

Cylchgrawn Plwyfi Cydweli A Llandyfaelog

Kidwelly & Llandyfaelog Parish Magazine



Y SANTES FAIR CYDWELI - ST. MARY'S KIDWELLY



SANT MAELOG LLANDYFAELOG - ST. MAELOG'S LLANDYFAELOG



"SANT" TEILO MYNYDDOGARREG-ST. TEILO'S MYNYDDOGARREG

February 2025

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Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

If you have not yet taken down your decorations for Christmas, you will not be alone. For some of our brothers and sisters in Christ, notably those from the Orthodox traditions of the east, Christmas decorations remain up through the season of Epiphany and only come down at Candlemas. The date for this is always the 2nd of February and is 40 days after Christmas. I can see some sense in keeping decorations up until this point as January is never one of the brighter months and perhaps a few lights and a bit of tinsel left up during these damp and cold days could add a little much needed cheer.

The feast of Candlemas is one of those “We have heard of it, but what is it?” dates in the church calendar and I am sure that there are some clergy who have little idea what it actually celebrates. It marks the day that Christ was presented at the temple. Tradition was that this happened 40 days after birth and the child would be blessed and the mother would be ritually purified after giving birth. The event is recorded in Luke’s gospel and the infant Jesus and his family meet Simeon and Anna, both elderly servants of the Temple who had given years of their lives to its worship. According to the Biblical account, the Holy Spirit came to Simeon and revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Christ of God. Upon taking Jesus into his arms, he uttered a prayer which we still use today, the beautiful *Nunc Dimittis*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Simeon is known as the ‘God recogniser’: he was one of the first people to realise who the infant actually was and when it happened, he knew that his life was complete. He had seen and recognised the light of the world. This brings us back to Candlemas as there is a tradition that this is the day that people would bring their candles into the church to be blessed for the coming year. The hope being that whilst the candles defeated the darkness in the traditional sense, they would act as a reminder and encouragement to people to bring the light of Christ to places and people where the spiritual darkness caused pain and distress.

After Candlemas we enter into a few weeks of what is known liturgically as ordinary time. The colour green is seen in our churches and at this time it reminds us well that Spring is just around the corner and the first green shoots of the year are emerging to encourage us that warmer days and the brightness of new growth

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is coming. As we recognise this, we can also recognise that Christ is the light of the world and that the darkness can be defeated.

My friends, the world can be a dark and cold place at times, but this need not be the case. Like Simeon we can recognise the glory of Christ and that his spirit is moving in this place. We too, in our actions and deeds, can bring light and hope to those who still exist in gloom and despair. For this is our mission and God is with us as we carry on with hope and joy.

Blessings
Fr. Jim

St. Mary's News

The Friends of St. Mary's Winter Raffle Draw

This was held on Saturday, November 23rd so it was too late to publish in the last magazine. All 600 tickets were sold, and the total profit was £660 as there were donations included. Printing of tickets was sponsored once again by Mr. David Gravell, Muddlescwm and the draw made by his son, Tom and Erin.

The first prize of the short break for four people at Tanylan Holiday Cottages donated by Mr & Mrs John Evans was won by Zara Beynon, Holloway Farm. Second prize, the Limousine Day trip to Cardiff for six people, donated by Mr & Mrs Ian Smith, Autumn Leaf, was won by Eleri Evans. The £50 cash third prize donated by the Friends, was won by Mrs Christine Evans. Prize four, the luxury hamper, donated by Mrs Beryl Beynon, was won by Jennifer Warren. The bottle of Mr Speaker's House of Commons Whisky, prize five donated by Mrs Elizabeth Antoniazzi and Ms Tonia Antoniazzi, M.P. was won by Mr Brian Beynon.

Other prizes were various gift vouchers, two CD's, a brooch, wine and a flowerpot. Our generous donors were: members of Kidwelly Mothers' Union, Mr & Mrs Simon White, Ceris and Gareth Harries, Kath Nicholas, Mrs Heather Davies, Juliette Azzopardi, Mr Brian Lewis and Mrs Christine Hughes. The winners of these prizes were: Revd. Roger Morley-Jones, Mrs Eileen Bryant, Felicity Williams, Mr John Morris, Juliette Azzopardi, Will (a family dog), Alun Trussler, Stan (c/o Canon Witt), and Karen (c/o Lynne Davies).

A big thank you to everyone who, once again supported the raffle in any way.
KN Friends' Secretary.

100 Club -Winners for Wednesday 4th December were 28,2,91
Wednesday 1st January 2025 were 27,9,8



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February's draw will take place on Wednesday 5th following the 9.30m service. It's time to renew subscriptions for the 100 club.

Application forms are available at the back of St. Mary's if you would like to continue your membership this year. Subscriptions are £24.00 for the year and should be paid in no later than Sunday March 23rd 2025.

This scheme brings in much needed income for the church and your support has been greatly appreciated.

