

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 MYNYDDYGARREG - ST. TEILO'S MYNYDDYGARREG

April 2025

WHO'S WHO

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Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

I hope that whatever it is that you have chosen to do or not to do during the season of Lent is still going according to plan. Keeping any form of discipline during lent or indeed at any time of year is not an easy thing to do, as someone who has attempted to pack up smoking on many occasions and failed miserably, I can speak from personal experience. So far this time there have been a few slip ups along the way and the feeling when I succumb to temptation is normally one of frustration and failure.

Failure of any sort can be hard to deal with, it is human nature that we cannot always get things right and failure is sadly a part of life whether we like it or not. Many years ago, I was listening to Thought for the Day on Radio 4 and the speaker that morning was a Sikh gentleman. The one sentence that has stuck with me was the words “Every setback is a set up for a comeback”. We will probably all be aware of various tales of individuals trying and trying again in the face of problems. Whilst these can be helpful, there are times when we need to accept that we will not succeed, and we may need to re-think our goals. In the case of small things this is not so bad, but there will be times in our lives when the sense of failure and inability to get things right will weigh heavily on our minds, this can lead us to feeling miserable and distraught. This can then begin to affect our relationships with other people and the world at large.

Whilst I would never say that failure is a good thing, in a Christian context it is worth remembering that failure and making mistakes are not the disasters that they need to be. Whatever we have done or failed to do in our lives, God will forgive us and continue to forgive us time and again. In the Church in Wales there is not the formal act of confession that we see in Roman Catholicism, but the sacrament is there and should anyone wish to make a formal confession and receive God’s forgiveness then any Priest will be happy to facilitate this. But we might remember that at the beginning of almost every act of worship or prayer we have a chance to say sorry to God as we make our confession in one form or another. We don’t even need to do this in a formal setting. At any time we can ask for God’s forgiveness and if we are truly sorry, we will be forgiven, and the slate is wiped clean. This can happen again, again and again because our God is a god of love and forgiveness who loves each and every one of us in a way that we could never imagine. It matters not a bit what it is that we have done or failed to do. This will not affect our relationship with God if we really are truly sorry and want to attempt to change.

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Every setback really is a set up for a comeback if we truly want to change. It's not too late to say sorry and start again, it never is for we will be forgiven and welcomed back into the fold with the offer of love and care.

As we approach Easter, there are plenty of services and events in all our churches that will help us to rebuild or strengthen our relationship with God and this will always help our relationships with each other and the world around us. I would encourage you to try something new this Lent or comeback to something familiar, you may be surprised. Our Lent reflections, Taize and Tenebre services are quiet, reflective and quite moving. The pomp of Palm Sunday leading to the turbulent events of Holy week and the sadness of Good Friday, will be followed by the majesty of triumph that is Easter Sunday the day when we know that all will be well again and that death, failure and hopelessness has been replaced with new beginnings and bright hope. Please do come and join in the celebration and love that can be found in your church, you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Blessings

Fr. Jim

St. Mary's News

Lent Course

This course will be based on the 7 last words of Christ on the cross and we will roam around the six churches at 7.00pm again as listed below:

2nd April St. Teilo's - Abandonment

9th April – All Saints – Distress

16th April – St Mary's – Triumph & Reunion.

Lent Lunches

Continuing our Lent lunches in the Parish Room on Thursday lunchtimes 3rd and 10th April from 12 noon onwards. Do come along and enjoy lunch and fellowship.

100 Club -Winners for March 11,33,79.

April draw will take place on Wednesday 2nd following the 9.30m service.

In 2024, church benefitted by £1,765.00 from your participation in this scheme.

Thank you for your continued support.

Flower arranging – We will meet in church on Holy Saturday, 19th April starting at 10.00am to decorate for Easter. Do come along and help if you can.



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Flower List Altar Flowers

Lent No Flowers

Easter Day 20th April /27th April

4th/11th May

Christine Hughes

Jeanette Gilasbey

Easter Roses – There will be roses on the Altar for Easter Sunday. If you would like to contribute towards this, please add your name and message to the list at the back of church. Roses will be £4.00 each and money will be for church funds.

Concert

There will be a concert in St. Mary's on Friday April 4th at 7.00pm given by the Re-imagine Choir and Sing'n Strum group.

Flower Festival

The Flower Festival will be over the weekend of 15th-17th August. If you would like to take part, contact Heather Witt. The theme will be 'Harmony in Hymns'.

LMA News

Mission and Outreach: Message from Cyril's friend, Andrew Padfield.

I am organising a Walk of Witness on Good Friday starting at 12 noon and finishing by 1 pm.

