

Sunday Themes 2012

24th November 2011

Sunday	Readings	Comments
November 27 th Advent	Isaiah 64.1 – 9: rend the heavens and come down 1 Corinthians 1.3 – 9: you are not lacking any spiritual gift as you wait the coming of our Lord Mark 13.24 – 37: parables of the coming	Theme: The day of the Lord
December 4 th Advent 2	Isaiah 40.1 – 11: Comfort ye, my people 2 Peter 3.8 – 15a: A new heaven and a new earth Mark 1.1 – 8: Prepare the way of the Lord	Theme: Prophets/ words of comfort
December 11 th Advent 3	Isaiah 61.1 – 4, 8 – 11: good news to the oppressed 1 Thessalonians 5.16 – 24: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing John 1.6 – 8, 19 – 28: There was a man sent from God	Theme: John the Baptist
December 18 th Advent 4	2 Samuel 7.1 – 11, 16: the throne of David shall be established for ever Romans 16.25 – 27: doxology – revelation to the gentiles Luke 1.26 – 38: the annunciation	Theme: Mary
December 24 th Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9.2 – 7: The people who walked in darkness. . . Titus 2.11 – 14: be upright while we wait for the hope Luke 2.1 – 14: In those days a decree went out from Emperor August. . .	Midnight service Theme: Christmas
December 25 th Christmas Day	Isaiah 52.7 – 10: How beautiful are the feet. . . Hebrews 1.1 – 4: in these last days has spoken by a Son John 1.1-14: In the beginning was the Word	Theme: Christmas
January 1 st , 2012 Christmas 1	Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3: garments of salvation Galatians 4.4 – 7: Abba! Father! Luke 2.15 – 21: the shepherds visit the crib	Theme: The naming & circumcision of Jesus
January 8 th Epiphany The Baptism of Christ	Isaiah 60:1 – 6: Arise, shine, your light has come Ephesians 3.1 – 12: Gentiles are fellow-heirs, members of the same body Matthew 2.1 – 12: the three wise men	Epiphany Service Theme: The revelation of God to the world
January 15 th Epiphany 2	1 Samuel 3.1 – 10, [11 – 20]: The call of Samuel Revelation 5.1 – 10: worthy is the Lamb of God John 1.43 – 51: the call of Philip and Nathanael	Theme: A holy calling
January 22 Epiphany 3	Jeremiah 1.4 – 10: I have put my words into your mouth Acts 9.1 – 22: the Damascus road Matthew 19.27 – end: many who are first will be last	Themes: Conversion of St Paul
January 29 Epiphany 4	Malachi 3.1 – 5: He is like a refiners fire. . . Hebrews 2.14 – end: sacrifice and atonement. Luke 2.22 – 40: the presentation of Christ; the nunc dimittis	Candlemass Theme: The light of Christ/ presentation of Christ in the Temple

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February 5 3 before Lent	Isaiah 40.21 – 31: Have you not known? Have you not heard? . . . 1 Corinthians 9.16 – 23: I am become all things to all people, that I might save some Mark 1.29 – 39: Healing the sick, proclaiming the gospel	Visiting preacher St Michael's Hospice re Lent Appeal Theme: Healing
February 12 2 before Lent	Proverbs 8.1, 22 – 31: Wisdom Colossians 1.15 – 20: He is the image of the invisible God. . . John 1.1 – 14: In the beginning was the Word	Theme: Jesus Christ our Lord
February 19 Next before Lent	2 Kings 2.1 – 12: Elijah giving his mantle to Elisha 2 Corinthians 4.3 – 6: if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing Mark 9.2 – 9: the transfiguration	Theme: transfiguration
February 26 Lent 1	Genesis 9.8 – 17: the covenant with Noah 1 Peter 3.18 – 22: Christ suffered for sins once for all Mark 1.9 – 15: the baptism of Jesus, and in the wilderness	Theme: Temptation
March 4 Lent 2	Genesis 17.1 – 7, 15 – 16: God's promise to Abraham Romans 4.13 – 25: The promise to Abraham came from faith Mark 8.31 – 38: Take up your cross	Theme: Faith
March 11 Lent 3	Exodus 20.1 – 17: the ten commandments 1 Corinthians 1.18 – 25: the foolishness of the cross John 2.13 – 22: the cleansing of the temple	Theme: The Law
March 18 Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	1 Samuel 1.20 – 28: Hannah dedicating Samuel 2 Corinthians 1.3 – 7: Consolation in Christ John 19.25b – 27: Jesus entrusting his mother to John	Theme: The family
March 25 Lent 5 Passion Sunday	Jeremiah 31.31 – 34: I will write the law on their hearts Hebrews 5.5 – 10: A priest without beginning of days or ending of years John 12.20 – 33: sayings before the crucifixion	Theme: The way of the cross
April 1 Palm Sunday	Philippians 2.5 – 11: Let that mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus John 12.12 – 16: the entry into Jerusalem	Theme: Palm Sunday
April 8 Easter Day	Acts 10.34 – 43: we are witnesses 1 Corinthians 15.1 – 11: Christ was raised on the third day . . . Mark 16.1 – 8: the resurrection	Theme: Easter
April 15 Easter 2	Acts 4.32 – 35: the first disciples holding all things in common 1 John 1.1 – 2.2: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all John 20.19 – 31: the resurrection appearance to doubting Thomas	Theme: Faith & doubt
April 22 Easter 3	Revelation 12: 7-12: Michael and his angles slay the dragon 2 Timothy 2: 3-13: Endure hardship like a good soldier of Christ John 15: 18-21: The world hates the disciples	Theme: St George

