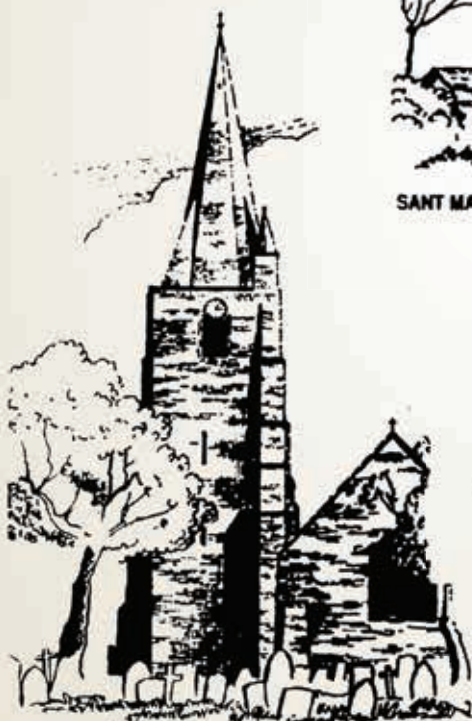


# Cylchgrawn Plwyfi Cydweli A Llandyfaelog

## Kidwelly & Llandyfaelog Parish Magazine



Y SANTES FAIR CYDWELI - ST. MARY'S KIDWELLY



SANT MAELOG LLANDYFAELOG - ST. MAELOG'S LLANDYFAELOG



"SAN" TEILO MYNYDDGARREG-ST. TEILO'S MYNYDDGARREG

November 2024

# WHO'S WHO

Priest-in-Charge: Father Jim Flanagan

The Vicarage, Castle Court Craylands Park

Kidwelly Carmarthenshire SA17 5EF

Tel: 01554 897091 Email: [frjimflanagan@gmail.com](mailto:frjimflanagan@gmail.com)

## ST MARY'S KIDWELLY

### Vicar's Wardens

Raymond Williams

01267 236034

### People's Warden

Gareth Harries

01554 890 975

### Sacristan

Simon White

01554 891512

### Minute Secretary

Mary Atkinson

01267 267751

### Treasurer

Diane Cuff

[dianecuff@hotmail.com](mailto:dianecuff@hotmail.com)

### Organist

Ceris Harries

### Friends of St. Mary's

Mr I Hughes 01554 890682

## ST TEILO'S, MYNYDDYGARREG

### Vicar's-Wardens

Nevin Davies

01554 890441

### People's Warden

Jayne Roberts

01554 891107

### Organist

Jean Peace

## ST MAELOG'S, LLANDYFAELOG

### Warden

Vacant

### Secretary

Kath Williams

01267 267391

### Treasurer

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01269 860385

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## **Pastoral Letter**

Dear Friends,

As many of you know the churches' year is divided into various seasons, Easter, Christmas and Advent are well known, but there are others.

Currently, we're in what's informally called "The Kingdom Season", which runs from All Saints' Day, or All Saints' Sunday to the eve of the First Sunday of Advent which, this year, falls on the first Sunday of December. The Kingdom season offers a time to celebrate and reflect upon the kingdom of God, ending with the great Feast of Christ the King on the 24th of November. We then return to the beginning of the story on Advent Sunday which is the beginning of the churches' year

In the Kingdom season the past, the present and the future are brought together and held in a time of now-ness. Looking to the past we remember:

The Saints – our ancestors in the faith who have gone before us to show us the way and from their labours rest, leaving behind their example and their teaching. On All Souls' we remember the Faithful Departed – the men and women who have been special to us in our lives and our faith journey and who we remember with thanksgiving and prayer. Those who lost their lives in war or who suffered terrible injury of body or mind we remember on remembrance Sunday.

Looking to the future, we anticipate the day when Christ will return as King, reigning on earth and in heaven and the hope and joy that this will surely bring.

And in the present, we reflect, yes on the return of Christ as King but also on the mystery of his Kingdom in which there is no past or future. Today, in this present moment, although limited by time and space, we're in union with the whole company, the whole citizenship of heaven, we're alongside the Saints and the angels in the Kingdom of God. At a time of remembrance, it is important that we do remember those who have died and passed into the presence of God, a place with no pain and no suffering only joy and peace. It is hard to let go of a loved one, but we should never forget that death is not the end of their story or ours as we will be reunited with them again in a place more wonderful than we can ever imagine. In the meantime, we can hold onto this sure hope and remember those who are no longer with us.

And in this Kingdom season, as we think about and reflect on the Kingdom of God – its freedom, its creativity, its joy and its unity we can perhaps, learn to long for the coming of that Kingdom more deeply than before, and re-commit ourselves to doing all we can to bring the reality and knowledge of God's kingdom into the kingdoms of this world, remembering these words from scripture set to music in Handel's Messiah: "The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever



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and ever. King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.”

Please come and join with your church as we mark the season of the Kingdom, there will be special services to mark All Souls and Remembrance Sunday and off course we will be celebrating All Saints and Kingdom Sunday. Keep an eye out for other events and services as we start the new church year on Advent Sunday with a Christingle Service and remember that in all the darkness of the world, the light of Christ will still shine brightly.

Blessings

Fr. Jim

## **St. Mary's News**

### **Advent course**

The dates and location for the Advent course are as follows

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Nov – St. Thomas' Church, Ferryside

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Nov – St. Maelog's Church, Llandyfaelog

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov – St. Ishmael's Church,

Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – St Teilo's Church, Mynyddygarreg

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Dec – All Saints' Church, Llansaint

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Dec – St. Mary's Church, Kidwelly

They will all start at 7pm and the service will be said Compline with prayers and reflections.

The course will be based on the Frys '5 Boys' Chocolate Advert of years past. Desperation, Pacification, Expectation, Acclamation, Realisation with a final one wrapping up our advent journey. Each week will focus on a different aspect of the coming incarnation. Lifts can be arranged for people that wish to come but may struggle with transport.