The walk will start at the English Baptist Church in Darkgate Street at noon, make its way to St Peter's Church for a Good Friday hymn and prayer and finish at the public space off St John Street/Catherine Street by 1 pm with a hymn and a prayer. All are welcome.

Website

Details of all our three churches' events, services and magazine can be looked at on the new website. www.stmaryskidwelly.org.uk Donations can now be made there as well.

Birthday Thanks

Rev. Roger would like to thank family and friends for the many cards, gifts and greetings which he received on the occasion of his 80th Birthday. Your thoughtfulness and kindness is very much appreciated. With sincere and grateful thanks. Roger.

Adverts - Disclaimer

Whilst every effort has been made to make sure the accuracy of the content of the advertisements contained in this magazine, St Mary's Church Committee cannot accept any liability for errors or omissions contained in any of the advertisements provided by an advertiser. St Mary's Church Committee does not accept any liability for any information or claims made by the advertisement or by the advertisers. Any advertising contained in this magazine should not be taken as an endorsement by St Mary's Church Committee

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St. Mary's Readers and Sidespeople for 9.30am

Readers

Sidespersons

April

Readers

6th Edwin Atkinson
13th Gavin Witt Cymraeg Gareth Harries
20th Maureen James
27th Angela Tonge

Sidespersons

Maureen and Angela
Kath and Alec
Deirdre
Heather and Ken

May

Readers

4th Brenda Evans

Sidespersons

Mandy and Lynne

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

02/04/25 Deirdre Horsler
16/04/25 Nevin Davies
07/05/25 Deirdre Horsler

09/04/25 Maureen James
23/04/25 Kath Nicholas 30/04/25 Brenda Evans

Floodlights

We thank all our sponsors

05/04/25 Cherished Birthday memories of Evelyn, beloved Mam, Grandma and Great- Grandma, from Loving daughter Gwyneth, Alan, Ann and families.

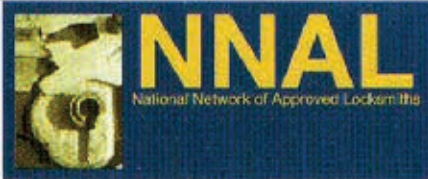
08/04/25 Loving and Cherished birthday memories of my much loved father, Russell Hawkins. Love always, Jan. xx.

18/04/25 Cherished memories of Eric, from Loving wife Ann, Lee, Becky, Loving sister Gwyneth, Alan and families.

21/04/24 Birthday memories of my dear father, Thomas Smith D.C.M. Always in my thoughts, Love Sheila. xx.

A message from Christine Hughes to thank everyone who has over the last 15 years contributed towards the floodlighting of St. Mary's Church Cydweli. As the retiring co-ordinator it has been my privilege to share memories and messages with you lovely people each month knowing what it means to see the Tower and Spire lit up every night of every year. Long may it continue to be sponsored. With love, and Easter Blessings to you all. xx CH xx.

Send any floodlighting requests to Brenda, evans.d29@sky.com



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Why is the St Mary's lit up in blue?

St. Mary's Church will be lit on World Parkinson's Day which is 11th April 2025. It's focus is to raise awareness and give people information about Parkinson's. On this day buildings around the country are being lit up in blue, to highlight what Parkinson's is and how people can help and support the people living with Parkinson's.

Parkinson's is a progressive neurological condition. This means that it causes problems in the brain and gets worse over time.

Around 153,000 people live with Parkinson's in the UK. And it's the fastest growing neurological condition in the world.

There are many potential signs and symptoms of Parkinson's and each person can experience them differently. When you meet one with Parkinson's you only meet one person with Parkinson's, everyone has different symptoms, there are well over 40 symptoms.

Research suggests that Parkinson's tends to develop gradually. It may be many months, even years, before the symptoms become obvious enough for someone to visit their GP.

Everyone reacts differently to getting a diagnosis. Some people want to join a support group, learn tai chi, abseil down a building. Some people really don't! There's currently no cure for Parkinson's. But Parkinson's UK, as are other similar Parkinson's charities, determined to change that by funding the right research into the most promising treatments.

Living with Parkinson's is tougher than people think. But it doesn't define you. You are still you. You can still do amazing things in spite of Parkinson's. So, please, wear blue on 11th April to support people with Parkinson's. Thank you.

Almost half of all children have been scammed online

Has your child been scammed online? If so, they are not alone!

A recent poll for the UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC) has found that a staggering 46 per cent of children have been taken in by an online scam. And a study by Vodafone has found that nearly one million 11-to-16-year-olds in the UK have been scammed within the last 12 months.