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April 29 Easter 4	Acts 4.5 – 12: Peter answering the elders and rulers. Jesus is the keystone 1 John 3.16 – 24: Obeying the command, Love one another John 10.11 – 18: I am the good shepherd	Theme: The Good Shepherd
May 6 Easter 5	Acts 8.26 – 40: The baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch 1 John 4.7 – 21: God is love John 15.1 – 8: I am the true vine	Theme: God is love
May 13 Easter 6	Acts 10.44 – 48: The gift of the Holy Spirit – to gentiles 1 John 5.1 – 6: Faith, belief, love and action a progression John 15. 9 – 17: This is my commandment, as I have loved you, love one another	Theme: Love in our lives
May 20 Sunday after Ascension	Acts 1.15 – 17, 21 – 26: The choice of Matthias, to replace Judas 1 John 5.9 – 13: This letter is to assure you of eternal life. John 17.6 – 19. Jesus farewell discourse to the disciples ‘whom thou didst give me’.	Theme: Belonging to God
May 27 Pentecost	Ezekiel 37. 1 – 14: The valley of dry bones Acts 2.1 – 21: the day of Pentecost John 15.26 – 27, 16.4b – 15: the Advocate, the Spirit of truth	Theme: Pentecost
June 3 Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6.1 – 8: the call of Isaiah Romans 8.12 – 17: The Spirit makes us sons, enabling us to cry ‘Abba, Father’ John 3.1 – 17: Nicodemus – ‘How can you be born again?’	Theme: The Trinity
June 10 Trinity 1	Genesis 3: 8-15, the punishment of the serpent 2 Corinthians 4: 13-5.1, he who raised Jesus to new life will raise us also Mark 3: 20-end, whoever does the will of God is my brother	Theme: New life in Christ
June 17 Trinity 2	Ezekiel 17.22 – 24: a sprig planted on the mountain height of Israel 2 Corinthians 5. 6 – 10, [11 – 13,] 14 – 17: New life in Christ. Mark 4.26 – 34: parables of the kingdom	Theme: The power of God
June 24 Trinity 3 John the Baptist	Isaiah 40: 1-11, Comfort my people Galatians 3: 23-end, through faith we are sons of God Luke 1: 57-66,80, the birth of John the Baptist	Theme: John the Baptist
July 1 Trinity 4	Wisdom 1.13 – 15, 2.23- 24: Death and immortality 2 Corinthians 8.7 – 15: Giving Mark 5.21 – 43: The raising of Jairus daughter, the woman healed of an issue of blood	Theme: Our calling to be Prophets
July 8 Trinity 5	Ezekiel 2.1 – 5: the call of Ezekiel: they shall know they have a prophet in their midst. 2 Corinthians 12.2 – 10: Paul’s thorn in the flesh Mark 6.1 – 13: Jesus rejected in his home town: the sending out of the disciples	Theme: Bringing the gospel to a fallen world
July 15 Trinity 6	Amos 7.7 – 15: Prophecy of the destruction of Israel under Amaziah Ephesians 1.3 –14: the eternal destiny of the church Mark 6.14 – 29: the death of John the Baptist	Theme: Teaching the gospel

