

NEWSLETTER

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

Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
	172	
	54	
	35	
	137	

Collect:

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was circumcised in obedience to the law for our sake and given the Name that is above every name: give us grace faithfully to bear his Name, to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit, and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Psalm Response:

Your name, O Lord, is exalted in all the world.

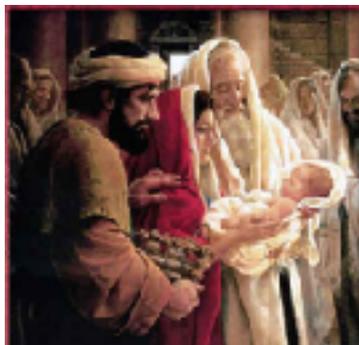
Gospel Acclamation:

St John's: **Alleluia ...**

Speak Lord your servant is listening; 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 focus is on the naming and welcoming of Jesus into his faith community. The sacrament of Baptism bears much similarity with what happened to Jesus in terms of initiation (especially when we baptise infants). This month baptism and Eucharist and belonging to a faith community will also be a major aspects for our Sunday worship as well as in our Sunday Schools. Our hope, as always, is to nourish and support each member of our diverse congregations in their life and discipleship. It is our expressed resolution as Christians to become the body of Christ to all who need us and when we do this to fulfil our joy and mission in being God's people on earth.

The Naming of Jesus (Benefice Together)

St Catherine's - No services today apart from at St John's;

St John's - 10:30 Sung Eucharist;

St Luke's - No services today apart from at St John's;

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

Today's Readings

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21

O Lord our governor, how exalted is your name in all the world! Out of the mouths of infants and children your majesty is praised above the heavens. You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, to quell the enemy and the avenger. **R**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them? mere human beings, that you should seek them out? You have made them little lower than the angels; you adorn them with glory and honour. **R**

You give them mastery over the works of your hands; and put all things under their feet, All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field, The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea. O Lord our governor, how exalted is your name in all the world! **R**

Next week's readings: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

Benefice Notes:

Holy Communion - From now on it is permitted for those who are baptised to receive Holy Communion. We will have a focus on the meaning and practice of celebrating the Eucharist in the coming months in our Sunday schools and clubs plus in our preaching. First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 5 February throughout the Benefice. There will be a special book that will assist parents in preparing their children for this available next week.

Weekday Services - Our weekday services return to normal this week. There is one change to the schedule: we are resuming our Tuesday morning 10:00 am mass in St Luke's and halting the Wednesday 10:00 am Mass for a trial period.

Fr Mark - Please pray for Fr Mark who will be on sick leave for most of January as he rests and recovers from surgery.

Welcome and thank you to clergy who will be helping and visiting us this coming month: Fr David Sheen (St Luke's, 8 Jan), Fr Mark Dimond (St Catherine's, 15 Jan), Archdeacon Peggy Jackson (St John's and St Luke's 22 Jan). Thank you also to Fr Keith Kimber for his continuing help and support throughout the benefice this past year.

Youth Club Games Night - From 20 Jan the Canton Churches Youth Club returns to St Catherine's hall on Friday evenings from 7-8:30pm. It is open to children in school years 5 and 6. We will focus on table tennis, chess, backgammon and other games with the usual tuck shop and chill zone. For more details ask Fr Phelim or Sarah Burton burton-sarah@hotmail.co.uk

Confirmation Preparation - Our confirmation programme begins again on 4 February. If you would like to be confirmed please contact the clergy or complete an application form available on the website.

PCC and Action Teams - The next PCC meeting is on Sunday 15 Jan 2017 at 6:30pm at St John's. The dates and times for the action teams (finance, buildings, pastoral care, youth) will be sent out in the new year.

Youth Bible Study and Pizza - Sarah Burton is starting a youth bible study group which will take place on Sunday evenings in St John's vestry. It is open only to those in secondary or further education and is an informal and friendly exploration of faith issues. For more details please contact Sarah burton-sarah@hotmail.com.uk or Fr Phelim (contact details below).