**100 Club** -The monthly draw took place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October following the 9.30am Eucharist service. Winning numbers were: 90, 19, 10. The next draw takes place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Application forms are available at the back of St. Mary's if you would still like to join.



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## **St. Mary's      Readers and Sidespeople for 9.30am**

### **Readers**

### **Sidespersons**

#### **November**

3<sup>rd</sup> Maureen James

Heather & Ken

**10<sup>th</sup>      9.45am Remembrance Sunday** No Welsh service

Mandy & Lynne

17th Brenda Evans

Maureen & Angela

24th Mary Atkinson

Kath & Alec

#### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> Kath Nicholas

Deirdre

If you would like to be added to the readers' list or sidespersons' list, please speak to Gareth.

**Wednesday readers** for St. Mary's 9.30am service -readings as Sundays unless stated otherwise.

06/11/24 Brenda Evans

13/11/24 Kath Nicholas

20/11/24

Deirdre Horsler

27/11/24 Jean Giess

04/12/24 Maureen James

#### **Harvest**

Thaks to everyone who made our harvest lunch such a success again this year. Donations amounting to £215.00 were added to church funds.

**Flower arranging** –. We will meet on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm in the Parish Room

#### **ALL SOULS**

We will be celebrating the feast of All Souls with a service on Monday the 4th of November at 7pm. This is the day when we remember those who have died in the past year and in years gone. It is also a chance to remember that death is not the end of our story, but that we will go on as we share in the hope of life eternal in the presence of God. It is a moving and thoughtful service and the names of those who have died will be read and prayers offered. There will be a chance to light a candle and reflect with our memories as we acknowledge that we will our dear departed again. If you want to have the name of a loved one read out, there will be forms at the back of all our churches in the weeks before. Please come and join in this most moving of services.

#### **Flower List      Altar Flowers**

3<sup>rd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Ceris Harries

17<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>

Advent No flowers



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## **Christingles**

Our service this year will be on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December. We meet in the Parish Room on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am to make the Christingles. Do come along and help us.

## **Plant Dewi**

If you have a yellow Plant Dewi collecting box, we will be opening them on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November following the 9.30am Eucharist service until midday.

**Nosferatu** – The first St. Mary's Film Night was a resounding success. Thanks to everyone for making it happen but especially to Andy Pike for a magnificent performance on the organ. It was so good to see so many people coming to church for this event. We made £396.00 for church funds. Well worth doing!

## **Floodlights**

*We thank all our sponsors*

01/11/24 Treasured Memories, and thankful of our years together on this the eighth anniversary of your passing. cariad mawr. X.

02/11/24 In Loving memory of my dear wife Anne on her 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Love always Martyn. Xx.

11/11/24 Atgofion penblwydd annwyl, a choffadwriaeth arbennig ar y dyddiad cylchwyl pwysig hwn . Xx.

16/11/24 In remembrance of a dear friend on his birthday. x

## **Thanks**

Heartfelt thanks to everyone for the love, kindness, flowers and numerous cards we received at the loss of Richard on 6<sup>th</sup> September. Special thanks to Autumn Leaf for their loving care and attention to everything.

Thanks to Fr. Jim for his visits to Richard and for the beautiful church service; also, to Revd. Roger Morley-Jones and Canon Bryan Witt for being in attendance.

Grateful thanks to Brenda, Dorothy and Mandy 'St. Mary's Angels' for the lovely buffet they provided after the service. God bless you all, love, Sheila, Julie and Janet. Xx

## **From St. Mary's Registers**

**Funeral**                      24<sup>th</sup> October Vernon Jones

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.



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## Prayer Stones

Thanks to Diane Morley-Jones for this meditation



Jesus saw some stones and rather than thinking of food, he thought of God.

Take these stones and see them as a reminder of the time Jesus spent praying to God.

God is with us and listens to us when we are happy.

God is with us and listens to us when we are sad.

God is with us and listens to us when we are lonely.

God is with us and listens to us when we are angry.

Forgive us when we try to do things ourselves and forget about you, God.

Thank you for being with us and listening to us. Amen.



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## What's On in our Group of Churches

**Events for the rest of 2024 – put them in your diary now!**

### **Remembrance, Advent & Christmas 2024**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November All Souls Service at 7.00pm in St. Mary's

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov – Remembrance Sunday 9.45am in St. Mary's - Collection will be for the RBL.

2.00pm in St. Maelog's, Llandyfaelog

Advent Course starts on 13<sup>th</sup> November in St. Thomas' Church Ferryside.

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December—Christingle Service in St Mary's 5:00pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December -Advent Taize service in St Mary's 7:00pm

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December Concert in St. Mary's TBC

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Community Carols in St. Teilo's at 7:00pm

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Concert in St. Mary's 7.00pm

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December -Carol singing around Kidwelly 6pm.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December Mince Pies and Mulled wine at the Vicarage

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December—9 lessons and carols in St Mary's 5:00pm

Christmas Eve – St Teilo Service 7.00pm

Christmas Eve - St Maelog's, Llandyfaelog Christmas service 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve -Midnight Mass in St Mary's, Kidwelly 11:30pm

Christmas Day -Christmas Eucharist in St Mary's 9:30am

Do keep an eye on our Facebook page for updated news.

**NB:** December's magazine will be a joint December2024 January 2025 issue.

Please get any items to me no later than 16<sup>th</sup> November please. *Editor*

### **Sudoku (October solution)**

1	3	7	5	6	9	2	4	8
6	2	8	7	4	1	9	5	3
5	4	9	2	8	3	6	1	7
2	9	1	6	3	7	5	8	4
3	8	6	4	9	5	7	2	1
4	7	5	8	1	2	3	9	6
7	1	3	9	5	4	8	6	2
9	6	2	1	7	8	4	3	5
8	5	4	3	2	6	1	7	9



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### **Branch News –**

Our meeting this month will be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 2.00pm in the Parish Room when Fr. Jim will be speaking to us. Please note the change of time to the programme.

