



SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



First Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Saint John's especially all who are visiting today.

An audio loop system is in operation for those with hearing aids. The order of service is available to download from the website and the 10.30am is livestreamed on St John's Malone YouTube channel. Those baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion, according to conscience.

Today: Sunday 18th February 2024
9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel
10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist

The Eucharist ~See service booklet for 10:30am if available or below for page references in the BCP 2004

The Gathering	<i>page 201/125</i>
Presiding	The Rector
Opening Hymn	6527
Collect of the Day	
Liturgy of the Word	
First Reading	-
Psalm	-
Second Reading	
Gradual Hymn	207
Gospel (stand)	
Sermon	Maxine Judge – Diocesan Reader
Peace (stand)	<i>page 207 / 131</i>
Offertory Hymn	218
Liturgy of the Sacrament Great Thanksgiving (1)	<i>page 209</i>
The Lord's Prayer	
Communion	
Motet	View me, Lord, a work of thine - Lloyd
Great Silence	
Post Communion Hymn	324
Going Out	<i>page 220 ff /145</i>
Post Communion Prayers	<i>page 220</i>
Blessing	
Dismissal	
Organ Voluntary	Prelude and Fugue in F (BWV 556) – J S Bach
Office Setting	Davison / Ives



Collects

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
Give us grace to discipline ourselves
in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading **Genesis 9: 8-17**

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹‘As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.’ ¹²God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’ ¹⁷God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.’

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm -

Second Reading **1 Peter 3: 18-22**

¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading *Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Mark chapter one beginning at verse nine. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

Mark 1: 9-15

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, you renew us with the living bread from heaven.
Nourish our faith, increase our hope,
strengthen our love, and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Services this week

Wednesday 21st Compline with address 7:30pm.

Thursday 18th 10.30am Eucharist with prayer for those in need will take place in the Side Chapel. The prayer list is in the Side chapel.

A cup of tea/coffee is now available after this service.

Next Sunday: Lent 2 25.02.24

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel

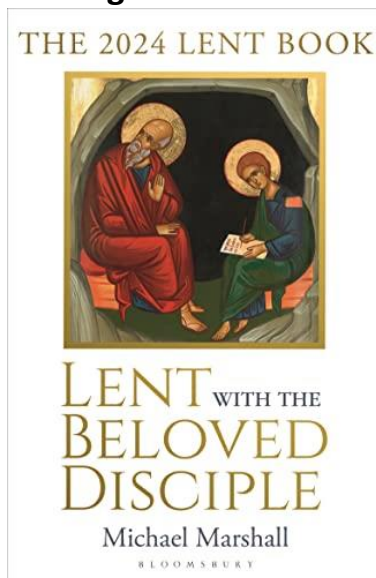
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist Coffee/tea will follow this service and all are welcome.



Notices: | Sign up for the regular email Update at secstjohns@btconnect.com

Lent Book

This year the following book by Bishop Michael Marshall is suggested for devotional reading. It is also the book on which the short addresses at Lenten Compline will be based.



The book is available in the vestibule for a discounted price of £10 before and during Lent and is also available to order from The Bookwell.

Lenten Quiet Day

This day of reflection takes place on Thursday 22nd February 2024

10am - 3pm with Tom Layden SJ in the church and parish halls.

Theme: 'Growing in our knowledge of God'. All are welcome to attend and it would be good to have your support.

[If you wish to attend please email secstjohns@btconnect.com or phone the office 028 90667861 and leave a message for catering and admin purposes by Thursday 16th February 10:30am. Coffee, scones and a light lunch will be provided.]

Lenten Compline Wednesdays 7:30pm with short addresses based on 'Lent with the Beloved Disciple'

'Lent with the Beloved Disciple': meditations on John's Gospel at Lenten Compline

1. 21st February - 'The Pilgrimage of Faith', John 1:35-42

Based on the Marshall's Prologue, with the title taken from one of the sub-sections of this, reflecting on Jesus' question to the disciples of the Baptist - 'What are you looking for?' - and his subsequent invitation to them, 'Come and see'.

2. 28th February - 'A Different Perspective', John 13:3-15

Based on Chapter 1, which addresses the foot-washing, the disciples' dispute, and Judas.

3. 6th March - 'A Night to Remember', John 18:1-27

Based on Chapter 2, addressing Christ before Annas and Caiaphas, and Peter's denials.

4. 13th March - 'The Power Game', John 18:28-19:16 (or part thereof)

Based on Chapter 3, addressing Christ before Pilate, and the roles of the crowd and the religious leadership.