Angel Tree

The angel tree messages raised £186.00. We thank Maureen James for coordinating this. Money was deposited in the general church fund.

Flower arranging –. We meet on Thursday 13th February 2025 at 7.00pm when the theme will be Valentine's Day.

Our Flower Festival will be held over the weekend of our patronal festival in August. If you would like to help in any way, do let us know.

Thanks

We have come to the end of an era! We owe a debt of gratitude to Mrs Eileen Bryant who has reluctantly stepped down after many years from sorting the magazine month by month for the distributors. This task will be taken on by Mrs Mandy Jones. Thank you Mandy. Thanks too, Mary and Edwin for collecting the magazine from the printers and Gareth for delivering to distributors. Thank you, team. All your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Subscriptions for the magazine are due in February and are still £5 for the year.

Flower List Altar Flowers

2nd /16th February June Lloyd

23rd Feb/2nd March

Lent No Flowers

Our flower fund is much depleted, and we do need volunteers to come onto the flower arranging list if we are to maintain having flowers in church week by week. If you think you can help, please let me know. *Brenda*

Mrs. Liz Lewis

It is with great sadness that we have to tell you of the passing of Liz Lewis in the early hours of 8th January, 2025.

Liz's Funeral Service took place in St. James' Church, Lossiemouth, where Brian and Liz were married over fifty years ago, on 21st January 2025.



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Liz was originally from Lossiemouth where her father was a trawlerman. Her surviving brother and his family still live there.

As many of you will know Brian and Liz Lewis moved to Edinburgh in September 2024 to be nearer to their two daughters, Sarah and Emma, given Liz's poor health.

Prior to that they had lived in Vicarage Lane, in the bungalow previously owned by Brian's Aunt and Uncle, for over twenty-two years, following their retirement from the teaching profession in Nairn, Scotland.

Having been born and brought up in Llanelli, this was to be a return home for Brian.

Liz and Brian were actively involved in the life of St. Mary's Church – they were side persons with Liz initiating and coordinating the 'Bonus Ball.'

Through Liz's commitment and determination – she would readily seek out, at every opportunity, those who had fallen short with their dues – thousands of pounds were raised for the church.

Liz was a member of the Mothers' Union as well as the secretary of the NSPCC Kidwelly Branch. She attended the Welfare Coffee Mornings and Tea Dances.

Additionally, she assisted behind the scenes, at Charity Fashion Shows and could be relied upon to cater for the needs of flower arrangers when Flower Festivals were held in St. Mary's Church, Kidwelly.

Liz was not one for the limelight, but she could always be relied upon to play her part.

An avid reader, Liz enjoyed reading a wide range of genres and took a keen interest in history. This would prove very useful when attending quizzes though, it has to be said that over the years she was only on the winning team twice.

She had a keen sense of fun.

Our thoughts and prayers are especially with Brian, Sarah and Emma together with granddaughter, Evie, at this time. We share in their loss.

In the words of the old Gaelic Blessing:

May the road rise to meet you:

May the sun shine always on your face:

May the wind be always at your back:

May the rains fall gently on your fields:

And, until we meet again, may God keep you

In the hollow of his hand.

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Sidespersons

2nd Kath and Alec
9th At St. Teilo's
16th Heather and Ken
23rd Mandy and Lynne

2nd Angela Tonge

2nd Maureen and Angela

Advance notice:

11.15am in St. Teilo's Patronal Festival

6.00pm Evening Prayer in St. Mary's as usual

05/02/25	Maureen James	12/02/25	Brenda Evans
19/02/25	Kath Nicholas	26/02/25	Deirdre Horsler
05/03/25	Ash Wednesday	Maureen James	

Father, we bring to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ whose lives are broken by ill-health. May your healing Spirit assist all who work to restore them, that in your goodness they may find wholeness in body, mind and spirit, for the glory of your name. Amen.

Condolences to those families in our communities who are suffering a bereavement just now. *God of hope and giver of all comfort, we commend to your keeping those who mourn the loss of loved ones [and especially those for whom we have been asked to pray]. Give them the peace that passes all understanding and make them to know that neither death nor life can separate them from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

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Give Direct & Updating your Gift Aid Declaration Form

Every three years we need to update our gift aid declaration forms to ensure we have the correct information regarding those who gift aid their weekly giving or annual donations. The new Declaration Forms will be available at the back of the church, from the vicar or church wardens. The form will be slightly different from previously in that it will now have Bro Cydweli LMA in the title. Now all gift aid claims to HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) across the LMA go through one central LMA account, however the money claimed is transferred into the respective churches' bank accounts once received.

Claiming Gift Aid is important to the finances of St Mary's, St Teilo's and St. Maelog's, as for every pound given, we get an extra 25p from HMRC which means donations go further – at no extra cost to the giver! All you need to do is sign our Declaration Form stating you are a UK Taxpayer. Please be sure to complete the form again even if we already have a form for you (unless it has been completed in the past year). Also, if you've never completed a form now is your chance to do so.