Messy Church - Messy Church will resume on the second Sunday of February (no Messy Church this month).

St Catherine's Notes:

Volunteers needed to join the rota for counting the collection - please see Diana Fletcher for details.

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

Midweek Services: Holy Eucharist this Wednesday at 11:00am

St John's Notes:

Ty Bronna - This month's collection for the Ty Bronna centre is for tins or packets of soup (more details on our website).

Church Booking - To book the church please contact the clergy. For concerts contact Gill Winton (see website).

Midweek Services: Holy Eucharist Thursday at 10:30 am

St Luke's Notes:

Church Heating - Unfortunately, the heating is still out of action. The hall will be used on Sundays instead of the church until it is fixed. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Thank You - An anonymous donor has kindly agreed to pay over £4000 to pay for the heating repairs. Please keep this donor and all of our benefactors in your prayers for their generous support of God's mission and work in this place.

Solemn High Mass for the Epiphany in St Luke's this Friday at 6pm. All are welcome.

Midweek Services: Masses at 10:00 am on Tuesdays; 6:00 pm on Fridays; and 10:30 am on Saturdays

Recently Departed: Mabel Elcock, Hannah Heulwen Anderson, Lilian Bond, Geoffrey Morgan, Jesu Marie Musonere

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

Sun 1 Cwmafan, Elaine Jenkyns (PinC), Stephen Jenkyns (C); Kolhapur (India); **The Naming of Jesus; Benefice Together.**

Mon 2 Glyncorrwg & Upper Afan, Bev Reaney ; Kandaa (Tanzania); **Sts Gregory Nazianzen, Basil, Gregory of Nyssa**

Tues 3 Kenfig Hill, Jonathan Durley (PinC); Kongar (Sudan); **Morris Williams, Priest and Poet**

Wed 4 University Chaplain, David Sheen, Paul Fitzpatrick; Kontagora (Nigeria);

Thur 5 Benefice of Margam, vacant; Kootenay (Canada);

Fri 6 Newton Nottage, Porthcawl, Philip Masson (R), Craig Vaughan (C); **EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD; St Luke's at 6pm;**

Sat 7 Port Talbot, St Theodore, Mark Williams (V); Kubwa (Nigeria); **St Raymond of Penyafort**

Sun 8 Pyle and Kenfig, Duncan Walker (V); Kuching, (SE Asia); **Epiphany 1, Baptism of the Lord**

Team Rector: **Canon Mark Preece;** 029 2056 2022 rector@beneficeofcanton.org.uk (Day off - Monday)

Team Vicar: **Fr Phelim O'Hare;** 029 2021 0732 vicar@beneficeofcanton.org.uk (Day off - Thursday)

1 January 2017 – Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was circumcised in obedience to the law for our sake and given the Name that is above every name: give us grace faithfully to bear his Name, to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit, and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world; 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 Numbers.

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

‘Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, “Thus you shall bless the Israelites:

You shall say to them,

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face to shine upon you,

and be gracious to you;

the LORD lift up his countenance upon you,

and give you peace.”

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.’

Numbers 6.22-27

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 8

R Your name, O Lord, is exalted in all the world!

O Lord our governor,

how exalted is your name in all the world!

Out of the mouths of infants and children

your majesty is praised above the heavens.

You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries,

to quell the enemy and the avenger. **R**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them?

mere human beings, that you should seek them out?

You have made them little lower than the angels;

you adorn them with glory and honour. **R**

You give them mastery over the works of your hands;

and put all things under their feet,

All sheep and oxen,
even the wild beasts of the field,
The birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

O Lord our governor,
how exalted is your name in all the world! **R**

R Your name, O Lord, is exalted in all the world!

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Galatians 4.4-7

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.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Luke 2.15-21

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose incarnate Son was given the Name of Saviour:
grant that we who have shared
in this sacrament of our salvation

may live out our years in the power
of the Name above all other names,
Jesus Christ our Lord.