

# NEWSLETTER

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

## Today's Hymns

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## Collect:

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## Psalm Response:

It is the Lord who builds the house.

## Gospel Acclamation:

St John's:  
**Glory to you word of God Lord Jesus Christ. If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts.**

St Luke's:  
**Silent, surrendered calm and still, Open to the word of God, Heart humbled to his will, Offered is the servant of God.**



### Prayer For Struggling Mothers:

We pray for all mothers who are struggling to be the parent they want to be. We pray for the barriers that face them and the chains that ensnare, whether that be past experiences, circumstance, or difficult choices. Where there is darkness, may you bring light, where there is despair, may you bring hope, where there is turmoil, may you bring peace. And where your love is needed most, call forth people who can carry that to all those mothers who need it today. Amen.

## Mothering Sunday (4th Sunday of Lent)

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

St John's - 8:00 Eucharist; 9:15 Sung Eucharist; **6:00 pm Evensong**

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

Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-17; John 19:25-27

### Psalm 127 Vv1-4

- 1 Except the Lord / build the / house: their labour / is but / lost that / build it.
- 2 Except the Lord / keep the / city: the watchman / waketh / but in / vain.
- 3 "It is but lost labour that ye rise up early and so late take rest, \* eating the / bread of • your / toil:" for he blesseth his be-/lovèd / in their / beds;
- 4 Lo children are an heritage / from the / Lord: and the fruit of the womb is a / gift that / cometh • from / him.

**Next week's readings:** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ps 51;1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

## Benefice Notes:

**Messy Church** - Next week in St John's at 4pm. We are hoping to set up two new activities: a **Lego** play space and a **Duplo** Corner for much younger children to play. If you have any lego or duplo you'd be happy to donate to Messy Church please contact Fr Phelim. A film crew will be in attendance from the Church in Wales.

**Electoral Roll** - If you haven't already done so please fill in an electoral form (available at the back of the Church). For more details about the electoral roll and why we have one visit our website.

**PCC Meeting** - The next meeting for the Parochial Church Council is on 25 March at 7:30 pm in St John's. A report from the Action Teams is available on our website.

**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.

**Youth Team Initiatives** - The youth team met last week and in the short term will focus on the following priorities:

**Battle of the Bands** - this will be a music event for young people from year 9 upwards taking place on a Saturday in July - application forms will be available after Easter;

**Youth Club** - We are launching the youth club on the week beginning 1st June beginning with two nights a week but hoping to move to three in September. We have much of the resources in place yet need a team of adult helpers who will help oversee the activities each evening. More details on this next week but if you could help us please contact Fr Phelim.

**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 will be available from next week. More information here [www.soulsurvivor.com](http://www.soulsurvivor.com) and on the website.

**May Half Term Sports** - We are hoping to launch a sports/activities club for children to take place during the May half term. It is hoped to be as low cost as possible to allow families struggling financially to participate. However, it won't work without support from parents and leaders. Could you give us a day (or more) during this week? Please contact Fr Phelim.

**Churches Together** - After the success of our last joint worship service in St John's, the next Ecumenical service will be on Easter Sunday in Calvary at 6pm. We celebrate 'Our desire for God in the Risen Christ' with others who share this faith.

**Holy Week Devotions** - Our holy week devotions and services will include reflections from Fr Mark Clavier, acting principle of St Michael's College.

## 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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**Lent Bible Study Group** - Thursdays 7-9 pm in St John's vestry. All are welcome to join this informal time of bible study.

**Lent lunches** every Friday at 12 noon during Lent.

**Ty Bronna** - The collection for Ty Bronna this month (March) is Sweets and Chocolate.

**Welsh Camerata plays Bach** - On Friday 20 March at 7.30pm in St John's there'll be a concert of vocal and instrumental music by J S Bach etc. with the Welsh Camerata. Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) available at the door.

## 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** - David James will give a talk about Queen Victoria on 26 March.

**Recently Departed:** Mayo Atwell, Rose Carpin

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

**Sun 15** Cilybebyll: Helen O'Shea (R)

**Mon 16** Dulais Valley Mityana - (Uganda); Mityana, Uganda

**Tues 17** Dyffryn, Stephen Bodycombe (V); Mombasa- (Kenya); **St Patrick**

**Wed 18** The Assistant Bishop of Ilandaff David Wilbourne, his wife Rachel and family; Monmouth- (Wales); **St Cyril**

**Thur 19** Llansawel Briton Ferry, Zoe King (V); Montana; **St Joseph of Nazareth**

**Fri 20** Rectorial Benefice of Neath, Canon Stephen Ryann (R); Montreal and Moosonee (Canada)

**Sat 21** Skewen, Chris Coles (PinC); Moray, Ross & Caithness

**Sun 22** Vale of Neath, Andrew Davies (V); Morogoro- (Tanzania)

**First Reading**

A reading from the book of Exodus.

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

*Exodus 2.1-10*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 127.1-4*

**R It is the Lord who builds the house.**

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
their labour is in vain who build it.

Unless the Lord watches over the city,  
in vain the guard keeps vigil.

**R**

It is in vain that you rise so early  
and go to bed so late;  
vain, too, to eat the bread of toil,  
for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Children are a heritage from the Lord,  
and the fruit of the womb is a gift.

**R**

**R It is the Lord who builds the house.**

**Second Reading**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another,

forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*Colossians 3.12-17*

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.**

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

*John 19.25-27*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**