If you are giving via the Church in Wales Gift Direct scheme you do not need to complete the new Declaration Form unless you are also giving to our churches directly and we can claim Gift Aid. If you are not a UK Tax payer then Gift Aid can be claimed under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme on any money you give, up to £30 a time, in our weekly open plate offering.

I would encourage you to take up the Give Direct Scheme as the Gift Aid is paid regularly into the church account.

Forms are the back of church. Please return your completed form by the end of March.

Diane Cuff, Treasurer



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Floodlights

We thank all our sponsors

I should like to thank Mrs. Christine Hughes for her work in co-ordinating the floodlight section of our magazine for the last 15 years. Christine has decided to finish collating the requests from Easter this year but is still happy to receive written requests and money for the time being, which she will be passing on to Brenda.

If you would like to sponsor the floodlights, let us know your dates and messages no later than 16th of February for the March issue. Donations to church can now be made using the new church website. stmaryskidwelly.org.uk

Chwefror 5th Er cof annwyl iawn am Aunty Mary oedd fel Mam i fi, ar dyddiad ei marw Chwefror 5th 2005. Cariad, Ieuan

February 8th Cherished birthday memories of Eric Gwynfor, beloved Dad, Grandfather and Great-Grandfather. From loving daughter, Gwyneth, Alan, Ann and families.

Chwefror 9ed Er cof am Aunty Dec, bu farw 9ed Chwefror 2011. Cariad, Ieuan
Chwefror 23rd Er cof am annwyl Vida bu farw Chwefror 23rd 2023. Cariad, Ieuan


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Dates for 2025

What's on in our churches this year.



February
9th Feast of St. Teilo one service for
the three churches in St. Teilo at 11.15am.

March
7th Quiz night in Llandyfaelog
Lent Course starts on Wednesday 12th
March for 6 weeks.
Lent Lunches start on Thursday 13th March in the Parish Room

April
4th Concert by Zirenz Choir, and Sing & Strum
13th Palm Sunday Note change of time for service in St. Mary's
20th Easter Sunday

June
22nd VE & VJ Day commemoration service in St. Mary's
28th-29th probable date for Pilgrimage to Coventry & Warwick

July
11th Concert by Zirenz and friends
19th Mystery Trip

August
15th-17th St. Mary's Patronal Festival to include Flower Festival

September
20th Concert by Cor Meibion

October
Harvest Festivals to include Suppers and Lunch @ St. Mary's

November
28th Christmas by Candlelight – Zirenz and friends.

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Branch News –

We will be holding our final AGM on Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 7.00pm in the Parish Room. This is because we have become Diocesan members this year to enable us to belong to MU without the need for branch officers. We will continue to meet monthly for the time being. We continue to support Plant Dewi Baby Bundle and the Women's Refuge so your donations will be most welcome.

Do look out for the new catalogue to order your birthday cards, Mothering Sunday and Easter cards. There's lots more in the catalogue too and when you buy from MU 10% of the annual sales profit comes back to the Diocese, so we are helping funds in this way.

Our Wave of Prayer happens between 23-25 February when we remember especially members in our own Diocese and overseas links of Wau in South Sudan, Kigeme in Rwanda, Bauchi in Nigeria, and Mandalay in Myanmar.

Let's pray for new members, passionate about faith and justice. Lord of the harvest, we pray for an increase in members of Mothers' Union, and our mission to transform lives, families and communities.

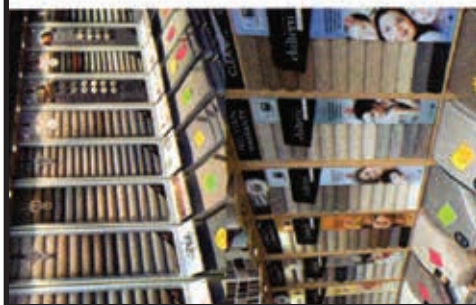


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CHRISTMAS CHURCH-GOING IN WASHINGTON D.C. Mary Atkinson writes:

We had a wonderful stay in Washington with our daughter and family over the Christmas period, with two very different Church experiences. The first was at the Washington National Cathedral, construction of which began in 1907 and was completed 83 years later. President Theodore Roosevelt laid the first stone, and President George H.W. Bush the last. It was modelled on 14th century English gothic style and is built of stone without any use of steel. The only concession to modernity is under floor heating, bliss! The Cathedral receives no support from federal government or any Church body and is entirely reliant on donors.

The service we went to was a Live Nativity. It was a ticketed event; the Cathedral can accommodate up to 4,000 and every seat was sold. The Clergy had decorated their robes with gold wings and haloes, and there was a full pageant telling the Christmas story. A young couple from the regular congregation represented Joseph and Mary and processed up the main aisle with their new born baby (actually a girl, very modern!) and many others joined in playing the parts of shepherds and kings. The highlight for the children was the inclusion of a live donkey and a small flock of sheep! All the children were invited up to the front of the Cathedral so that they could see what was going on. We sang all the usual carols and hymns, but to very different tunes. On departure every family was given a bauble for their Christmas tree, with a profile of the Cathedral on it. A lovely memento for us.

