

NEWSLETTER

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

Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
265	740	480
406	634	128
182	480	634
631		405

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. Amen.

Psalm Response:

My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

Gospel Acclamation:

St John's Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. Speak to us, Lord, your servant hear. You have the words of eternal life.

St Luke's: Alleluia x4 (Celtic)



Extract from 'Nativity' by John Donne

Immensity cloistered in thy dear womb, now leaves His well-belov'd imprisonment, there He hath made Himself to His intent weak enough, now into the world to come; ...

Seest thou, my soul, with thy faith's eyes, how He which fills all place, yet none holds Him, doth lie?

Was not His pity towards thee wondrous high, that would have need to be pitied by thee?

Kiss Him, and with Him into Egypt go,

Advent 4: "You will name him Jesus".

St Catherine's - 8:00 Eucharist; 10:30 Sung Eucharist; **4:30 pm Lessons and Carols**

St John's - 8:00 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

2 Sam 7:1-11,16; The Magnificat; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1.26-38

The Magnificat:

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: Isaiah 61:10 -62.3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4.4-7, Luke 2.15-21

Benefice Notes:

2020 Conversation Days - The first stage is now complete. The results of these conversations are available on the website and the back of the Church. The next stage is open consultation about the ideas and comments made and how we might use this as the basis of a renewed focus on our mission as bearing witness to the gospel of Christ in Canton for the coming years leading up to 2020.

Season of Invitation - Since September we have trialled a fresh approach to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ via the Season of Invitation. It is right that this season concludes with the great feast of Christmas. We have been giving invites to our friends, family and colleagues to accompany us to Church on certain days. Why not take one last one for someone to accompany you to one of our Christmas services. Perhaps, this card might join a Christmas card you've yet to send.

Christmas Flowers: Help towards costs are needed please. Donations to Sue Parsons, Cynthia Fowler or Brenda Shewring.

Holy Family - Next Sunday, 28 December, will be a Benefice together celebration in St Luke's at 10:30 am. Traditionally, we focus on the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas.

Confirmation - Our confirmation classes for young people and adults begin in the New Year. This year the preparation programme will be over a longer period of time but will be less intense: meeting once a month to discuss the various topics and issues with the confirmation ceremony in Advent 2015. If you would like to be confirmed contact the clergy.

Messy Church - Thank you to everyone who helped make yesterday's event go so well. The next planning meeting is on Sun 11 Jan at 4:15 pm in St John's (after Explore). The next Messy Church is on Sunday 25 Jan 2015 at 4pm in St John's.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 Jan 2015 - If you think we should work and celebrate more with other local Christians during this week (and throughout the year) please let us know what you would like to see. Contact the clergy.

Benefice Pilgrimage to Assisi, Montecassino and Rome 6-10 July 2015. If you are interested please contact Fr Phelim for more details and likely costs. Price would include flights, transfers, transport within Italy and staying at the Irish College.

Benefice Noticeboard - If you would like to include something in the notes please send it to linsaycoolhouse@hotmail.com.

Website - Over the Christmas and New Year period we'll be updating the more static pages of the website. If you have any updates on a group or activity you are involved in please send them to Fr Phelim at vicar@beneficeofcanton.org.uk

St Catherine's Notes:

Christmas Services: Midnight Mass at 11:15 pm on 24 December; 10:30 am Choral Eucharist on Christmas Day.

Hall Bookings - To book the Hall please contact Angharad Elias 07989 747026 hall.stcatherines@gmail.com

Lessons and Carols for Christmas - In St Catherine's this evening at 4:30 pm. Please join us for a very memorable service that will draw us to appreciate in a deeper way the great mystery of Christ's Incarnation.

Christmas Services: Midnight Mass at 11:15 pm on 24 December; 10:30 am Choral Eucharist on Christmas Day.

St John's Notes:

Christmas Services: Crib Service at 5:00 pm on 24 December; 9:15 am Sung Eucharist on Christmas Day.

Ty Bronna - In December we'll be collecting toiletries for the Ty Bronna Hostel for young people, run by the Church Army.

St Luke's Notes:

Christmas Services: Midnight Mass at 11:15 pm on 24 December; (N.B. no morning mass on Christmas day).

St Luke's Lunch on Sun Jan 18th tickets on sale from today 3 COURSE MEAL £8.50

Shrove Tuesday Banger and Bingo - A family fun night on Tuesday 17 Feb 2015. Tickets on sale after Christmas.

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

Recently Departed: Hazel Ware, Violet Lillian Dowse, Maureen Thomas, Barbara Monks

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

Sun 21 Rhondda Area Dean Hadyn England-Simon; Kontagora-(Nigeria); **Carol Service - St Catherine's at 4:30pm**

Mon 22 Dinas & Penygraig Christopher Lewis-Jenkins (V); Kootenay, Canada

Tues 23 Pen Rhondda Fawr; Krishna- Godavari- (South India)

Wed 24 Ministerial Development; Kubwa- (Nigeria); **Crib Service in St J. at 5pm; Midnight Masses 11:15 Sts C and L**

Thur 25 Pontrhondda Peter Gale (V); Archbishop of South East Asia; **Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

Fri 26 Rhondda Fach Uchaf: David Jones (PinC); Kumasi (Ghana); **St Stephen**

Sat 27 Porth Newydd Jeffrey Thomas (Pin C); Kumi - (Uganda); **St John the Evangelist**

Sun 28 Tonypandy, Williamstown Phil Leyshon (V); Kushtia- (Bangladesh); **10:30 Benefice Service at St Lukes**

21st December 2014 – Advent 4

First Reading

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

Now when David, the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, ‘See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.’ Nathan said to the king, ‘Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.’

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you, David, that the LORD will make you a house.

Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

2 Samuel 7.1-11,16

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Magnificat

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,
and has scattered the proud in their conceit.

R

He has casting down the mighty from their thrones
and 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 remembered 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 of Paul to the Romans.

To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Romans 16.25-27

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.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1.26-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.