**16 Days of Activism** will start on 25<sup>th</sup> November and continue until 10<sup>th</sup> December.

Our Carmarthen Archdeaconry vigil will take place on King Morgan Bridge, Carmarthen on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00pm.

### **Mothers' Union work Overseas**

Tackling Gender Based Violence is a key priority for Mothers' Union members around the world and is a focus for targeted action to lead to: MU and the church consistently challenging abuse and supporting survivors of GBV. (Gender Based Violence)

Improved advocacy to encourage more people to speak out against violence towards women and girls without fear.

The creation of safe spaces where people feel comfortable to discuss violence against women and to agree the steps needed to prevent this violence

Increased gender equality and a shift away from rigid gender stereotypes to improve opportunities for women to lead in local church and community led activities.

In South Africa, Uganda, Kenya and South Sudan, MU is working towards a vision of women and girls being able to thrive in every setting and live a life free of violence. MU is doing this by using our strength in the grassroots to share the views of people within the communities and to share learning on GBV, as many have different understandings of what GBV, and abuse is.

MU is proactively supporting survivors to access the services and help they need. This includes helping survivors to report abuse and enabling them to rebuild their lives and move beyond stigma and shame. In South Sudan, DRC, Rwanda, Burundi and Ethiopia, MU is building opportunities for women through savings & credit and literacy groups.



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These groups are building important life skills that help women take greater control of their lives, increase their independence, and start businesses and new activities that can contribute to a reduction in GBV. These groups are vital in tackling GBV as they are also creating spaces where women can safely open up and share their stories.



Please be aware, this poem contains reference to sexual abuse and rape

If it were between countries, we'd call it a war.  
If it were a disease, we'd call it an epidemic.  
If it were an oil spill, we'd call it a disaster.  
But it is happening to women, and it's just an everyday affair.  
It is violence against women.  
It is sexual harassment at work and sexual abuse of the young.  
It is the beating or the blow that millions of women suffer each and every day.  
It is rape at home or on a date.  
It is murder.  
There's no secret enemy pulling the trigger.  
No unseen virus that leads to death.  
It is only men. Not all men, but far too many men.

Michael Kaufman - White Ribbon Campaign 1991

St. Mary's has signed up for the Rise Up Campaign and has achieved the Bronze Award to date. Thank you for your support.

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The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

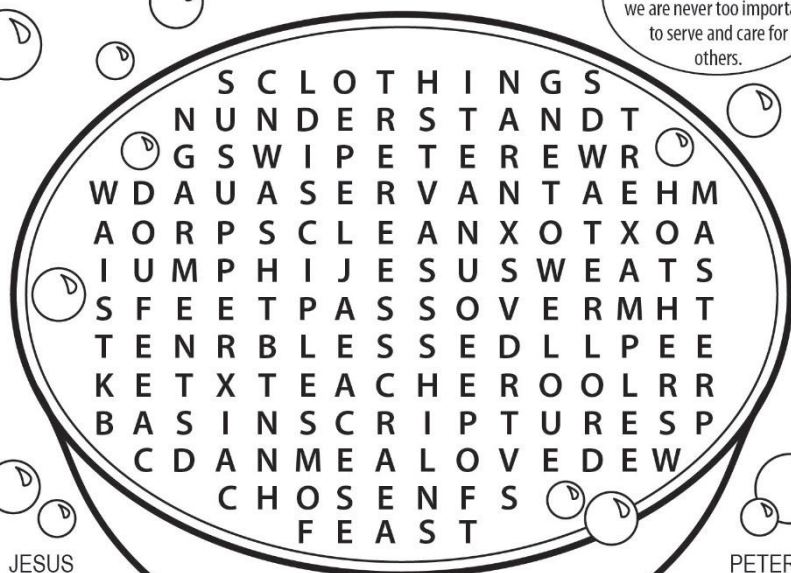


**READ**  
the story in  
*John 13:1-17*

*"Do you understand what I have done for you?  
Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed  
your feet, you also should wash one another's feet."*

*I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done for you."*

By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.



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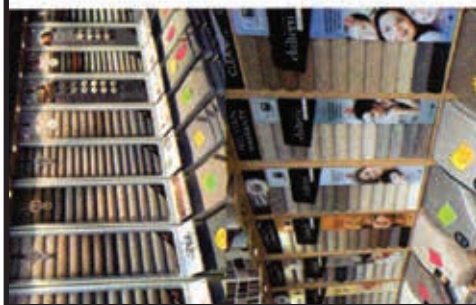


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## **Town News**

### **Trinity Methodist Church**

#### **Christmas Fayre**

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### **Royal British Legion**



Our meeting this month is the AGM and will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm in Kidwelly Rugby Club.

10<sup>th</sup> November - The Service of Remembrance will be in St. Mary's at 9.45am. Please note that the collection will be for the Royal British Legion.

If anyone would like to order wreaths for the War Memorial, please contact either David Taylor 07770 798 703 or Dave McFarlane 07766 212 274 for details. A £10 deposit is required when ordering.

### **Remembrance**

The month of Remembrance may be especially poignant this year.

War in the Middle East is spreading rapidly, while Russia's invasion of Ukraine grinds on, and Sudan's civil war causes widespread famine. Throughout the world, millions of people's lives are being turned upside down, with no hope of peace and security in sight.

It is indeed a time for Christians everywhere to pray for peace, based on justice and mercy.



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It also a time to remember the victims of many natural disasters this year; from hurricanes, typhoons and disastrous floods to wildfires and extreme drought. Charities working among these suffering need our support.