The second service was very different but equally delightful. We walked from where we were staying through the very pretty streets of NW Washington, past clapboard fronted houses all with enormous wreaths on their front doors. We went to a Christmas Eve family communion service at the local Church, St. David's. It was beautifully but simply decorated with greenery and banks of pointsettia plants. Again, the Church was full, with lots of children all dressed in Christmas finery, American style! On chatting with the Vicar as we departed it transpired that the Church is affiliated to the St. David's Society; it has a full Welsh service once a year, and occasional bi-lingual services during the year. The Welsh flag was hanging proudly from the rafters.

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Town News

Royal British Legion

Poppy Appeal Organiser, Mrs. Janis Jones reported at a recent meeting that £10,377.98 had been raised for the Poppy Appeal in 2024. The Co-op collection amounted to £5,138.92. Schools did well again this year with Pembrey School being an extra one. Ron and Janis were thanked for their hard work. We should like to thank everyone in the community who supported us with this appeal. Next branch meeting will be on Thursday February 6th at 7.30pm in Kidwelly Rugby Club. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to join us.

KIDWELLY SENIOR CITIZENS

Happy New everyone. We have been saddened to hear of the death of one of our eldest members, Frances Kaisin. She had just celebrated her 100th birthday on the 13th December, at Towy Castle, and will be remembered as a lovely, gentle lady. Frances and Joan Osborne enjoyed many chats and laughs together, and we remember them both fondly. Our sincere condolences to Frances' family. A little recap from the end of last year. At our December meeting we enjoyed mince pies and chocolates along with our drinks. Bobbie remembered those members whom we had lost throughout the year, and those who were not well at this time. She gave a précis of our year's activities, and thanked Jackie and Janet for their support on the committee and also the members, who without them, we wouldn't have a club. Thank you all, for attending meetings, functions and trips. Thank you also to Sara. We also gave our best wishes to those with birthdays in December and January, and especially Liz Millichamp who was to be 90 on 9th January, Congratulations Liz. We held our Christmas 'Do' in the afternoon of 11th December, at The Three Rivers, Ferryside. We enjoyed music by Crow's Foot, who kept us toe tapping and singing along, even got us to wear nautical hats for a sea shanty, and a spot of dancing by our professionals. We ended with a sing song of carols while we waited for the coach. A very festive time was had by all, enjoying good food, good entertainment and importantly, very good company.

Now to this year . . . our first meeting will be on 5th February, 2pm, at the Rugby Club. Subs will be £10. We are also planning to have our St David's Day lunch on our 5th March meeting.

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.



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Mae ein gwasanaeth a'r sylw personol yr ydym yn rhoi i deulur ymadawedig yn bwysig iawn i ni a gallwn eich helpu a'ch cynorthwyo yn ystod y cyfnod anodd yma. Mae'n boliſi gennym i gynnig cymorth i chi neu i'ch teulu.

Mae angladd yn achlusur personol iawn, ac felly mae'n rhaid ateb eich anghenion a'ch amgylchiadau unigol.

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Ty Golau

Well, the last paned of 2024 has been served and sipped and, fitting the occasion, it came with a mince pie rather than the customary biscuits. And what – or rather who – makes an appearance with the mince pies – Carmarthen Ukelele Band, of course! Ty Golau can't have one without the other!

Our final session always prompts us to look over the year and contemplate what we have done and whom we have met. This year there was one occasion that stood head and shoulders over every other and that was the celebration of our 15th Anniversary. Many years ago, Jan Lewis, our manager, had the idea of starting a group specifically for older people with memory problems. The group was to be more than an opportunity to chat with others who had the same condition; instead, it was to offer people the chance to stimulate their minds



through reminiscence therapy.

And all too soon, Christmas was on the horizon. For us, it started with a delicious Christmas lunch in our weekly session room, served by the fabulous John Burns Foundation staff who, it must be said, do their utmost to ensure that our sessions in their building go well. The following week offered service users the opportunity to make a Christmas decoration – a star-shaped tea light holder – which they were able to adorn with a selection of embellishments.