A third of young people are now worried that new technology, such as AI, will make scams even harder for them to identify.

Most scams seem to take place on social media platforms, where they involve ads or quizzes which appear to be from well-known brands. The children are lured into giving out personal information or buying fake products. Other scams include fake giveaways, phishing and fake websites, fake ticket sales and 'trust trades' in gaming.

Anyone scammed online should report it to Action Fraud or call 0300 1232040 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland). In Scotland, report to Police Scotland.

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Holy Week and Easter Services

St. Mary's

Palm Sunday

9.30am Liturgy of the Palms on the Square

Holy Eucharist

11.00am Cymun Bendigaid

NB: Festal Evensong at 4.00pm

Holy Week

Holy Tuesday

8.00pm Tenebrae Service

Holy Wednesday

7.00pm Final Reflection with Eucharist in St. Mary's

Maunder Thursday

7.00pm

Eucharist (feet washing) & Stripping of the church followed by the watch until midnight.

Good Friday

12noon

Stations of the Cross leading into last hour at 2pm (hot cross buns and tea between)

Holy Saturday

7pm Vigil

Easter Sunday

5.55am

Sunrise service followed by bacon rolls

9.30am Choral Eucharist

6.00pm Choral

Evensong



St Maelog's

Maunder Thursday

10.30am Eucharist & Stripping of the Church (feet washing)

Good Friday – 10.30am

Devotional service

Easter Sunday 11.15am

Bilingual Eucharist

St. Teilo

Easter Sunday `11.15am

Bilingual Eucharist



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Flower Festival

15th – 17th August 2025



We are in the process of planning the Flower Festival which will be held over the weekend of our Patronal Festival in August.

The theme will be Harmony in Hymns

If you would like to help with funding this event there are a couple of ways to do this: Be a sponsor or sign up to give a donation for a dried flower arrangement pew end.

Lists will be at the back of church in due course.

Guarding the Easter chocolate

Was there a security tag on your Easter egg this year? If so, it wasn't because high street bosses feared the Easter Bunny might take it.

It's that shoplifting has soared to an unprecedented amount. There were more than 20 million shoplifting incidents last year – an average of about 50,000 cases a day, according to the British Retail Consortium (BRC). In all, retailers lost £2.2 billion.

And it seems that shoplifters also like chocolate. Which is why some WH Smith shops have been tagging the Cadbury Mini Eggs, and why some Tesco stores have put Quality Street chocolates under a wire net, to name but a couple of examples



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Parish Room

Plant Dewi

Mae Canolfan Deuluol Porth Tywyn sy'n rhan o Blant Dewi yn dychwelyd i ystafell y Plwyf, bore lau rhwng 9:30 a 11:30 i gynnal sesiwn Aros a Chwarae gymunedol. Mae'r sesiwn yn rhad ac am ddim i deuluoedd gyda phlant 0 - 11 oed, cyfle i blant a rhieni/gwarcheidwaid ddod at ei gilydd, cymysgu, chwarae, dysgu sgiliau newydd ac yn bwysicach, cael sgwrs dros banded.

Canolfan Deuluol Burry Port Family Centre part of Plant Dewi are returning to the Parish room, Thursday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 to deliver a community Stay and Play session. The session is free to families with children ages 0 -11 years, an opportunity for children and parents/guardians to come together, mingle, play, learn new skills and more importantly have a conversation over a cuppa.

1st Kidwelly Brownies, Guides and Rangers!

Brownies : aged 7-10 yrs old

Guides : aged 10-14 yrs old

Rangers : aged 14-18 yrs old

We meet every week during term time, to enjoy activities and games.

If you would like to join us, or contact for further information, please contact:

Jenny Collins - 07534 212314

Josie - 07876340377

To register interest for a place with us, please go to: www.girlguiding.org.uk

Lou Lou's Kidwelly Repair Café

The Repair Café will meet in the Parish Room on the 3rd Saturday of the month going forward.



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Dates for 2025

What's on in our churches this year.



April

3rd April Taize Service

Lent Course continues through April.

Lent Lunches continue on 3rd and 10th April.

4th Concert by Zirenz Choir, and Sing &

Strum

13th Palm Sunday

Note change of time for service in St.

Mary's Evening Service will be at 4.00pm

20th Easter Sunday – Sunrise service at 5.55am

May

Thursday 1st May 7.30pm Film Night in partnership with Twinning Association

Saturday 24 May Garden open with teas at Gellideg (tbc) more details next month

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 De Cymru

October

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

November

2nd Feast of St. Maelog (to be confirmed)

9th Remembrance Sunday

28th Christmas by Candlelight – Zirenz and friends.

