

NEWSLETTER

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

Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
406	480	128
263	Light of the World	634
152	631	405
631		

Collect:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Psalm Response:

My spirit rejoices in God my saviour.

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: Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

If you know of a church member, or anyone, who is unwell or would appreciate contact from our priests, please inform the clergy at the earliest opportunity.



Mary visits Elizabeth

The meeting between Mary and Elizabeth is rich in significance in the story and history of our salvation. Some see in this encounter the transition moment between the Old and New Testaments - Elizabeth representing the old through her son, John the Baptist. Mary, the blest one among women, bears within her the hope of the new covenant between God and God's people. In today's readings we have the opportunity to reflect on Mary's role and sing with her and Elizabeth our own reasons for being grateful in this life. Perhaps, we might sing too, our own song of how wondrous and great God is, and has been, to us and our families

4th Sunday of Advent

St Catherine's - 8:00 Holy Eucharist; 10:30 Choral Eucharist; 4:30 pm Carol Service

St John's - 8:00 Holy Eucharist; 9:15 Sung Eucharist;

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

Micah 5:2-5; Luke 1:47-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

- 1 My soul doth / magnify • the / Lord: and my spirit hath re-/joiced in / God my / Saviour.
- 2 For he / hath re-/garded: the / lowli-ness / of his / handmaiden.
- 3 For be-/hold from / henceforth: all gener-/ations • shall / call me / blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath / magni-fied / me: and / holy / is his / name.
- 5 And his mercy is on / them that / fear him: through-/out all / gener-/ations.
- 6 He hath showed / strength • with his / arm: he hath scattered the proud * in the imagin-/ation / of their / hearts
- 7 He hath put down the mighty / from their / seat: and hath ex-/alted • the / humble • and / meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with / good / things: and the rich he hath / sent / empty • a-/way.
- 9 He re-/membering • his / mercy: hath / helped his / servant / Israel;
- 10 As he promised / to our / forefathers: Abraham / and his / seed, for / ever.

Next week's readings: Exodus 33:7-11; Psalm 117; 1 John 1; John 21:19-25

Benefice Notes:

Next Sunday - Benefice Together at 10:30 in St John's. No other services that day.
Christmas Carols by Candlelight - Please join us at 4:30 pm today in St Catherine's for our service of 9 Lessons and Carols for Christmas. The lessons are short Bible readings that tell the story of our salvation, from the fall of humanity the birth of Jesus. Carols are sung between the readings. The service will last about an hour

long and will be sung in candlelight. Refreshments afterwards in the hall. **Forthcoming Meetings:** Pastoral Care Team - Wednesday 6 Jan at 7:30 pm after the Solemn Eucharist for the Epiphany. Finance Team - Tuesday 12 Jan at 7:30 in the Rectory; PCC - Sun 17 Jan at 7:00 pm in St John's.

Youth Club - The launch dates for our youth club will be the second week of January: Monday 11 Jan between 7-9 in Calvary Baptist for the drop in and Friday 15 Jan between 7-9 in St Catherine's hall for pool, table tennis, games etc plus a workshop on DJing and mixing music by Dave Jones. See facebook.com/cantonyouth for details or ask Fr Phelim.

2020 Vision - In December 2014 we had a series of meetings reviewing mission, buildings, pastoral care and other aspects of our Church life. Many things came from this (see the summary page on our website). We hope to revisit this and look at our progress and perhaps targets for this coming year in a meeting on Sat 16 January 2016 in St John's at 11:00 am. **Volunteering in 2016**- We need help with the following: Messy Church craft activity leaders, readers, servers, choir members. If you could help support the work we do please contact the clergy or churchwardens.

Night shelter - If you would like to get involved in helping homeless people this winter please contact Fr Phelim. **Living Faith Study Group** - Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in St John's. For info: Andrew Sims maxsims@hotmail.com 09 2034 4641 **Newsletter Email** - If you'd like an email copy of the newsletter and readings please ask Sheila on mgsmkelly1@gmail.com **Benefice Magazine** - The Winter edition of our Benefice Magazine is now available. Thank you to Jean for all her work.

St Catherine's Notes:

Christmas Lessons and Carols - Please join us this afternoon for our Carols and Lessons service by Candlelight at 4:30 pm.

Christmas Services - Midnight Mass at 11:15 pm on Christmas Eve; 10:30 Sung Eucharist on Christmas Day.

Collection counting - If you are able to help once every two months with collection counting for 10-15 minutes after the morning service, please see Diana or email her dianafletcher@hotmail.com Likewise, if you no longer can help us.

Bookings - To book the Hall contact the clergy or email hall.stcatherines@gmail.com.

Logs - contact Clive 07931522683, Gareth 07527268461 or Diana 07909961256. From £5 per boot (depends on volume).

Midweek Services: Holy Eucharist at 11:00 am on Wednesday.

St John's Notes:

Christmas Services: Christmas Eve Crib Service - Please join us this Thursday at 5:00 pm for our family friendly service celebrating the nativity with Christmas carols. Christmas Day - Morning Sung Eucharist at 9:15am.

St Luke's Notes:

Community Carols - Monday 21 December 6.30 pm in St Luke's church carol service with the Elizabeth Singers. (Please note, this is on 21 December and not in November as mistakenly published in the Christmas flyer.)

Christmas Services - Midnight Mass at 11:15 pm on Christmas Eve with no Christmas day morning mass.

Hall Bookings - To book the Hall please contact Jackie or Haydn Page on 029 2091 3808 haydnpage@hotmail.co.uk

Midweek Services: Masses at 10:00 am on Tuesday and Wednesday; 10:30 am on Saturday.

Recently Departed: June Lloyd, Jean Margaret Evans

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

Sun 20 Vale of Neath, Andrew Davies; **Yewa, Nigeria; ADVENT 4**

Mon 21 Vale of Glamorgan Deanery, Martyn Davies (AD); Yirol, Sudan;

Tues 22 Colwinston, Llandow, Llysworney, Alan Kettle (PinC); Yokohama;

Wed 23 The Cathedral Chapter, Gerwyn Capon; Yola, Sudan;

Thur 24 Llangan and St Mary Hill; York;

Fri 25 RB Cowbridge, Stephen Adams (TR), Edward Dowland-Owen (TV); David Boulton (C); Isabel, Melanesia; **CHRISTMAS**

Sat 26 RB Llantwit Major, Huw Butler (TR), Anthony Beer (TV), Rachel Simpson (C); Yukon, Canada; **St Stephen, Protomartyr;**

Sun 27 Pendoylan w Welsh St Donats, Edward Counsell (V); Zaki-Biam, Nigeria; **St John the Evangelist, Benefice Together**

20 December 2015 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Collect of the Day

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The LORD says to his people:
But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred
shall return to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure,
for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

Micah 5.2-5a

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Magnificat: Luke 1.46

R My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

For he has looked with favour on his lowly servant,
from this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name. **R**

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm;
he has scattered the proud in their conceit. **R**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
and he has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty. **R**

He has come to the help of his servant, Israel,
for he has remember his promise of mercy.
The promise he made to our forebears;
to Abraham and his children for ever. **R**
R My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said,
‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said,
“See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

When Christ said, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10.5-10

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.

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in

my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.’

Luke 1.39-45

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.