.**

**Second Reading**

A reading from the first letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light,

we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*1 John 1.1-2.2*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

Hear the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*John 20.19-31*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**