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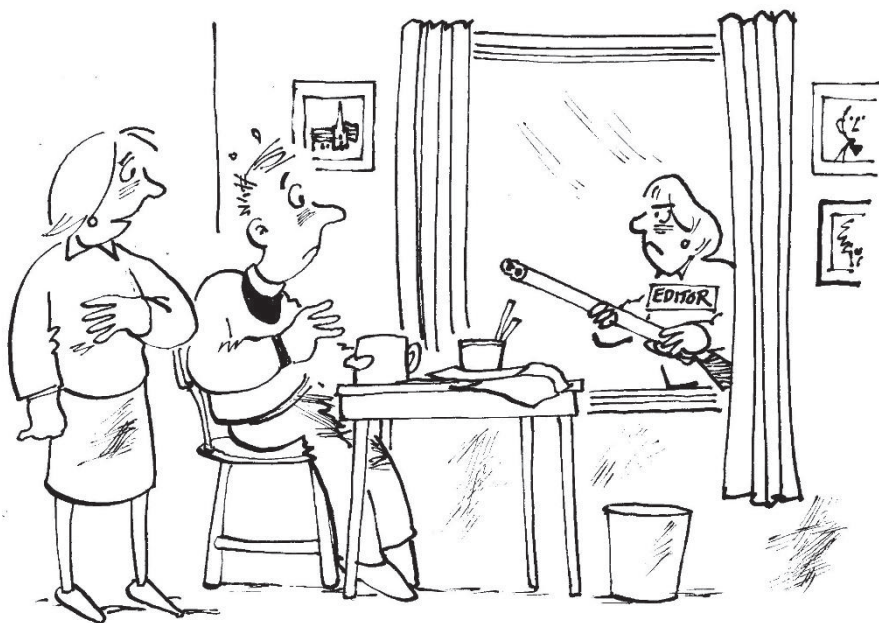
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Our final meeting of the year brought a group of people to entertain us, people whom we now consider friends given they have visited so many times – the Carmarthen Ukelele Band.

A PS from Jan who wishes to publicly thank me for organising and running our Christmas craft session. She says she is HOPELESS at anything craft-like. Oh, please, Jan, I'm blushing !

All that remains for me to say is service users, carers and volunteers would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2025! Elaine Morrisroe Publicity Officer.



...are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again, dear?

Not that Fr. Jim is ever late!



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Newyddion St. Teilo News

Well, we are into the new year, a rather cold snap following a lovely Christmas season when we enjoyed nice services, concerts, children's concerts and a range of festive dinners and teas within the varied groups in our community. Now we focus on the year ahead which I'm sure will be full of friendship and activities and so best wishes to all for a healthy and happy 2025.

Over 50's Club will resume our monthly meetings on Wednesday the 5th of February at the Neuadd Mynyddgarreg Hall at 2.00 pm. Extending a warm welcome to everyone who joins us. The annual Christmas lunch was held at the Four Rivers Hotel where a very good time was had by all. We were entertained by the band 'Crow's Foot' and a game of Bingo was played, the winner receiving a beautiful food hamper as was also the Raffle prize. Thanks to Jean Fox and Christine Hughes for preparing these. Our AGM will precede the normal meeting on Wednesday the 5th of March 2025 when we will look forward to a successful and an enjoyable year ahead.

Neuadd Mynyddgarreg are preparing their 2025 calendar of events and start off with a Quiz on 14th February, Saint Valentine's day, at 7.30pm and a Bingo night on Saturday 5th April at 7.30pm.

Eglwys Sant Teilo's annual community Carol service was a lovely evening when a large congregation enjoyed singing the age-old favourites and listening to Only Mynydd Aloud, and then enjoyed the tasty Mince Pies along with Mulled Wine prepared by the ladies. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed and to all who came along to support. Diolch yn fawr i bawb am eich cefnogaeth.

Ysgol Mynyddgarreg held their Christingle with us on the last day of term and what a lovely service that was. A small school but so enthusiastic. Thank you to the staff who prepare them. The collection taken was donated to the school's project in Luhimba. Finally, the Christmas Eucharist was celebrated on Christmas Eve with the Rev. Philip Johns officiating.

Eglwys Sant Teilo will be holding a special Eucharist service on Sunday 9th February at 11.15 am when we celebrate our Patronal Saint Teilo's, day and the day our little Mission Church first opened its doors unofficially in 1892 although it was dedicated in February 1893. At 135 years old, it is a relatively new Church but has witnessed a faithful band of worshippers throughout and has a very special place within our community. Saint Teilo is known to be the Patron Saint of Fruit trees and Horses. The late Mr Eric Hughes, Cheriton, author and historian



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wrote a very interesting book about our Church. We look forward to seeing you all on this special day.

Capel Horeb held a Christmas Eve service with the Rev. Eirian Wyn officiating.

Ysgol Mynyddgarreg held their Christmas Nativity play at the Neuadd, a wonderful production which we thoroughly enjoyed. Diolch i'r plant i gyd ac i'r Staff yr ysgol am eu gwaith i gyd. Llongyfarchiadau mawr i chi gyd.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Peter, Emma , Holly and Max Martin of Tŷ Llangadog, on the passing of a mother and grandmother on Boxing Day, Mrs Frances Kaisin. Frances had reached the grand age of 100 years in December and her passing will leave a big void. The funeral will be held at St Mary's on Tuesday 11th February at 11.30am. We remember dear Frances in our prayers.