But 24<sup>th</sup> November, the Sunday of Christ the King, reminds us that this world with its evil and unfairness will not be allowed to go on forever. Jesus Christ has overcome death and will return to us one day. And HIS Kingdom will be one of justice and righteousness, with no more tears, and He will reign forever. Amen! May the Lord bless you and keep you, amid any personal uncertainties you may be facing.

### **Welsh Conversation class**

If you have some knowledge of Welsh and would like to improve your conversation, then do come along to the Parish Room on Monday evenings between 6.30pm-7.30pm. A warm welcome awaits you.

### **KIDWELLY SENIOR CITIZENS**

We have sadly lost one of our oldest and longstanding members, Betty Davies. Betty was our previous secretary who held the position until she had to give it up due to ill health. So many of our members were friends with her and we will miss her sorely. Such a lovely, gentle and kind lady. We send our Condolences to her children and families.

We had a lovely sunny day for our trip to Mumbles, a great lunch and finishing the afternoon on the sea front enjoying a Joe's ice cream. Joio! Our final trip for this year will be to Cardiff on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. If any non-members would like to join us, contact Jackie on 01554 891399, £25.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm at the Rugby Club.

### **Adverts - Disclaimer**

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## TY GOLAU

### OCTOBER 2024

Well, we hit the ground running when we started our sessions again in September and we haven't stopped since! We began with a session on anniversaries and notable dates over the last year. We didn't realise just how many special dates there were to talk about until we noticed that we had spent the previous hour and a half talking about them!

One of our favourite sessions each year is *Where in the World?* This topic is enjoyed by service users, carers and volunteers alike because the volunteers dress up, representing different countries of the world. We saw fashions from the Far



East, from Africa; Sioni Winwns was there with, yes, onions, and Jan, our manager, came as Cleopatra! We were particularly pleased that a couple of the carers had come in costume as well.

Any excuse to dress up and Jan is there! When we spent a recent morning being quizzed on Autumn, she managed to persuade two of the other volunteers, Mary and Janice, to join her, and there they were, covered in leaves and bearing more than a passing resemblance to mounds of leaves. Thanks are due to Mary who sewed all the leaves on the three costumes.

Another of our favourite sessions is the *Olde Sweet Shoppe* and, no, Jan did not come dressed as Bertie Bassett, advertising their Liquorice Allsorts – there are some disguises even *she* draws the line at! Although some of the modern sweets and chocolates got a look-in, the session was mainly concentrating on those sweet stuffs that were available when we were young. And there were so many of them! From liquorice sticks to chocolate mice, from Five Boys bars to Bazooka bubble gum. It does beg the question though – why don't we see these sweets anymore, given they were so popular?

We had a session full of fun when Jan quizzed the service users on people who used to make us laugh. Some of the personalities who featured in the quiz came from way back when, and we all remembered how funny we found them, funnier sometimes than the comedians who are around now.

So we will continue in this vein, with quizzes prompting us all – whether we be service user, carer or volunteer – to spend each Monday morning reminiscing about the Good Old Days.

Elaine Morrisroe

Publicity Officer

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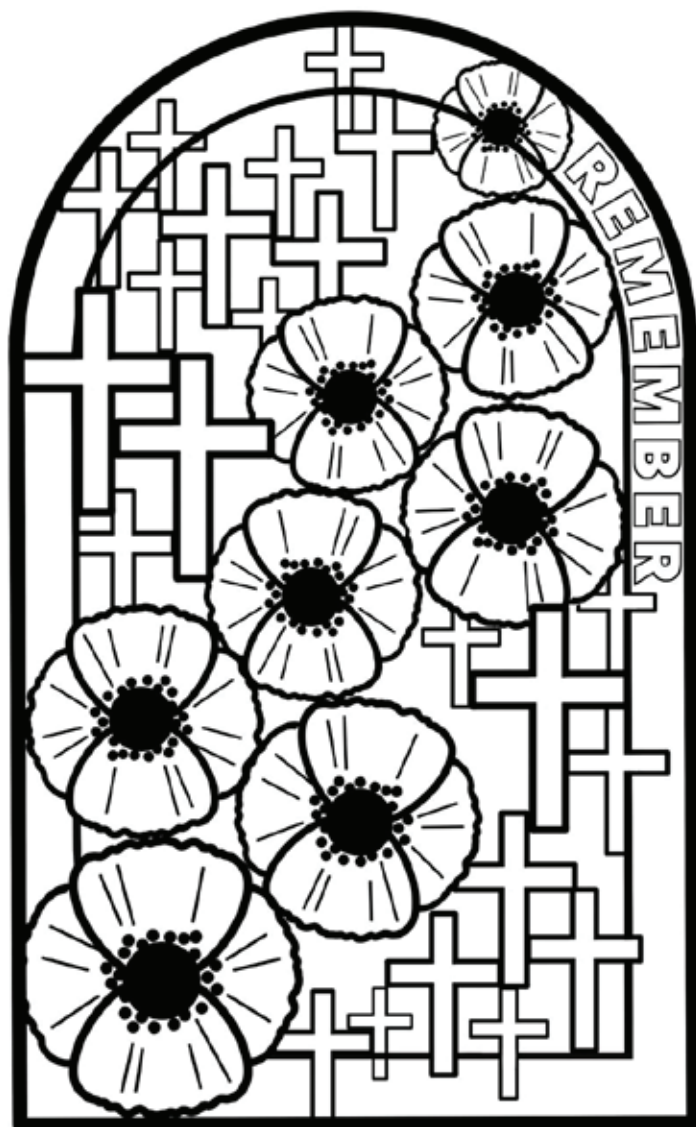
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## **Newyddion St. Teilo News**

As we read this month's edition, we have entered a new time zone with the clocks having been turned back by an hour, further emphasizing the dark nights and winter's approach. But there is an upside to it when at night we close the curtains for an evening in the glow of lit candles, dimmed lights, warm fires and hot hearty meals; it is a time of reflection. We will have observed All Souls Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, remembering all our loved ones departed, who were so important in our lives. Memory is a wonderful thing, it can bring so much happiness as we recall treasured times which often, outweigh the sad times.

