

# NEWSLETTER

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

### Today's Hymns

St Catherine's	St John's	St Luke's
480	740	128
16	634	634
182	480	405
263		

### 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..

### Psalm Response:

**Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

St John's: **Alleluia ...  
Speak Lord your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life ... Alleluia**

St Luke's: **Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; keep watch, take heart.**

*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.*



### The day is near, behold the Lord is coming.

Christmas is but a few days away and the holiday mood is in full swing. Some of us still have many things to do and perhaps buy. However, what a shame if we ended up missing the mystery because of glitter, gifts and distraction. We still have time to stop for a moment, just long enough to let it happen and take the great truths in: Christ is coming and God is waiting to touch our hearts. Like Mary, let us in this last week be "blessed" in our believing what God has promised us as we approach the dawn of Christmas and celebrate it.

## Advent 4

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

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

**St Luke's** - 10:30 Sung Mass (**in St Luke's Hall**);

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

## Today's Readings

**Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80: 1-7,17-19; Romans 1:1-17; Matt 1:18-25**

### Psalm 80:

**Hear**, O / Shepherd of / Israel :you that led / Joseph / like a / flock;  
**Shine** forth, you that are enthroned up/on the / cherubim : before Ephraim, / Benjamin / and Ma/nasseh.

**Stir** up your / mighty / strength :and / come to / our sal/vation.

**Turn** us a/gain, O / God :show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.

**O Lord** / God of / hosts :how long will you be angry / at your / people's / prayer?

**You** feed them with the / bread of / tears :you give them a/bundance of / tears to / drink.

**You** have made us the derision / of our / neighbours :and our / enemies / laugh us to / scorn.

**Turn** us again, O / God of / hosts :show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.

**Let** those who burnt it with fire, who / cut it / down :perish / at the re/buke • of your /countenance.

**Let** your hand be upon the man / at your / right hand :the son of man you / made so / strong • for your/self.

**And** so will we / not go / back from you :give us life, and we shall / call up/on your / name.

**Turn** us again, O Lord / God of / hosts :show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be saved.

**Next week's readings:** Various readings according to the service

## Benefice Notes:

**Christmas Services** Christmas Eve: St John's Crib Service 5:00 pm; St Catherine's and Luke's Midnight Masses at 11:15pm; Christmas Day: St John's at 9:15 and St Catherine's at 10:30. Weekday services will also be available on our website, notice boards and our Christmas flyers.

**Holy Communion** - From now on it is permitted for those who are baptised to receive Holy Communion. We will have a renewed focus on the meaning and practice of celebrating the Eucharist in the coming months.

**Flowers for Christmas:** Donations towards the cost of flowers for Christmas would be much appreciated. Please hand your gift to Jean (St Catherine's), Cynthia (St John's) or Brenda (St Luke's). Thank you.

**Youth Club Games Night** - From 20 Jan 2017 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. This event can only go ahead if we have enough adults available to supervise. For more details ask Fr Phelim or Sarah Burton [burton-sarah@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:burton-sarah@hotmail.co.uk).

**Confirmation Christmas Outing** - To winter wonderland on Friday 30 December meeting at 1:00pm in St John's. This is open to those who were confirmed this year and last year plus their families. Contact Sarah Burton for details (see above).

## St Catherine's Notes:

**Vestments** - Some of our vestments are in need of renewal and we are hoping to do this in the new year. If you would like to make a contribution towards new vestments for the clergy and servers please contact the wardens or clergy.

**Christmas Lessons and Carols** - Please join us today at 4:30pm when we celebrate the story of our salvation from the fall of humanity to the birth of Jesus our Saviour. Carols are sung between the readings. Refreshments afterwards in the hall.

**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](mailto:hall.stcatherines@gmail.com).

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

## St John's Notes:

**Ty Bronna** - This month's collection for the Ty Bronna centre is for sweets and chocolate.

**Vestments** - Some of our vestments are in need of renewal and we are hoping to do this in the new year. If you would like to make a contribution towards new vestments for the clergy and servers please contact the wardens or clergy.

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

**Midweek Services:** Holy Eucharist this Thursday at 10:30 am

## St Luke's Notes:

**Funeral of Anne Powell** (mother of Marian Quick)- 2pm at Wenvoe Crematorium on Mon 19 December. All are welcome.

**Church Heating** - Unfortunately, the heater 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.

**Elizabeth Singers - change of venue** - an evening of Christmas music with carols and refreshments on Tuesday 20 December at 7.00 pm will now be in St John's instead of St Luke's. Tickets are £5 in aid of the St Luke's Centenary projects.

**Hall Bookings** - To book the Hall please contact Jackie Page on 029 2091 3808.

**Midweek Services:** Mass at 10:00 am on Wed; Masses at 6pm on Friday; & 10:30 am on Saturday

**Recently Departed:** Anne Powell, Anthony John Molino, David Bickel

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

**Sun 18** Laleston & Merthyr Mawr w Penyfai, Anthony Beer (PinC); Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh (Ireland); **Advent 4**

**Mon 19** Llandyfodwg & Cwm Ogr, Julian Jenkins (PinC); Kimberley & Kuruman (Sth Africa); **O Root of Jesse**

**Tues 20** Llangeinor & the Gawr Valley, Roger Pitman (Pin C); Kindu - (Congo); **O Key of David**

**Wed 21** The Archbishop's Chaplain, Mark Dimond; Kinkiizi(Uganda) **O Dayspring**

**Thur 22** Llangynwyd w Maesteg Geraldyn, Blyth (V); Kisangani (Congo) **O King of the Nations**

**Fri 23** Llanharan w Peterston-super-Monterm (Brynna), Barbara Wood (Pin C); Kirinyaga - (Kenya); **O Emmanuel;**

**Sat 24** Llanilid w Pencoed, Ian Hodges (Pin C); Kita Kanto - (Japan); **Christmas Eve**

**Sun 25** Llansantffraid, Bettws& Aberkenfig, Stephen Pare (Pin C); Kitale -(Kenya); **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

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

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

## 18 December 2016 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Collect of the Day

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.

### First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

*Isaiah 7.10-16*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80.1-7,16-18

**R     Restore us, O God of hosts;  
         show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.**

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.

**R**

O Lord God of hosts,  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?  
You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.  
You have made us the derision of our neighbours,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

**R**

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

**R**

**R     Restore us, O God of hosts;  
         show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.**

**Second Reading**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Romans 1.1-7*

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.**

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.'

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Matthew 1.18-25*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.