

NEWSLETTER

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

Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
565	97	97
156	654	323
323	649	305
434		

Collect:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Psalm Response:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

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

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.



How do we as a Church care for people?

Jesus the Good Shepherd cared for his sheep by feeding them, healing them and reconciling them to themselves, their families and their communities.

One way we can celebrate our calling to be ministers of Christ's caring is to focus on how we carry out our shepherding ministry and to think about the question, "How does our church care for people in need in our local community?" This is a question which our new Pastoral Care Team is trying to address and raise in the coming weeks and months. Please pray that we might follow Jesus ever more as we seek to be shepherds to those entrusted to our care. Lord, help us become good shepherds.

Easter 4

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

St John's - 8:00 Morning Prayer; 9:15 Sung Eucharist; **4:00 pm Messy Church**

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, 5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3.16-24, John 10:11-18

Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord / is my / shepherd: therefore / can I / lack / nothing
- 2 He shall make me to lie down in / green / pastures: and lead me forth be-/side the / waters • of / comfort.
- 3 He shall re-/fresh my / soul: and bring me forth in the right way / for his / name's / sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the darkest valley, * I will / fear no / evil: for thou art with me, * thy / rod • and thy / staff / comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me, * in the presence of / them that / trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, * and my / cup / shall be / full.
- 6 Yea thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me * all the / days of • my / life: and I will dwell in the / house • of the / Lord for / ever.

Next week's readings: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4: 7-21; John 15:1-8

Benefice Notes:

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

Confirmation Classes - The next class is today at 3pm in St Luke's.

Electoral Roll - Extra forms are available to be filled in today for those who haven't yet done so. Forms can be downloaded from our website.

Easter Vestry - The Annual Easter Vestry is this 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 available at the back of our churches for

Church wardens and membership of the PCC. These elections will take place at the Easter Vestry.

Vestry Report - The Vestry Report is now available at the back of the church and on the website.

Pastoral Care Team - at the last care team meeting a number of initiatives were proposed to help us care more: to adopt the diocesan code of practice; to explore training for those wanting to get involved in pastoral care; to explain and consult with our congregations about pastoral care in the benefice; to advertise in each church how our community offer help and support to people; and finally to liaise with other christians locally about ways to support pastoral care even more.

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

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

Same Sex Marriage - Please take a copy of Croeso and see the Church in Wales website for more information on this issue. There are ballot slips available this week to allow people to express their view anonymously if they so wish.

Youth Team BBQ - There will be a special meeting and BBQ on Wednesday 6 May at 6:30 pm in St Catherine's. This is to help us prepare for the launch of our youth club. It is open to everyone and especially those interested in helping us with the youth club. Children are welcome and there'll be a movie and popcorn for them whilst the meeting takes place.

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 are now available.

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

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. We have invited the local representative from CA to visit each of our Churches and explain something of their work. She'll visit St Luke's on 17 May, St Catherine's on 7 June and St John's on 14 June. Messy Church in May will also look at the work of Christian Aid.

St Catherine's Notes:

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

St John's Notes:

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

St Luke's Notes:

Christian Aid - The Sunday school will be learning all about CA's work on May 10th then they will be selling cakes for the cause on May 17th.

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

Women's Group 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: Beatrice Bowkett, Edith Brooks, Cynthia Evans, Kenneth Keatley, Edward Haines, Ron Teagle, Irene Benson.

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

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

Mon 27 Mountain Ash and Miskin, Michael Jones (V); New Westminster, Canada

Tues 28 Penrhiwceiber, Matthewstown and Ynysoboeth, Andrew Holmes (V); New York

Weds 29 University & Further Education Chaplains; Newala- (Tanzania); **St Catherine of Siena**;

Thurs 30 Pontypridd Deanery, Michael Gable (AD); Newark, USA

Fri 1 May Llantrisant, Vivian Parkinson (V); Newcastle (York); **Sts Philip and James, Apostles; St Joseph the Worker**;

Sat 2 Llantwit Fadre, Philip Gullidge (V); Newcastle, (Australia); **St Athanasius**;

Sun 3 Pontypridd St Catherine, Peter Lewis (V); Ngbo (Enugu, Nigeria)

26 April 2015 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Reading Acts 4. 5-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Second Reading 1 John 3. 16-24

A reading from the first letter of John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel John 10. 11-18

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away - and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.