

Mass at Tetbury and Cirencester - Week commencing Saturday 30th July 2011

Saturday 30 th July 2011	St Peter's, Cirencester	6.00pm
Sunday 31st July 2011	St Michaels Tetbury	9.00am
	St Peter's, Cirencester	11.00am
Monday 1 st and Tuesday 2 nd August 2011	St Peter's, Cirencester	10.00am
Thursday 4 th Friday 5 th and Saturday 6 th August 2011	St Peter's, Cirencester	10.00am

Ministerial Lists

Sunday 31st July 2011

Minister of Holy Communion: Maggie Marum

Lector: Tony Morris

Flowers: Janet Booth

Church Cleaning: Week commencing 1st August 2011

Mary Kitchen and Helen Fathers

Sunday 7th August 2011

Minister of Holy Communion: Julia Hasler

Lector: Angela Oxenham

Flowers: Pip Mantell

Church Cleaning: Week commencing 8th August 2011

Mary Pollock and Jan Healey

Parish Office

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Davies MA

In case of emergency Father Michael can be contacted on: 01285 652087

St Michaels Office: 31 Silver Street, Tetbury, GL8 8DH Tel: 01666 502367

Parish Administrator: Elaine Wright

Email: elaine.wright@stmichaelstetbury.org.uk

Diocesan website: www.CliftonDiocese.com

St Michael's website: www.stmichaelstetbury.org.uk

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Parish Office Hours this week:

Tuesday	14.00 - 17.00
Thursday	10.00 - 14.30

Church Open for Quiet Prayer and Reflection:

Monday	11.00 - 13.00
Tuesday	14.00 - 17.00
Wednesday	10.00 - 12.00
Thursday	10.00 - 14.30

Saint Michaels Catholic Church Tetbury

31st July 2011

Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Our first reading gives us the famous occasion when God gives Solomon the opportunity to ask for whatever he wants. Solomon opts for wisdom. God is so pleased with this that he not only grants his request, but gives him wealth as well. The result is that Solomon is presented in the Bible as the most amazing king who ever walked the earth. His fame spreads far and wide. The Queen of Sheba comes to visit him, and is astounded by how wise and rich he is.

Two things bring us down to earth, as it were. According to the Bible account, Solomon went astray as he grew older. He took to himself foreign wives, and set about worshipping their gods, deserting the one true God who had been his friend and ally. Also, apparently he is unknown to historians, apart from what the Bible tells us. Could Solomon's story have been exaggerated, not to make it false, but to present us with the ideal king, everything a king should be?

Anyway, Jesus gives him an honourable mention like this:

'On Judgement day the Queen of the South will rise up with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and there is something greater than Solomon here.'

Maybe this shows us the true purpose of the Solomon story, as a prelude, a sort of warm-up for the presentation of Jesus himself. Jesus came to be King unlike all others. His aim was to acquire not land and possessions, but subjects for his Kingdom, people who would listen to his words, see what he did, change their minds about life, and follow him.

He would secure victory, not over human enemies, but over those who had resisted God from time immemorial, starting with Satan, the primeval serpent, the father of lies, who did everything he could to separate people from their God. He would establish true righteousness on earth, give his life for the salvation of all, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, bring the whole divine enterprise through to a triumphant conclusion.

Today's Gospel parables point us towards how we can respond to God's work going on among us. We are encouraged not only to find the treasure, but buy the field – in other words, to take on board what Jesus teaches and put it into action. The 'pearl of great price' consists not only in coming to Jesus himself, but in becoming his disciple, and discovering not only the cost, but the joy and peace he offers.

Fr Michael Davies

Welcome to St Michaels Church; if you are a visitor, we hope you enjoy your stay in Tetbury. If you are new to the parish, please complete a parish registration form and give to Elaine. Please join us for coffee in the hall after Mass.

Coffee on Sunday: Every Sunday after mass there is coffee in the hall. It is a great way to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Please join us and if you can help with making coffee etc please put your name on the list.

Michael Fest: We are in the process of organising our annual Michael Fest for Friday 30th September to 2nd October 2011. Please put the date in your diary; Bishop Declan Lang will be celebrating Mass with us on Sunday.

Clergy Revue: After a 10 year break, the Clergy Revue is back on Friday 30th September 2011 in aid of CAFOD. If you would like to purchase a ticket please contact 01823 338903.

St Peter's are organising a coach; if you would like to travel with them, please phone Loraine Broom; Tel: 01285 656725 asap.

Warning: The Avon and Somerset Constabulary have asked our help in distributing the wanted poster for a male, Robert KERR, born 1959, who has been travelling the country, committing Burglary and Fraud at numerous locations. His method of operation is normally to approach elderly lone persons, stating he is a priest from Ireland and has broken down. He states he needs cash to get the vehicle repaired to get to a funeral/ home etc. He calls at their home addresses and has obviously done his homework, in that they are generally linked to the local church in some way. Because of this, they part with varying amounts of cash. I have out the poster in the church porch along with the full notice received from the police about how he approaches people; please be careful and report to the police if you are approached.

Weekday Mass: As announced last weekend, Fr Michael will not be celebrating the Wednesday evening Mass during August. Fr Michaels has asked that if you would prefer a weekday Mass on another day or time in September to please let me know; thank you.

APF Red Boxes: Will you please bring your red boxes to church and leave in the Sacristy; in order for our parish representative Anne Walsh to count them and send the proceeds on, thank you.

Parish Office: Due to an appointment in Bristol, I will not be in the office on Friday.

Simon's Shoulder; Bear one another's burdens Galatians 6.2: In your Prayers please remember those parishioners and members of our families who are ill, housebound, or recovering from surgery, especially, Monica Whaley, Catherine Elgar, Emily Birrane, Sheila Kenny, Theresa Triggs, Patrick Dignan, Wilf Smith, Anne Dewey, Santina Long, Margery Brewer and all those injured in conflict. Please also remember in your prayers our clergy who are sick or recovering from illness.

May they rest in Peace; Please pray for those who have died recently especially the soldiers killed in Afghanistan; Pope Paul VI and all whose anniversaries fall at this time. May they all rest in peace in God's heavenly Kingdom, Amen.

EAST AFRICAN DROUGHT APPEAL: There is a retiring collection **today** for the emergency appeal by CAFOD on behalf of the DEC to aid the drought victims in East Africa. If you are a UK taxpayer please use and fill in a gift aid envelope at the back of the Church for your donation, thank you.

Parish Finance:

Sunday 24th July 2011 collection raised £90.00.

Thank you very much.

THE MASS

FIRST READING: Prophet Isaiah 55: 1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - 144:8-9.15-18

R. You open wide your hand, O Lord, you grant our desires.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, Slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

R. You open wide your hand, O Lord, you grant our desires.

The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time.

You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live.

R. You open wide your hand, O Lord, you grant our desires.

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him, call on him from their hearts.

R. You open wide your hand, O Lord, you grant our desires.

SECOND READING:

Letter of St Paul to the Romans 8: 35. 37-39

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

GOSPEL: Matthew 14: 13-21

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Book of Kings 19: 9.11-13

Letter of St Paul to the Romans 9: 1-5

Matthew 14: 22-33