And then we have time to wait and prepare for Advent, a most special and important time in our Calendar. We can use this month in quiet contemplation of the miracle that follows Advent before the commercial rush of Christmas starts. Yes, shut the curtains on the dark but embrace each new dawn which can be full of wonder.

Over 50's Club. As we approach the month of November, we are conscious of another year going by and that our meeting on the 6th of November is our last one for 2024. Our December get together will be at the Three Rivers Hotel Ferryside for our annual Christmas lunch, with entertainment by 'Crows Foot'. Our October meeting took its usual form by opening with the Lord's prayer and the reading of the minutes. The raffle was won by Helen whom we welcomed back, and the bingo was won by Ann. Thanks to Gina and Carl for serving the teas and coffee with the biscuits supplied monthly by our chairperson Jean Fox. Our Birthday Lady for October was Barbara, our best wishes to her for happy days. The visit to the Plough Inn at Rhosmaen for an afternoon tea was a very desirable treat. Aeres and Barbara have planned a visit to Pontypridd on a market day for some Christmas Shopping on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Anyone wishing to join us please contact Aeres Jenkins on 07531430096. In September, Barbara organized an outing to the Cotswolds and ten of us had a most enjoyable time. We visited Stratford and, following an overnight stay at Leamington, Sunday morning was spent at Leamington Spa and then we travelled on to the Cotswolds for a visit to a Gin and Whisky Distillery. A most interesting time was had there in a delightful setting and of course, the sampling went down a treat. We ended the day in the beautiful town of Stow on the Wold. Many thanks to Barbara for arranging this outing, we all had a wonderful time.

Neuadd Mynyddgarreg will hold the Annual Fireworks display on Tuesday 5th November, entry from 6.00pm for a 7.30 display. The event being a community one, it receives a generous sponsorship from the Town Council, to whom the Committee are grateful. There will be the popular 'Men in Lights' display and a



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BBQ, Soup stall, Sweet stall etc., Entry fee is £3 adults, Children £1. Everyone is most welcome at this well monitored event, and we as a community are all very indebted to the Committee and friends for staging such an amazing event that both young and old enjoy.

Sant Teilo's Harvest Festival was as ever a wonderful day. First, the pupils of Ysgol Mynyddgarreg had their afternoon service, entertaining a full Church of family and friends with beautiful songs and readings. They all enjoyed taking part and the Ficer's message. They kindly brought along donations of food items for the Foodbank and a collection was made for their related village in Luhimba, a project the school has been involved with for years. Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r plant ac i'r Athrawon am eu hyfforddi.

In the evening a full Church enjoyed a Service, with the guest Preacher being the Rev. Glenys Payne. A warm thank you to our organist, Jean Peace, who played for us despite having had an eye procedure carried out only the week before.

Following the service, a sumptuous Harvest Supper was enjoyed, prepared by the small band of ladies for which the congregation were very grateful. The raffle was organized by Sandra Thorpe who provided most of the prizes. Felly, diolch yn fawr i ti Sandra am wneud y Raffl, ni wîr yn gwerthfawrogi dy waith.

And of course, a huge thanks to friends for coming along to make the evening a memorable and successful one. We are but few as members therefore we appreciate your loyal support to the 'Eglwys Fach '. Donations of food brought along will go to the Foodbank and proceeds from the Harvest Supper go to Church funds. Diolch yn fawr i bawb, aelodau a ffrindiau am fod mor barod i gefnogi ein Eglwys Fach Sant Teilo.

And a reminder that on Sunday 8th December at 7.00pm, we will be holding our Annual Community Carol Service under the polished baton of Ioan Hefin. Taking part will be Côr OMA, and the evening will end with mince pies and punch. There is no admission fee, but a collection will be taken for Church funds.

Capel Horeb's Harvest Thanksgiving Service was very enjoyable with the Rev. Betty Wyn James, Carmarthen taking the service. A well-attended congregation appreciated a thought provoking and meaningful Sermon. Organist was Mrs Eleanor Nicholson, Cydweli.

Listeners of Radio Cymru's ' Bore Cothi ' recently would have heard Heledd Cynwal talking to Ioan Hefin about his earliest recollections as a young child, brought up in Mynyddgarreg. A very interesting interview took place, when Ioan was recounting his happy beginnings in village life and the people who helped shape his future in his career which of course is in the arts, namely acting.



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In particular he said, he owed the late Mr Joel Gravell, Band leader, a great debt as having inspired and coached him as a young band member of Mynyddgarreg Silver Prize Band, in a great love of music.as indeed was his father before him. We all in the village proudly remember the Band and Joel's great dedication at that time. Ioan is currently working on a stage presentation at the Wales Millenium Centre, Cardiff, of ' Pontypool ' and he is also currently acting in S4c's Sunday night drama ' Cleddau '. Again, we are proud of Ioan and fondly refer to him as the man who never forgets his roots and our community. Another addition to his credits is that he is Choirmaster of Côr OMA in the village and, despite his heavy workload, finds time in his busy career to undertake this task readily and skilfully. Ein diolch mowr i ti Ioan am dy gefnogaeth inni a dymuno parhad i dy lwyddiant yn dy yrfa. DR

### **FLOWER ROTA**

NOVEMBER Margaret Hughes No flowers in Advent

DECEMBER Dorian Reeve

### **READER'S ROTA**

3rd November Lisa Flanagan

17th November Christine Thorpe

1st December Nicola Reeve

### **8<sup>th</sup> November 4 Crowned Martyrs**

Has your boss ever tried to get you to do something that is against your Christian faith? If so, here are some saints for you. They chose to make a Christian 'stand' at work, even though it really irritated their boss.

