

# NEWSLETTER

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

## Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
727	474	352
667	752	297
9	695	358
695		

## Collect:

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## Psalm Response:

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

## 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, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name



### Did Jesus eat the fish?

In theological circles there is some debate about whether a resurrected body can eat food or even if it needs food. So why did Jesus do this? Again, answers differ. One suggestion is that it supports the reality that Jesus rose bodily from the dead - he is not a ghost, apparition or some other kind of spiritual creature. Today's gospel addresses the incredulity that persists in our world today that Jesus did not really rise from the dead. For Christians, we trust that he did remembering that for God all things are possible. This corporeality of Jesus' rising helps us approach and believe in Jesus as Lord.

## Easter 3

St Catherine's - 8:00 Eucharist; 10:30 Choral Eucharist; **12:30 Baptism**

St John's - 8:00 Morning Prayer; 9:15 Sung Eucharist; **6:00 pm Joint DCC**

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 3,12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3.1-7, Luke 24.36b-48

### Psalm 4

- Hear me when I call O God, \* defender / of my / right: " thou didst free me when I was hard pressed; \* have mercy upon me and / hearken / unto • my / prayer."
- O ye sons of men, \* how long shall my glory / be re- / viled: how long will ye have such pleasure in folly and / seek / after / falsehood?
- Know this also, \* that the Lord hath chosen to himself the / man • that is / godly: when I call upon the / Lord / he will / hear me.
- Stand in / awe and / sin not: commune with your own heart within your / chamber / and be / still.
- Offer sacrifices in their ap- / pointed / seasons: and / put your / trust • in the / Lord.
- There be many that say \* 'Who will shew us / any / good?': Lord lift thou up the light of thy / counte- / nance up- / on us.
- Thou hast put gladness / in my / heart: more than men have when their / corn and / wine in- / crease.
- I will lay me down in peace and / take my / rest: for it is thou Lord only that / makest • me / dwell in / safety.

Next week's readings: Acts 4, 5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3.16-24, John 10:11-18

## Benefice Notes:

**Messy Church** - Our next Messy Church takes place next Sunday at 4pm in St John's. The theme is 'New Life of Easter'.

**Joint DCC Meeting and Evening Prayer** at 6:00 pm in St John's this evening. 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. The formal notice of the meeting is now up. All are welcome. **PCC Elections** - There are nomination forms for Church wardens and membership of the PCC at the back of our churches and these elections will take place at the Easter Vestry.

**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.

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

**Vestry Home Group** - Thursday 7-9pm in St John's - Informal bible study exploring the Gospel readings - All welcome!

**Paradise Run** - The next run is on 25 April. Please bring your food to Sylvia's house (114 Pencisely Road) on the day itself or to Diana's (23, Greenfield Avenue) between 6-7pm. Thank you for your loyal support. If you'd like to know about this venture to feed the homeless, contact Diana (02921 400367).

**Same Sex Marriage** - If you feel so called, please sign one of the pages at the back of our Churches, registering 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 this coming Wednesday 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 available next week. **Youth Club** - launches on the week beginning 1st June. 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. Application forms at the back of the Church. For more info: [soulsurvivor.com](http://soulsurvivor.com)

**Christian Aid Week** - 10-16 May This is one of the few occasions when we can give collectively as a church to people more unfortunate than ourselves. This year, the focus is on helping women in Ethiopia. More details to follow.

## St Catherine's Notes:

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**Hall Bookings** - To book the Hall please contact the clergy.

## 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** There'll be a talk by Fr Phelim on 23 April in St Luke's at 7:30 pm. Also, on the afternoon of Thurs May 7 we've a tour of the Mansion House and a very special tea has been arranged. All are welcome. Names to Jeanie asap.

**Recently Departed:** Jean Nicholson, Beatrice Bowkett, Edith Brooks

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

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

**Mon 20** Aberamon, Abercwmboi, Cwmaman, David Way (V); Nebraska; **St Beuno**;

**Tues 21** Abercynon, Sarah Rogers (PinC); Nelson (NZ and Polynesia); **St Anselm**;

**Wed 22** Hospital Chaplains; Nevada;;

**Thurs 23** Aberdare, Robert Davies (V); New Busa, Nigeria; **St George**

**Fri 24** Aberdare, St Fagan, Richard Green (V);

**Sat 25** Cwmbach, Ven. Christopher Smith (PinC); New Hampshire; **St Mark, Evangelist**;

**Sun 26** Hirwaun, Ceirion Rees (V); New Jersey

**19 April 2015 – Third Sunday of Easter****First Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.’

*Acts 3.12-19*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 4*

**R Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

‘You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory;  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?’

**R**

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;  
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

**R**

Offer the appointed sacrifices  
and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying,  
‘O that we might see better times!’

**R**

You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;  
for only you Lord, make me dwell in safety.

**R**

**R Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

## Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

*1 John 3.1-7*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

*Luke 24.36b-48*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**