

# NEWSLETTER

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

## Today's Hymns

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

19  
249  
88

## Collect:

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## Psalm Response:

The just will live in the presence of the 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:

*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.*



Today's readings challenge us to act authentically according to our Christian beliefs. Jesus in the gospel is deeply critical of the religious leaders who have lost sight of the heart and soul of God's laws and instead judge others according to laws that are not from God. There can be no greater testimony to the value of religious faith in our lives than that of individuals and communities practicing, in real ways, what they preach. When we read about the first Christians we hear countless traditions and stories of selfless loving service of others. The New Testament is full of them. We could be forgiven, in the face of increased secularism, for wanting to retreat from our sometimes hostile and indifferent world by attending to the less important aspects of our faith and religious lives. Yet, to follow Jesus, and live like he did, means engagement and commitment to serve those who are poor, broken, sick and in need. Perhaps, from this challenge new Christian heroes might respond? These 'heroes' of faith, hope and love might even be us? Then we'd definitely be more like Jesus than Pharisees.

## Trinity 13 - Benefice Together

St Catherine's - no services today

St John's - 10:30 Benefice Together Sung Eucharist; 12:30 Baptism

St Luke's - no services today

*For Weekday Services and Regular Events see the Website or Church Notice boards for times and days.*

## Today's Readings

Deut 4:1-2,6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

**Next week's readings:** Isaiah 35:4-7; Psalm 146; James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37

## Benefice Notes:

**Explore and Confirmation** - Resumes after the Summer break in St John's on Sunday 13 September at 4pm. The format is Cafe Church style. This will form part of the Confirmation preparation programme and all candidates will be welcome. We'll give out a list of extra dates for this term's confirmation meetings at this service.

**Big Picnic** - Join in with our wider community by bringing a picnic to Llandaff fields on 30 August and joining the fun.

WEATHER PERMITTING we will have Benefice activity stations (from Messy Church) available on the day. The Messy C banners and resources will be available to give people a taste. I wonder WWJD? Today at Llandaff Fields from 1-4pm

**Noticeboard** - If you would like to include something in the notes please send it to [linsaycoolhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:linsaycoolhouse@hotmail.com).

**Services in the Benefice** - The usual schedule of services resumes after the Summer holidays from 1 September.

**Churches Together** - Our next joint service will be in Ecumenical Evening Prayer in St John's on Sunday 20 September.

**Spring Clean in Autumn** - Dates are as follows: Sat 19 September - St John's; Sat 10 October - St Luke's; Sat 17 October - St Catherine's. We are asking if you could give us one of these days to help clean, tidy, repair, beautify our churches and halls. It would be great if individuals from different churches could help out with the Autumn Clean of each of the churches as a sign of mutual support and generosity. We are asking if you could give us one day out of the three.

**PCC and Meetings:** Pastoral Care: 1 Sept in St John's at 7:30 pm. Youth: 8 Sept at the Vicarage, 7:30 pm. Finance: 9 Sept at the Rectory, 7:30 pm. Buildings: 15 Sept at the Rectory, 7:30 pm. The next PCC is on 4 October in St Luke's at 7:00 pm.

**Vestry Home Group Bible Study** - Thursdays 7-9pm in St John's. All are welcome to this informal gathering.

## St Catherine's Notes:

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**Hall Bookings** - To book the Hall contact the clergy or email [hall.stcatherines@gmail.com](mailto:hall.stcatherines@gmail.com).

**Logs** - There are a number of logs for sale at St Catherine's as a result of the recent culling of dangerous and damaging trees. Please see Hilary or Gareth for details.

**Gardening Club** - Every Tuesday from 1:30 until 3:00 pm. All are welcome. For more details ask Hilary or Gareth.

**Autumn Clean** - If there is something the Church or Hall that you'd like addressed, cleaner or repaired during the Autumn Clean please let Hilary or the clergy know.

**Rotas** - The noticeboard has a new area for rotas for the 10.30 service. If you turn up at church not sure whether you are due to be doing something, please check on the board.

## St John's Notes:

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**Church Booking** - To book the Church please contact the clergy (see below for contacts).

**Ty Bronna** - The collection this month (August) is for sugar, tea and coffee.

**Monthly Lunch** - No lunch in August or September. There'll be a Harvest Supper on 2 October.

**Strawberry Tea** - Thanks to everyone who supported us. £660 was raised for Breast Cancer UK. A fantastic amount. Sylvia.

**Autumn Cleaning and Table Top Sale** - Saturday 19 September. Lists of jobs to go up soon.

## St Luke's Notes:

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'Some Like it Hot' **St Luke's Curry Night**. Sat Oct 3 @ 7.30 3 courses for £8.50. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets available this week from Kath Picton, Sue B, Mgt W and the churchwardens, numbers are limited to approx. 35.

**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)

**Recently Departed** Raydene Campbell, Pamela Orchard, Barbara McKay, Dorothy Evans, Colin Plain.

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

**Sun 30** Pontlloftyn w Fochriw, Robert Lindsay (PinC); Sebel, Uganda; **Trinity 13**

**Mon 31** Ystrad Mynach & Llanbradach, Steven Kirk (V); Sekondi, Ghana; **St Aidan;**

**Tues 1** Cynon Valley Deanery, Michael Jones (AD); Seychelles;

**Wed 2** The Welsh Assembly, Sheffield; **Lucien Tapiedi, Martyrs of PNG;**

**Thurs 3** Aberamnon and Abercwoi Cwmaman; Shinyanga, Tanzania; **St Gregory the Great;**

**Fri 4** Abercynon, Dr Sarah Rogers (PinC); Shyira, Rwanda; **St Cuthbert;**

**Sat 5** Aberdare, Robert Davies (V); Shyogwe, Rwanda;

**Sun 6** Aberdare St Fagan, Richard Green (V); Sialkot, Pakistan; **Trinity 14.**

**30 August 2015 – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 17)****Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

**First Reading**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people; he said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!’ For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

*Deuteronomy 4.1-2,6-9*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 15*

**R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?  
Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,  
and speak the truth from their heart;  
who do not slander with their tongue. **R.**

The one who does no evil to their friends,  
nor takes up a reproach against their neighbours;  
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,  
but who honour those who fear the LORD. **R.**

The person who stands by their oath even to their hurt;  
who do not lend money at interest,  
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

**R.**

**R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

## Second Reading

A reading from the letter of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

*James 1.17-27*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?'

Jesus said to them,

‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,  
“This people honours me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.”  
You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

*Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

God of all mercy,  
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins  
and given us your healing:  
grant that we who are made whole in Christ  
may bring that healing to this broken world,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.