Claudius, Nicostratus, Simpronian and Castorius were simple stonemasons in early 4<sup>th</sup> century Rome. They worked in the imperial quarries and workshops of Sirmium. They made a number of carvings for the Emperior Diocletian, who had a passion for building.

Then Diocletian decided he wanted a statue of Aesculapius, the ancient Greek god of medicine. Here Claudius, Nicostratus, Simpronian and Castorius hesitated: they were Christians, and not comfortable about making a 'god'. They demurred. Their line manager Lampadius was furious, and soon had them imprisoned for refusing to sacrifice to the gods. Claudius and his friends were in bad trouble – and then it got worse. Lampadius suddenly died. His family were distraught and blamed the stonemasons. Claudius and his companions were killed by drowning.

The courage of these four simple stonemasons to risk everything rather than make a stone statue of a god, was a great inspiration in the early Church. Their story was told and retold down the centuries eventually Claudius and his friends became the patron saints of guilds of stonemasons in England.

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## Newyddion Sant Maelog News

### **Blodau/flowers**

3-10 November Sarah Walters 17-24 November Liz Smith

1-8 December No flowers

### **Readers**

3/11/24 Sarah Walters 10/11/24 Edwin Atkinson 17/11/24 Kath Williams

24/11/24 Ffion a Hafana 1/12/24 Sarah Walters

### **Door**

3/11/24 Sarah Walters 10/11/24 Edwin and Shan 17/11/24 Kath Williams

24/11/24 Sally Rees 1/12/24 Sarah Walters

**Thank you** to everyone who took part in the Harvest Thanksgiving service it was lovely to see the church full. It was also great to have the local children singing and the YFC taking part in the readings. The church was beautifully decorated in the harvest theme and the service was then followed by a harvest supper in the Red Lion.

**Condolences** to the family of the late Sheila Nicholas whose funeral service was held on the 14 October.

**Belated** birthday wishes to Dilys Rees who celebrated her 101st birthday in October. Penblwydd hapus iawn i ti Dilys, hyr iechyd.

**Congratulations** to Nicola Jones for being awarded Woman of the year in the UK packaging awards.

### **Thanks**

David and Marjorie Thomas would like to thank everyone for the cards and who called at the house for their 50th wedding anniversary celebrations.

Apologies the results of the summer garden competitions were missed out from last month's issue so here they are and congratulations to all the winners.

Best garden and the winner of the Dennis Davies shield - Fforest Uchaf

### **Best Vegetable Garden**

1st Fforest Uchaf 2nd 20 St Anne's, Cwmffrwd

3<sup>rd</sup> Penrhiw, Croesyceiliog

### **Highly Commended**

13 Ffrwdwen, Cwmffrwd

### **Best Large Garden**

1st Carreg Wen, Llandyfaelog 2nd Pentywyn, Croesyceiliog

3<sup>rd</sup> Fforest Uchaf, Llandyfaelog

**Highly Commended** Gellideg, Glanmorlais



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### **Best Small Garden**

1st 20 St Anne's, Cwmffrwd      2nd 3 Bro Pedr, Llandyfaelog  
3rd 14 St Anne's, Cwmffrwd

### **Garden in Containers**

1st 7 Ffrwdwen, Cwmffrwd      2nd Llygaid yr Efail, Upland Arms  
3rd Ysgubor Hen, Llandyfaelog

The winner of the Scarecrow competition that was held in August and won the -  
Mair Stephens shield  
Fforest Uchaf.

**Well done** to Llinos Jones and Caroline Stiles who were in the team that came third in the Welsh Indoor Bowling Championships.

### **What's on**

**YFC** 90th Anniversary dinner at the Diplomat hotel on the 9th of November names to Gethin Jones Ystradferthyr. Tickets are £35 and children are £15.

**Noson curry** i codi arian i'r eglwys Red Lion      Nos fawrth 12 Tachwedd.  
On the 12<sup>th</sup> November curry night at the Red Lion proceeds to the church.  
Fwy o manylion wrth Shan Rees

**Golau coeden nadolig** a Sion Corn Nos lun 2ail o Rhagfyr am 7 o'r gloch gyda stondinau nadolig.

Christmas tree lighting with Father Christmas at the village hall on the 2nd of December at 7pm. There will be a chance to do some Xmas shopping with local craft and food stalls.

### **Smile Lines      What bishops do**

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?" There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."

### **Tractors**

A little girl was watching her daddy repair his tractor. She asked her mother, "What happens to old tractors when they finally stop working?" Sighing, her mother answered: "Someone sells them to your father, dear."



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## **Parish Readings for October 2024**

Red Lectionary pages in []

### **3<sup>rd</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom/All Saints**

Liturgical Colour: White

**Eucharist:** Isaiah 25.6-9, Ps 24, Rev 21. 1-6a and John 11.32-44 [p731]

**Evening Prayer:** Psalm 145 or 145.1-9; Daniel 2.1-11,]12-24]25-28;

Revelation 7.9-17

Reader: Ted Rowlands

### **10<sup>th</sup> November 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom** Liturgical Colour Green/Red

**Eucharist:** Jonah 3.1-5,10; Psalm 62.5-12; Mark 1.14-20 [p739]

**Evening Prayer:** Psalm 46;[82]; Isaiah 10.33-11.9; John 14. [1-22,]23-29

Reader Jenny Jones

### **17<sup>th</sup> November 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom** Liturgical Colour Green/Red

**Eucharist:** Daniel 12.1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10.11-14, [15-18], 19-25;

Mark 13.1-8 [p745]

**Evening Prayer:** Psalm 95; Daniel 3 or 3.13-30; Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Reader: Kath Nicholas

### **24<sup>th</sup> November 4<sup>th</sup> Christ the King/ Sunday of the Kingdom** Liturgical Colour Green/Red

**Eucharist:** Daniel 7.9-10,13,14; Psalm 93; Revelation 1.4b-8; John 16.33-37 [p751]

**Evening Prayer:** Psalm 72. Or 72.1-7; Daniel 5; John 6. 1-15

Reader: Brenda Evans

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent** Liturgical Colour: Purple