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Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Branch News –

On Monday 7th April there is a Quiet Afternoon in Llangunnor church at 2.00pm.

This month we will be holding an Away From It All fundraiser.

On Tuesday 8th April at Midday, we will be serving soup and dessert to raise funds for this Mothers' Union project, which enables us to support Plant Dewi in their work. There is no charge, but we are asking for donations for the event. There will be a raffle.

We agreed at the March meeting that we would take part in the Flower Festival in August.

Canon Bryan Witt gave a very interesting talk on his time as a British Legion Chaplain, both at County and District levels.

The theme in our Prayer Diary for April is Love Blooms

Creative Prayer: As you work with your hands creating beautiful things from fabric, remember how God has sewn together the fabric of the universe, creating something beautiful out of nothing.

Dedicate your stitching as a time of intercession where thoughts and prayers are woven into the fabric to bring warmth, comfort, hope and love to those who will receive it.

As you concentrate on your craft, be reminded of the love and care our God puts into each of our lives.

Sudoku – April (medium) with apologies for the error last month!

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Your Favourite Recipe Page

Mary Atkinson shares with us this month:



As it is Lent, I have chosen the most delicious and completely indulgent recipe, to cheer us up in this time of deprivation!

It comes from The Times cookbook of 1972, much beloved by mother, whose copy I still have. It is now very dilapidated, with the front cover missing, but the page on which the recipe appears is the most spattered from frequent use in the whole book!

Lemon Syllabub, serves 6

½ pt of double cream

4oz caster sugar

rind and juice of one large lemon

4 tablespoons medium dry sherry

sponge finger biscuits to accompany

Time taken: 10 minutes

Prepare in advance

Measure cream, sugar, finely grated lemon rind, strained lemon juice and sherry into a mixing basin. Whisk together until quite thick - this may take 2-3 minutes. Spoon into six serving glasses and chill for several hours.

Totally indulgent and delicious.

Please send any items for the magazine no later than 16th April 2025 for the May issue.

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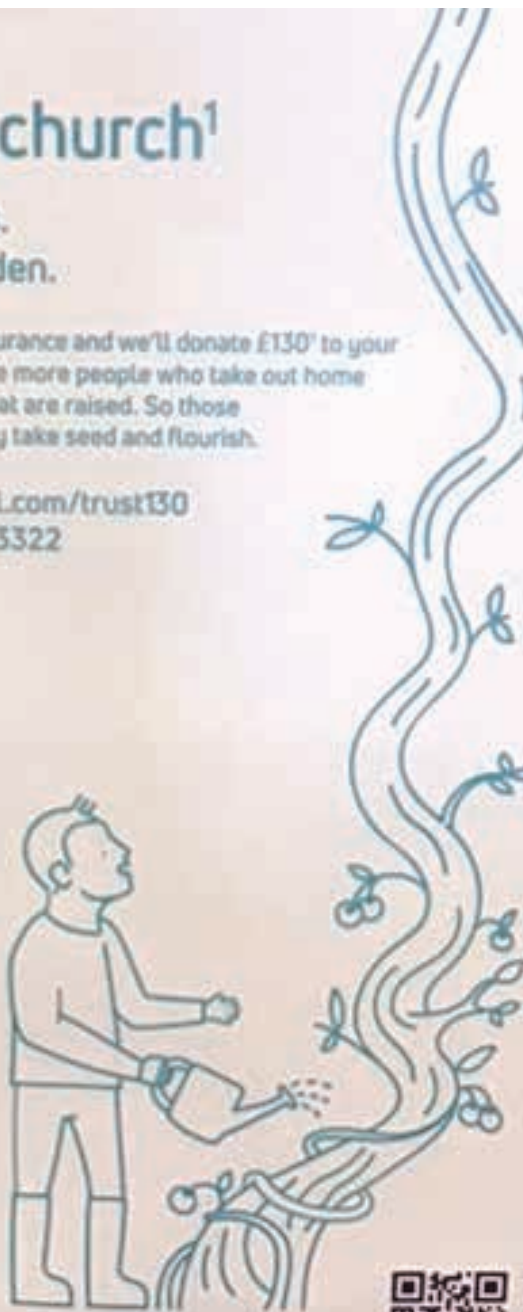
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Town News

Carnival 2025

The carnival this year is on the 12th July, 2025 at Glanyrafon. We have live music, Dinomania, classic cars, bouncy castles, characters, food court, stalls, football and hockey, bar, plus many other activities. The parade will commence at 12 noon from Pinged Hill. Entry is £5 per adult free for children.