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July 22 Trinity 7 St James	St James Patronal Festival Jeremiah 45.1 – 5: I am going to break down what I have built. . . Acts 11.27 – 12.2: the death of James Matthew 20.20 – 28: John and James asking to be on either hand of Jesus	Theme: St James
July 29 Trinity 8	2 Kings 4.42 – 44: Elisha’s miracle, multiplying loaves of bread Ephesians 3.14 – 21: Paul’s prayer and doxology John 6.1 – 21: the miracle of the loaves and fishes.	Theme: Bread of heaven / spiritual food
August 5 Trinity 9	Exodus 16.2 – 4, 8 – 15: Manna in the wilderness Ephesians 4.1 – 16: the gifts of the Spirit John 6.24 – 35: I am the bread of life	Theme: Living the gospel
August 12 Trinity 10	1 Kings 19.4 – 8: Elijah’s despair after the contest with the prophets of Baal Ephesians 4.25 – 5.2: live as Christ loved you John 6.35, 41 – 51: I am the bread of life	Theme: The wisdom of the Cross
August 19 Trinity 11	Proverbs 9.1 – 6: a call to wisdom Ephesians 5.15 – 20: wisdom, not foolishness for the people of God John 6.51 – 58: eating his flesh and drinking his blood	Theme: Commitment
August 26 Trinity 12	Joshua 24. 1 – 2a, 14 – 18: Joshua’s final address: choose whom you will worship Ephesians 6.10 – 20: put on the whole armour of God John 6.56 – 69: people being shocked by Jesus’ claims	Theme: Faith and works
September 2 Trinity 13	Deuteronomy 4. 1 – 2, 6 – 9: the wisdom of the law James 1. 17 – 27: faith devoid of deeds is barren Mark 7.1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 – 23: law and ritual	Theme: Living before God
September 9 Trinity 14	Isaiah 35.4 – 7a: prophecy supporting the gospel James 2. 1 – 10 [11 – 13] 14 - 17: More on faith and works Mark 7.24 – 37: 2 miracles: the Syro-phoenician woman and the deaf and dumb man	Theme: Proclaiming the gospel
September 16 Trinity 15	Isaiah 50.4 – 9a: ‘The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher. James 3.1 – 12: teaching; bridle the tongue Mark 8.27 – 38: ‘Who do men say I am?’ Leaving self behind	Theme: Living the Christian life today
September 23 Trinity 16 St Matthew	Proverbs 3: 13-18: Blessed is he who has wisdom for she is precious 2 Corinthians 4: 1-6: we set forth the truth plainly Matthew 9: 9-13: The calling of Matthew	Theme: St Matthew
September 30 Trinity 17	Genesis 28: 10-17: Jacobs dream at Bethel Revelation 12: 7-12: Michael and he angels slay the dragon John 1: 47-end: Nathaniel under the fig tree	Theme: St Michael & All Angels
October 7 Trinity 18	Genesis 2.18 – 24: the creation of Eve Hebrews 1.1 – 4, 2.5 – 12: ‘What is man that thou art mindful of him’ Mark 10.2 – 16: Jesus teaching on marriage	Theme: Holding fast to God

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October 14 Trinity 19	Acts 16.6 – 12a: First use of “we” in Acts. 2 Timothy 4.5 – 17: Do the work of an evangelist Luke 10.1 – 9: Jesus appoints the 70	Theme: Sharing the Gospel
October 21 Trinity 20	Acts 16: 6-12a: Pauls vision of the man of Macedonia 2 Timothy 4: 5-17: Luke with Paul to the end Luke 10: 1 -9: Jesus sends out the 72	Theme: Luke the Evangelist
October 28 Bible Sunday	Isaiah 55: 1-11: God’s word will accomplish what it desires 2 Timothy 3: 14-4.5: scripture equips us for every good work John 5: 36b-end: we come to the Father through Jesus	Theme: Bible Sunday
November 4 All Saints	Wisdom 3.1 – 9: the souls of the just are in God’s hand Revelation 21.1 – 6a: a new heaven and a new earth John 11.32 – 44: the raising of Lazarus	Theme: The church triumphant
November 11 Remembrance	Jonah 3.1 – 10: Jonah’s prophecy against Nineveh Hebrews 9.24 – 28: Christ’s sacrifice for sin Mark 1.14 – 20: the call of the disciples	Theme: The call to repentance
November 18 2 before Advent	Daniel 12.1 – 3: a vision of the resurrection Hebrews 10.11 – 14 [15 – 18] 19 - 25: Christ’s offering perfect because it leads to a change of heart Mark 13.1 – 8: about the Apocalypse	Theme: The second coming
November 25 Christ the King	Daniel 7.9 – 10, 13 – 14: the vision of the Ancient of Days Revelation 1.4b – 8: the prologue to the 7 letters – ‘I am alpha and omega’ John 18.33 – 37: Pilate’s question: ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’	Theme: Christ the King