

NEWSLETTER

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

Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
see hymn board	552 117 49	552 609 419

Collect:

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Psalm Response:

The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

Speak Lord your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life ... Alleluia

St Luke's: **Alleluia x 4 (Celtic)**

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.



Last week Jesus was welcomed into his faith community as an infant. Today we celebrate another aspect of baptism - the approval and affirmation of God for his children. This affirmation is something we all need and it allows us to remain secure in the family of God knowing that we are loved and forgiven by God, no matter what. For Jesus, these words of affirmation may have enabled him to begin his public ministry of teaching, healing, guiding, forming the shepherd-less people of Israel. Today we recall the gift of our own baptism and hear God's words directed to us.

Epiphany 1: The Baptism of Jesus

St Catherine's - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist; 10:30 am Sung Eucharist;

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

St Luke's - 10:30 am Sung Mass;

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

Today's Readings

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

Psalm 29

1 Ascribe unto the Lord O ye / hosts of / heaven: ascribe unto the / Lord / glory • and / strength. **2** Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due / unto • his / name: worship the / Lord in / raiment • of / holiness. **3** The voice of the Lord is up-/on the / waters: it is the glorious God that maketh the thunder, * even the Lord up-/on the / great / waters. **4** The voice of the Lord is mighty in / oper-/ation: the voice of the / Lord • is a / glorious / voice. **5** The voice of the Lord / breaketh • the / cedar-trees: yea the Lord / breaketh • the / cedars • of / Lebanon. **6** He maketh them also to / skip • like a / calf: Lebanon also and / Siri-on / like young / oxen. **7** The voice of the Lord di-/videth • the / lightning: the voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness, * yea the Lord / shaketh • the / wilderness • of / Kadesh. **8** The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to be in travail, * and the goats to bring forth be-/ fore their / time: in his / temple • do / all cry / 'Glory!' **9** The Lord sitteth a-/bove the / water-flood: the Lord / sitteth • as / King for / ever.!

Next week's readings: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Cor 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

Benefice Notes:

Messy Church - Messy Church will resume on the second Sunday of February (no Messy Church this afternoon). Next prep meeting is on 29 Jan at 5:15pm

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 this week.

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, today)**, 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.

Week of Prayer for Unity - The next week of prayer for Christian unity begins is from 18-25 Jan. To mark this Canton Churches Together will have a joint ecumenical service to take place in St Mary's RC Church on Sunday 22 Jan at 4pm.

Explore - The next explore will be on Sunday 29 Jan at 4pm in St John's and will be a labyrinth service with Taize music.

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. Confirmation is open to children currently in year 5 or above.

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 Team Meeting - Wednesday 11 Jan at 7:30 pm at the Vicarage. All are welcome. Contact Fr Phelim for details.

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. It is open to those in secondary or further education and is an informal and friendly exploration of faith issues. It starts on Sun 22 Jan from 6-7:30pm in St John's vestry. For details please contact Sarah burton-sarah@hotmail.com.uk.

St Catherine's Notes:

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.

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

Recently Departed: Mabel Elcock, Lilian Bond, Geoffrey Morgan, Anthony Spettie

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

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

Mon 9 RB Aberavon, Nigel Cahill (R), Jane Slennett (C), Rhun Ap Robert (C); Kumi, (Uganda)

Tues 10 Deanery of Neath, Stephen Ryan (AD); Kushtia (Bangladesh); **William Laud**

Wed 11 Staff of the Representative Body of the C in W, Simon Lloyd (Prov. Secretary); Kutigi (Nigeria);

Thur 12 Cadoxton-juxta-Neath & Tonna, Andrew Meredith (PinC); Kwara - (Nigeria);

Fri 13 Cilybebyll (vacant); Kwoi - (Nigeria) ; **St Hilary, Bishop and Doctor**

Sat 14 Dulais Valley, Liz Rees (PinC); Lafia (Nigeria); **St Kentigern**

Sun 15 Dyffryn, Stephen Bodycombe (V); Kyoto (Japan); **Epiphany 2**

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)

8 January 2017 – Baptism of Christ

Collect of the Day

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Isaiah 42.1-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

R The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his name;

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;

the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;

the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, 'Glory!' **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;

the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people;

the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. **R**

Second Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Acts 10.34-43

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Matthew 3.13-17

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.