**Eucharist:** Jeremiah 33.14-16; Psalm 25.1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13; Luke 21.25-36 [p755]

**Evening Prayer:** Psalm 9. Or 9.1-8; Joel 3.9-21; Revelation 14.13-15.4

Reader Ted Rowlands

# **Jason Williams Removals**

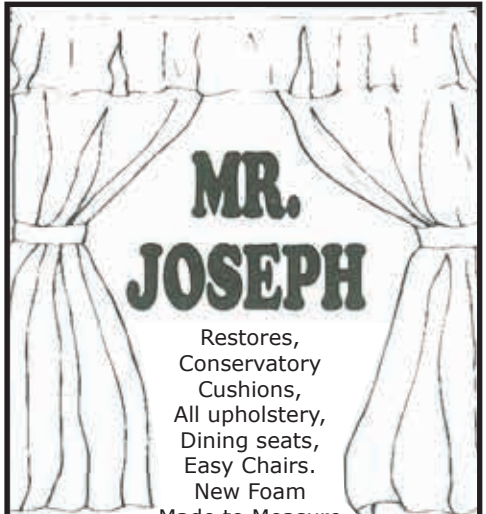
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## Reflecting Faith: Wall Painting

*Revd. Dr. Jo White considers church art*

Prior to the Reformation, English churches were highly decorated with interior wall paintings. As one author wrote, '*They were aglow with colour and images covering every flat surface*'.

Painting pictures seems to be a basic part of people. We see that in newly discovered caves where people from the distant past have made sketches and created art works.

Pictures are more than just communicating a 'flat' story.

Just as we all have our preferred ways of learning – listening, watching, reading, practising – so I suspect we also have for explaining. How much more so, then, when we want to get across really important information; and it doesn't get much more serious than telling others about God.

Of course, we know the Early Church, at the very beginning, followed the Jewish tradition of not drawing a likeness of God and hence they used signs and symbols. But that didn't stop them from drawing pictures about everything else: stories from the Bible, lives of the saints, and so on. There was no shortage of pictures to be drawn.

There are not many English churches which still have wall paintings, but if you visit an Orthodox church in the UK or if you get the opportunity to enter one when on the Continent, you will see that every inch (centimetre) of the inside plaster is likely to be covered in wall paintings. Quite literally, painting on the wall!

Today, instead of painting on the wall in the UK, we seem to be increasing the number of banners that hang on them, and changing them often, to match the church calendar.

***This month:*** Have a look at the wall paintings or banners in your own or a different church. What do you think the designers were trying to say? What message do they give you that words alone could not have accomplished?



## **The story behind the hymn ‘To God be the Glory’**

Fanny Crosby (1820 – 1915), the American singer and musician, was blind from the age of six weeks. She married her music teacher, Alexander Van Alstyne, who was also blind. She was a prolific songwriter, and once signed a contract with a publisher to write three songs every week throughout the year. But in fact, she wrote thousands during her lifetime.

Although American evangelists Moody and Sankey used this hymn on their missions, it did not become an immediate favourite. But after Billy Graham featured it in his Harringay crusade in 1954, Londoners were soon singing it on their way home, in streets and busy queues and underground trains.

When Dr Graham took it back to the United States and introduced it at his crusade in Nashville, Tennessee, it soon took its place in the group of top favourites hymns.

### **To God Be the Glory**

To God be the glory, great things He hath done  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life our redemption to win,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord*

*Let the earth hear His voice*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,*

*Let the people rejoice.*

*Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,*

*And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.*

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood

To every believer the promise of God.

The vilest offender who truly believes,

That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,

And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son

But purer, and higher, and greater will be

Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.

*By Fanny Crosby (1820 – 1915)*

## **Should we have faith in science?**

*Written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.*

How do you feel about science after all the grief of the recent pandemic?

Are you tired or interested, impressed or cynical – or a bit of everything?

The response to COVID-19 over the past few years has demonstrated how ideology or worldview are hugely influential in our interpretation and use of scientific data – and at times in the process of experimentation itself. Should we trial a vaccine in Spain or South Africa? Is this treatment safe enough to administer to the general public? Should vaccination be made compulsory? The data doesn't tell us what to do.

So, when we are encouraged to 'trust the science' in our ongoing response to the pandemic, or in our response to climate change, how can the Church respond?

The whole biblical story affirms that God is the only one in whom we can have complete faith. On the other hand, I do put a certain amount of trust in other things. I can have faith in a plane, a body of knowledge, or a person. This trust is within limits because I know that air travel involves hazards, a body of knowledge will contain some mistakes, and every ordinary human is fallible.

I trust science to some extent because it involves careful observation and measurement, collecting different kinds of evidence. Data is interpreted, and competing interpretations are tried out. We summarise our findings in general principles or mathematical equations. Scientists keep each other accountable by looking critically at each other's work. Our knowledge is always provisional. You can't prove anything scientifically because we only deal in evidence, not proof.

On the other hand, there must always be the potential to disprove a theory or it's not science. Our aim is to keep getting nearer to the truth about the way the world is. Overall, I believe this method is reliable and worth supporting, but that only God is completely trustworthy.

Psalm 8 reminds us of the splendour of God's creation, and that He has placed us in a position of responsibility over it. Scientific knowledge can be part of what helps us to rule well. The process of doing science can be a bit like a blurry image coming into focus. The more we learn, the better we can usually see what's going on, and hopefully the easier it is to decide on a course of action. So, in answer to the question 'Should we have faith in science?' I would say yes, when used wisely and within its proper limits.