5. 20th March - 'Transforming Power', John 19:17-30

Based on Chapter 4, addressing the Crucifixion and the Atonement.

Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office or secstjohns@btconnect.com. Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.

READINGS:Genesis 9:8-17: God promises Noah that God will never again destroy all life through a flood, and God gives the rainbow as a sign of this promise. Psalm 25:1-10: A plea for God to be merciful and to not remember the sinfulness of the psalmist's youth, but to teach the psalmist God's ways and deliver him from his enemies. 1 Peter 3:18-22: Jesus died for us and was raised to life, having preached to the "spirits in prison" who disobeyed in Noah's time. And now we are given the sign of baptism to show that we are saved & cleansed within by Christ, who now rules with God in heaven. Mark 1:9-15: Jesus is baptised by John, affirmed by God and sent into the wilderness to be tempted. Then after John is arrested he begins his ministry calling people to repent and believe in his Good News message.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

Water – in the flood and in the baptism of Jesus and of Christ's followers – is the striking image at the heart of this first week in Lent. But, along with it comes God's promise of restoration, of grace and of the united creation toward which God is working. In the Noah story, the promise that God will not again destroy the earth with a flood is freely given, not just to Noah and the human beings, but to the whole of creation. In Peter's letter, Christ's work in saving both the living and the "spirits in prison" from Noah's time, is explained, with baptism as the sign of our salvation. Importantly, though, Christ's place as ruler of all "angels, authorities and powers" is also proclaimed here – indicating again, the unity that comes through God's grace. In the Psalm the writer expresses trust in the God who restores and protects and who leads the psalmist in God's ways of life. Finally, in the Gospel, we return to the account of Christ's baptism (which we last encountered in the first week of Epiphany on Baptism of Christ Sunday), but now, the temptation narrative is included, along with the start of Jesus' ministry. Here again, God's affirmation of Jesus, along with the baptism experience, is a highlight, leading on to God's sustaining of Christ in the wilderness. Here, too, a vision of a united creation is offered, as we read that Jesus was cared for by angels and wild animals.

If we are to bring all of these threads together, we find a simple, but transforming message coming through. The act of baptism, which is a sign of our welcome into God's community of grace and salvation, embraces and includes all of creation. And, as all of creation is brought together, so we are all called to be agents of God's grace and sustenance and life to one another. The mission of Christ, of which his baptism was the start, proclaims the Reign of God in which all creation, not just human beings, are included and restored. As we embrace the Lenten fast and the journey of repentance, it is important that the scope of God's saving work be remembered, for ultimately our spiritual work must lead us to be better participants in this work.

Organising your wedding in St John's

Weddings are special occasions in the life of any family and of the Church. We'd be delighted to talk to anyone contemplating their wedding in St John's. When considering getting married please check possible dates with the Rector before confirming any other arrangements. It is expected that couples will make a regular commitment to the life of the Church in preparation for marriage.



If you are considering donating any items to the foodbank then we would really appreciate any of the following...

Tinned meat Tinned potatoes/ Smash Long life juice Tinned soup Toiletries Toilet roll Washing up liquid Washing powder You can either pop the items directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the foodbank.

We are open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm.

Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on

info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk

ITEMS REQUIRED AT PRESENT: *Please place in the baskets in the entrance vestibule/porch.*

Long life juice; Tinned fish; Tinned spaghetti; Tinned fruit; Jars of jam; Tinned rice pudding;

Tinned potatoes or Smash; Toiletries – soap, shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste etc.

This year our inter-church meetings for Lent 2024 are as follows.

The series will be over four weeks: Each session will begin at 7.30pm. On each evening there will a presentation, and discussion.

This Lent many of us will be giving something up, but it would be meaningful if we could relate this to reducing our carbon emissions.

The theme of the series is: *The Gospel of Creation - caring for our common home.*

- **20th Feb: The state of Our Common Home**
- **27th Feb: Eco-Spirituality**
- **12th March: Integral Ecology**
- **19th March: Action and Spirituality: Where to, now, for our communities in Belfast?**

The venue: The Conference Centre, Newforge Sports Complex, 18b Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5NW. All are welcome including non parishioners.

At this we hope to learn more about how to connect our respective faith traditions with actions on the climate crisis and go green or at least a greener shade of violet this Lent!

www.malone.connor.anglican.org



@malonestjohns

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The Parish Office for administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861) e-mail: secstjohns@btconnect.com

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644)

e-mail : malone@connor.anglican.org

Please take this booklet home with you for the readings, notices and reference during the week and recycle.