Many Congratulations to sisters Audrey Griffiths, Tyhir and Joyce Morgan, Ferryside, on celebrating their 90th Birthdays on 30th January. Their family and many friends in the wide community wish them love, blessings and good health and a very Happy Birthday. Llongyfarchiadau i chi Audrey a Joyce ar yr achlysur pwysig hon, a dymuniadau gorau am iechyd a dyddiau da x

A dymuniadau gorau i Arthur Lewis sydd ddim yn iach ac yn yr ysbyty. Ma phawb yn y pentre yn meddwl amdanat Arthur a dymuno gwellhad buan i ti.

FLOWER ROTA

FEBRUARY Avril Morris

MARCH Dorian Reeve / **Lent**

READER ROTA

2nd February Christine Evans

9th February Edwin Atkinson

16th February Nicola Reeve

2nd March Peggy Davies

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Newyddion Sant Maelog News

Blodau/Flower rota

2-9th Feb-Marjorie Thomas

16-23 Feb-Sarah Withers

2-9th March-Mary Jones Cilfeithy

16-23 March Bethan Thomas

Darllen/Readers

2nd Feb - Sarah Walters

9th February - Mary Atkinson

16th Feb - Kath Williams

23rd Feb - Thomas Flanagan

2nd March - Llinos Jones

Drws/Door

2nd Feb Sarah Walters

9th Feb - Mary Atkinson

16th Feb - Kath Williams

23rd Feb - Shan Rees

2nd March - Llinos Jones

Notice

There will be no service in St Maelog's on the 9th of February as there will be a joint service with St Teilo's and St Mary's at St Teilo's church as it is the patronal festival.

Thanks

Reverend Jim Flanagan would like to thank everyone for their cards and gifts for Christmas and for decorating the church so beautifully. It was so nice hearing the church bell ringing for the first time in a while on Christmas Eve which started our service off nicely followed by the children of the community singing beautifully. We look forward to hearing the other two bells when they are fixed.

Llandyfaelog Hall committee would like to thank everyone for their support on the Christmas tree lighting ceremony evening. It was lovely seeing the community come together and the children enjoying Santa and singing. Thank you also to Marjorie Thomas of the Laurels who switched on the lights.

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Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences extend to Sally Jones and her family for the unexpected loss of Neville; our thoughts are with you during this challenging time. We also express our sympathies to Owen Jones on the passing of his brother, Huw, and to Linda on the loss of her brother Ellis. Deepest sympathies also to Keith, Vicky and family of Olga Eynon from Eastleigh, Llandyfaelog, who passed away just before Christmas.

Whats on/Digwyddiadau

February 8th - Eisteddfod Cadeiriol Llandyfaelog yn dechrau am 1 o'r gloch
The church wants to participate in the Eisteddfod this year and has the idea of forming a choir; if anyone is interested in being a part of the choir please let Shan Rees know.

February 22nd - Llandyfaelog Show Dinner at The Red Lion 7.30pm Tickets are £28

Movement Class - There is a new exercise class starting in the village hall every Monday 6-7pm if you are interested call Karine on 07443220608

March 7th The church will be holding a quiz at the hall.





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History of Llandyfaelog Bells

Edwin Atkinson writes:

Hurrah: the restoration of the bells of St Maelogs is nearly complete. Many thanks for the considerable fund raising and to the Pilgrim Trust, Carmarthenshire Welsh Church Fund and Diocesan Repair Gund for their most welcome grants.

So, what is the bells' history. There were two bells in 1552 and the largest of today's bells dates back possibly to this time. But the present bellcote was not added to the church until 1825. This was initially a single bellcote but was rebuilt in 1872 to have three apertures, that is to take three bells. The structure is relatively unusual and is comparable to the multi-aperture bellcotes seen on the continent. This new bellcote and two new [i.e. additional] bells were made possible through the generosity of Richard Jennings of Gellideg who was also the principal benefactor towards the new roof, two stained glass windows, altar silver and school library.

These two smaller bells were cast in 1872 by Mears & Stainback of Whitechapel foundry in London. This closed in 2017 after 450 years of bell-making during which they manufactured the [Liberty Bell](#), a famous symbol of [American independence](#), and re-cast [Big Ben](#). Our recent bell repair was undertaken by Taylors of Loughborough - Britain's last major bell foundry who had restored our large old bell in 1998.

Today's bells are "chimed" not swung. This means the bells are stationary but struck by a clapper that is in turn attached to a rope that comes down through the roof to where it is pulled by the bell ringer(s). It was the unexpected arrival of a fallen and broken clapper on the church path that alerted us to the need for repairs!

So now St Maelogs can again continue the ancient tradition of ringing its bells to call worshippers to church and for special events, weddings and funerals. We are very grateful to Taylors Bell Foundry, Peter Hayward (Diocesan Bell Adviser) and Eric Barnes-Green (Seion Church Repairers) and many others for their advice and help.