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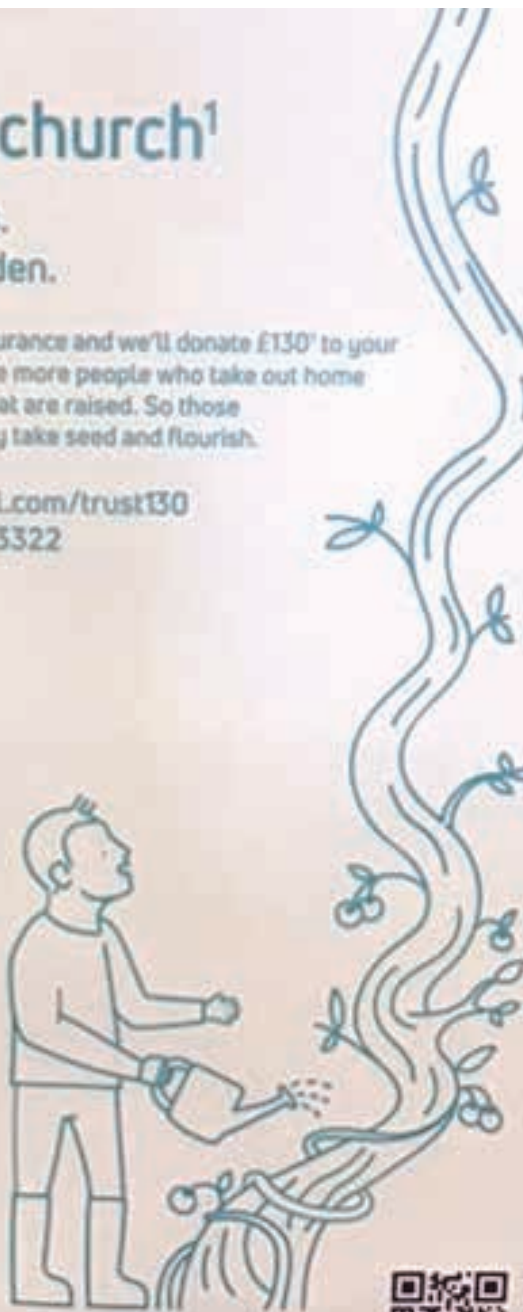


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## Some Useful Phone Numbers

### Churches & Chapels

Capel y Morfa: Mr. Gwyndaf Jones  
01554 753868

Our Lady and St. Cadog:-  
01554 832520

Trinity Methodist: Mr. Peter Burt  
01554 890 605

### Health

Kidwelly Health Visitor 01554 890560

Minafon Surgery 01554 890234

Chemist 01554 890279

West Wales General Hospital,  
Carmarthen 01267 235151

Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli  
01554 756567

### Local Authority

Kidwelly Town Council 01554 890203

Llandyfaelog Community Council  
01267 267647

Carmarthenshire County Council  
01267 234567

### Halls

Princess Gwenllian Centre, Kidwelly  
01554 891801

Llandyfaelog Welfare Hall  
Arfon Davies

[llandyfaelog@btinternet.com](mailto:llandyfaelog@btinternet.com)  
Mynydd-y-Garreg Welfare Hall:  
Andrea Gower 01554 890670

### Schools

Ysgol-y-Castell 01554 890762

Ysgol Gwenllian 01554 890523

Ysgol Mynydd-y-Garreg 01554 810670

Glan-y-Mor Comprehensive School,  
Burry Port 01554 832507

### Youth

1<sup>st</sup> Kidwelly Scouts - Shan Cheesman  
01267 267620 or 07790117904

Youth Council – Jeanette Gilasbey  
01554 892729

### Senior Citizens

Llandyfaelog Senior Citizen Association

Mrs. Maureen Howells 0127 223768  
Mynydd-y-Garreg Senior Citizens Jean  
Fox 01554 891344

Kidwelly Senior Citizens Association:

Mrs. Bobbie Hope, 01554 890520  
Kidwelly Welfare Committee: Mrs.  
Helene Cresser 01554 890550

### Other Organisations

Country Cars: Mrs. E. Nicholson  
01554 890188

Kidwelly Local History Society: Mr.  
Malcolm MacDonald 891090

Police: 0845 3302000

Mothers' Union: Mrs. Pearl Rowland  
01554 890578

Royal British Legion: Trevor Eliot  
07807710699

Ty Golau: Janet Lewis 01554 890896  
WI President: Nannette Jones 01554  
890206

St. Mary's Kidwelly

3<sup>rd</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom/All Saints

9.30am Choral Eucharist  
6.00pm Evening Prayer

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

7.00pm All Souls Service

10<sup>th</sup> November

Remembrance Sunday

9.45am Royal British Legion  
Service of Remembrance  
No Welsh service

6.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November

2.00pm Mothers' Union  
7.00pm Advent course in St. Thomas' Church Ferryside

17<sup>th</sup> November 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom

9.30am Choral Eucharist  
6.00pm Evening Prayer

24<sup>th</sup> November 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom

9.30am Family Eucharist  
6.00pm Evening Prayer

27<sup>th</sup> November

7.00pm Advent course in St. Ishmael's Church

1<sup>st</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

9.30am Choral Eucharist  
5.00pm Christingle Service

Sunday School 9.30am in the Parish Room

Wednesdays at 9.30am in the Lady Chapel Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing using 1984 service

Services

November

St Maelog's, Llandyfaelog

3<sup>rd</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom/All Saints

11.15am Bilingual Mattins

10<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Sunday

2.00pm Service of Remembrance

17<sup>th</sup> November 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

20<sup>th</sup> November

7.00pm Advent Course

24<sup>th</sup> November 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom

11.15am Bilingual Family Eucharist

1<sup>st</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

11.15am Bilingual Mattins

St Teilo's, Mynyddgarreg

3<sup>rd</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom/All Saints

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

17<sup>th</sup> November 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Kingdom

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

1<sup>st</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

4<sup>th</sup> December

7.00pm Advent Course