

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER, DEVIZES

FIFTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

5 February **+3 Before Lent/Septuagesima**

8.00am Low Mass

9.15 Morning Prayer

10.00am Sung Mass, Sunday School & Sermon

6 February Monday

St. Paul Miki, Cc, Mm

7 February Tuesday

Feria

8 February Wednesday

Feria

9 February Thursday

Feria

7.00pm Low Mass with Holy Unction

10 February Friday

St. Scholastica, V

3.30pm Low Mass at Northgate Gardens

11 February Saturday

Our Lady of Lourdes

6.00pm Evening Prayer & Preparation for Communion

12 February **+2 Before Lent/Sexagesima**

8.00am Low Mass

9.15am Morning Prayer

10.00am Sung Mass, Sunday School & Sermon

5.00pm Devotions & Benediction

Readings Prov. 8:1 & 22-31; Col. 1:15-20; Mk. 1:40-45

Morning Prayer will be said at 8.00am & Evening Prayer at 6.00pm on most days.

Confessions after Evening Prayer on Saturday, or by appointment.

To arrange Baptisms and Marriages, please contact the Parish Priest on (01380)724785

The word of the Lord

Job 7:1-4. 6-7

In the words of Job, we hear the raw pain of a man in the midst of great personal suffering. His agony plagues him in the day and even in the night, as he tries, in vain, to sleep. The fear of never seeing joy haunts his existence.

This is a stark contrast to today's Gospel reading, in which Jesus comes to bring healing and new life. Without our hearts fixed on Christ, we can easily become mired in the troubles of this life. We have a way out of despair, and, unlike Job, we do not need to suffer despair's nagging presence. The healing which we seek in the darkest of times is eternally present in our Redeemer.

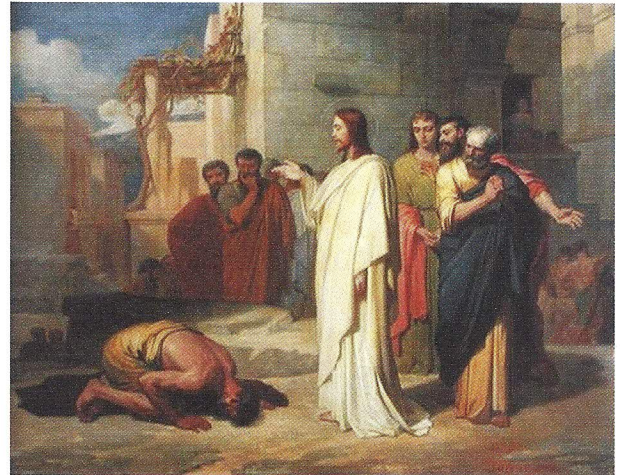
The saving work of Our Lord charts a path for us in which we can unite our sufferings with his, knowing that he walks with us. It is in that unity with our Redeemer that we also receive his powerful healing in our lives.

Forward!

Welcome to our celebration today

5th February 2012

5th Sunday in OT
The Third Sunday before Lent



“This is why I came.”

In today's gospel we are reminded how, during His earthly ministry, Jesus Christ literally transformed and saved the lives of many individuals. By healing the sick and by casting out devils Jesus liberated many from pain and suffering and in so doing He gave all the people the gift of hope.

This hope is in stark contrast to the first reading from Job who in today's passage longs for the hope and liberation which Christ would one day bring; a longing that is articulated in today's psalm, a psalm which speaks of a Lord who will “Heal the broken-hearted” and “bind up all their wounds.”

St Paul in today's passage from First Corinthians insists that the message of hope and liberation embodied in the gospel is so great that he “should be punished” if he did not proclaim it. By offering our lives to Christ we also share in His hope and liberation, as Jesus said “This is why I came!”

“In regard to the divine and holy mysteries of the faith, not the least part may be handed on without the Holy Scriptures. Do not be led astray by winning words and clever arguments. Even to me, who tell you these things, do not give ready belief, unless you receive from the Holy Scriptures the proof of the things which I announce. The salvation in which we believe is not proved from clever reasoning, but from the Holy Scriptures.”

Catechetical Lectures 4,17
CYRIL OF JERUSALEM

Saint of the Week

Our Lady of Lourdes

11th February

The Church keeps the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February. This day is the anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady to a 14 year girl called Bernadette Soubirous in 1858. She was collecting fire wood near a small grotto in the Pyrenean village of Lourdes, when she saw a vision of a beautiful woman, dressed in white, with a blue sash.



On a total of 18 occasions, the woman appeared to Bernadette, and eventually revealed herself to be Our Lady, describing herself as the “Immaculate Conception”. She asked Bernadette to scrape with her hands in the ground, and when she did, a spring of water bubbled up. As interest in the apparitions grew, people who used the waters of the spring were healed and many miracles were reported.

To this day, millions of pilgrims make their way each year to this small French town to ask for our Lady's prayers, pray for healing, and be renewed in their Christian discipleship.