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Parish Readings for February 2025

Red Lectionary pages in []

February

Sunday 2nd February The Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)

Liturgical Colour: White

Eucharist: Malachi 3.1-5; Psalm 24.[1-6,]7-10; Hebrews 2.14-18; Luke 2.22-40 [p60]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 122;132; Haggai 2.1-9; John 2.18-22

Reader: Ted Rowlands

Sunday 9th February 4th Sunday before Lent

St. Teilo Patronal Festival 11.15am in St. Teilo's Liturgical Colour: White

Eucharist: Ezekiel 34.11-16; Psalm 28.6-9; 1 Peter 5.1-4 or Ephesians 4.7,8,11-16

Evening Prayer: Psalm [1;]2; Wisdom 6.1-21 or Hosea1; Colossians 3.1-22

Reader: Jenny Jones

Sunday 16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

Liturgical Colour: Green

Eucharist: Jeremiah 17.5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15.12-20; Like 6.17-26 [p796]

Evening Prayer: Psalm [5;]6; Wisdom 11.21-12.11 or Hosea 10.1-8,12; Galatians 4.8-20

Reader: Kath Nicholas

Sunday 23rd February 2nd Sunday before Lent/Creation Sunday

Liturgical Colour: Green

Eucharist: Genesis 2.4b-9,15-25; Psalm 65; Revelation 4; Luke 8.22-25 [p807]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 147 or 147.12-20; Genesis 1.1-2.3; Matthew 6.25-34

Reader: Brenda Evans

Sunday 2nd March Sunday before Lent/Transfiguration Sunday

Liturgical Colour: Green

Eucharist: Exodus 34.29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2 [p811]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 89.1-4,[5-12,]13-18; Exodus 3.1-6; John 12.27-26a

Reader: Ted Rowlands

Jason Williams Removals

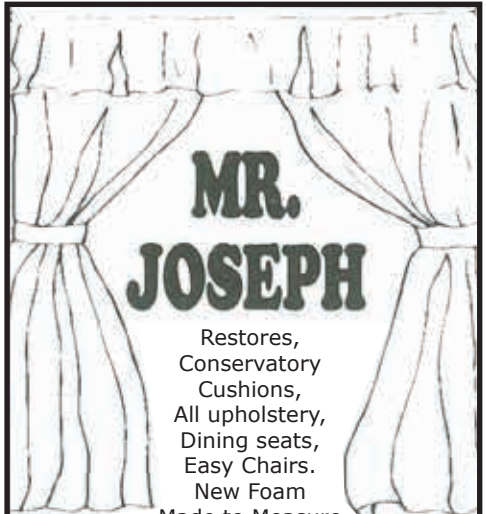
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ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY
ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO
MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S
PROPERTY.

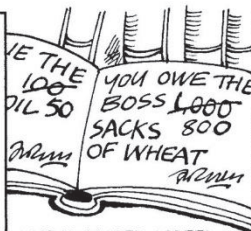


THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD
THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN
WASTING MONEY.

SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO
ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



OH NO! I AM GOING TO
GET THE SACK!!

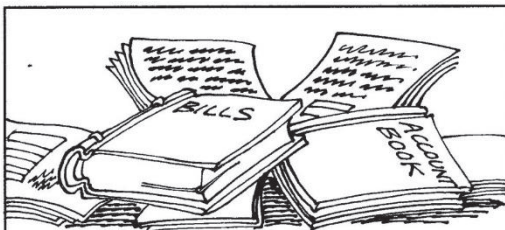
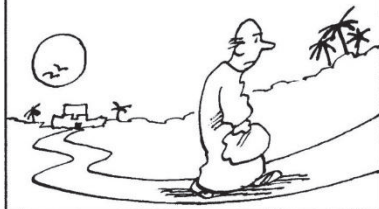


THE MANAGER AGREED
TO LET THE RICH MAN'S
TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR
BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR
DEBTS - AND STAYED
FRIENDS WITH THE
MANAGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER
HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS
FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING
DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO
THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A
HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

National Nest Box Week – 14th to 21st February

Where can family-minded birds raise their young these days? As our gardens and parklands become smaller and tidier, too many natural nest sites – such as holes in trees, old buildings and unkempt hedgerows – are rapidly disappearing

No wonder that our sparrows, greenfinches and swifts are in precipitous decline, and that one in four of our UK bird species are now under serious threat.

This makes it more important than ever to care for our remaining birds. By feeding, providing water and putting up nest boxes we can give them a safe space to raise their chicks.

The National Nest Box Week initiative encourages bird conservation across the UK, and it's easy to get involved, whether you're a teacher, part of a local wildlife group, or just wanting to boost the bird numbers in your own garden.

Visit: <https://www.countryfile.com/wildlife/birds/national-nest-box-week-how-to-help-birds-in-your-garden>

In praise of the humble egg

We love eggs. On average, we eat at least two of them each week, which makes eggs one of Britain's most popular foods.

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Eggs are also filling, and with 7.5g of protein in less than 80 calories per egg, there are few other foods that can match them for so much protein per gram. They are also inexpensive and easy to cook.

Experts recommend eating one or two eggs a day, and choosing a low-fat way of cooking them, by boiling or poaching. Cooking them in butter is a bit lower in fat than frying them in olive oil. Free-range eggs generally contain more vitamin D.

Considering this article our new recipe page is a good opportunity to use eggs!

If you have a favourite recipe you'd like to share, please email me a copy, maybe with a few words as to why it's a favourite.

Our new recipe page :

Recipe from the BBC Good Food Guide

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Serve Serves 1

Dietary

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A perfectly cooked fluffy omelette is a lovely breakfast or quick dinner. Ellis Barrie shows you how to cook an omelette in minutes, stuffed with cheese and spinach.



[Shopping list](#)

- **Ingredients**

- 2 knobs of [butter](#): 2 knobs of butter
- large handful [spinach](#): large handful spinach
- 2 free-range [eggs](#): 2 free-range eggs
- 15g/½oz [cheddar](#), grated: 15g/½oz cheddar, grated
- salt and freshly ground [black pepper](#)^[SEP]: salt and freshly ground black pepper^[SEP]

- **Method**

1. Melt a knob of butter in a frying pan placed over a medium heat. Add the spinach and cook for 1–2 minutes, until wilted. Season with salt and pepper. Tip out onto a plate and set aside.
2. In a bowl, beat the eggs until just mixed. Return the frying pan to a medium–high heat, add the remaining butter and melt until beginning to foam, then swirl it around the pan.
3. Pour in the beaten eggs, then tilt the pan to distribute the eggs evenly. Leave for 20 seconds, until the eggs begin to bubble.
4. Working quickly, use a spatula or wooden spoon to draw in the sides of the eggs to the centre, incorporating the butter. Gently shake the pan to redistribute the egg to the edges.
5. Sprinkle over the cheese and spinach while the egg is still slightly runny in the middle, then remove the pan from the heat. The residual heat will continue to cook the egg. Season with salt and pepper.
6. Using a spatula, fold one third of the omelette into the middle, then turn the omelette onto a warm plate folding over itself. Serve immediately.

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the books of the Bible, which will run until the end of 2025.

What's the Big Idea? An Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament: Job

'Why does God allow suffering?' This is a frequently asked question of Christians, because we believe in a God who is both good and powerful and it is explored in the book of Job. This book is part of the wisdom literature, along with Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Job was both wealthy and righteous, yet he experienced catastrophic suffering, losing all his wealth, children and health. This is portrayed as a result of Satan's challenge to God, testing whether Job's devotion to God was dependent on his circumstances or not.

The main body of the book (3:1-42:6) consists of dialogues between Job, his friends (Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar) and God. Job and his friends assume that God is almighty and just, and that no human being is wholly innocent. In the three cycles of speeches they wrestle with the reasons for Job's suffering, remembering his morally upright character.

Finally, all are silenced by God, as He speaks Himself (chs 38-42). He points out that Job knows very little about the universe when he reflects on God's power. Job confesses his lack of understanding and weakness, but then goes on to confess his confidence and trust in God. This puts suffering in a right perspective. Job is not condemned, and the book ends with the restoration of his family and possessions.

The importance of this book is that it realistically addresses the painful questions of life, without offering simplistic answers. It focuses on *how* we should respond to suffering, rather than on *why* God allows suffering: *'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.'* (1:21)

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

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

1st 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

2nd February Candlemas

9.30am Choral Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer

9th February Feast of St. Teilo 11.15am Bilingual Eucharist in

St. Teilo's, Mynyddgarreg
No other morning services today
6.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 12th February

7.00pm MU AGM & Antiques
Roadshow in the Parish
Room

16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

9.30am Choral Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer

23rd February 2nd Sunday before Lent: Creation Sunday

9.30am Choral Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer

2nd March Sunday before Lent: Transfiguration Sunday

9.30am Choral Eucharist
6.00pm Evening Prayer

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

Services

February 2025

St Maelog's, Llandyfaelog

2nd February Candlemas

11.15am Bilingual Morning Prayer

9th February Feast of St. Teilo 11.15am Bilingual Eucharist in St. Teilo's, Mynyddgarreg

16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

23rd February 2nd Sunday before Lent: Creation Sunday

11.15am Bilingual Family
Eucharist

2nd March Sunday before Lent: Transfiguration Sunday

11.15am Bilingual Mattins

St Teilo's, Mynyddgarreg

2nd February Candlemas

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

9th February Feast of St. Teilo

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist

16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

11.15am Bilingual Mattins

2nd March Sunday before Lent

Transfiguration Sunday

11.15am Bilingual Eucharist