Royal British Legion

The April meeting will be on Thursday 3rd April at 7.30pm in Kidwelly Rugby Club.

Our branch is working in partnership with Kidwelly Town Council and St. Mary's Church to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day.

There will be a Civic Service in St. Mary's on Sunday 22nd June at 2.00pm with a Remembrance Celebration Tea on the Town Square afterwards, weather permitting.

We are looking for local memories from anyone who can remember celebrating all those years ago. Please contact Kidwelly Town Council office if you have anything to share.

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.

Twinning Association will be having stall at the Market on Saturday 5th April. Advance notice of film night in St. Mary's on Thursday 1st May. Details next month.

Church Massacre in DRC

There's been a mass killing in a Protestant church in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) More than 70 bodies were recently reported to have been found. Many were tied up, others beheaded. Women, children and the elderly were among the dead.

One aid expert in DRC doubts the attack was specifically Christian persecution. Instead, it could have been that these people were too weak to travel with the marauding Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) who would have wanted reinforcements or forced war labour.

Vatican News has described this rebel group as being "notorious for its violent tactics." The massacre came, it reported, at a critical moment for eastern DRC.

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Newyddion St. Teilo News

We are now in the season of Lent, a time for reflection and repentance along with fasting and cleansing in preparation for Easter. Tradition has it that we give up something for Lent and indeed, many people do so for the true reason but, how do we define temptation. Does not eating chocolate or certain foods or walking instead of driving or refrain from buying new clothes say that we observe Lent customs by self-discipline? These are the temptations that are easily broken whilst reflection and repentance have to be worked on. Reflect on the things we are able to do such as, visit the lonely or housebound, a helpful telephone call, run an errand etc. and, repent for not doing these things.

Mae tymor y Garawys yn un anodd os credwn fod rhaid i ni rhoi fyny ar bethau. Llawer haws i gredu allwn wneud gwahaniaeth wrth gymryd arno fwy o ddyletswyddau, hyn yw, agor ein calonnau a gwneud fwy a rhoi fwy i'n cyddyn.

Mynyddygarreg Seniors Club (ex over 50's Club) held its Annual General Meeting at the Neuadd on Wednesday 5th March. It was decided to have a name change so that it became more of a community gathering, welcoming all ages.

Officials for the year ahead were appointed, namely Dorian Reeve, Chairperson; Peggy Davies, Vice Chairperson; Christine Hughes, Treasurer ; Caroline Washer, Secretary and Minute Secretary ; Barbara Evans and Aeres Jenkins, Social Secretaries. Retiring Chairperson Jean Fox thanked everyone for their support and friendship during her year in office and presented each one present with a chocolate filled Easter chick which had been knitted by June Morris.

We look forward to a busy year full of activities and outings.

Meeting every first Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm, we are indeed very fortunate in having such a lovely venue as the Lounge of the Neuadd.

At the last meeting we welcomed two new members and in celebrating Dydd Gwyl Dewi, Peggy donned her beautiful Hen Fenyw fach Cydweli costume and Dorian gave an insight into its origin and a talk on Dewi Sant and the traditions of March 1st. Caroline gave a report on the 4 day trip to Llandudno by a dozen or so members in February. Thank you Barbara for organizing it and, it appears a very good time was had by all . The Raffle was won by Aeres, the Bingo by Peggy and Tea and homemade Welshcakes were served by Gina and Carl. .

On a sad note, members respectfully acknowledged the sudden passing of Mrs Joan Postans in February, a dear and faithful member. We remember her in our prayers.



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The next meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd April when members will partake of an afternoon Easter tea treat with an Easter Bonnet competition and light entertainment. A warm welcome for anyone to join in , ma croeso mawr i bawb i ymuno yn y 'Prynhawn dathlu'r Pasc '.

SAINT Teilo's day Patronal Festival on February 9th welcomed a large congregation with the Very Venerable Rev. Randolph Thomas giving the sermon. The ladies had prepared cakes and tea which were served after the service.

Menter y Mynydd's Eisteddfod Gadeiriol will be held this year on May 9th, starting at 5.00pm at the Neuadd. The programme can be viewed on Facebook or copies are available from the Secretary, Mrs Christine Evans, Morfa Maen, Tel.no. 890976.

Llywydd gwadd y nos fydd Mansel Thomas, Tygwyn. There will be a translation service in use on the night so please come along and enjoy the very best of local talent. Fydd na groeso mawr i bawb i wrando ar wledd o dalent lleol.

Prince Philip hospital's Breast Care unit (Peony Suite) was recently presented with a donation of £2500 from a fund-raising effort by Mrs Helen John, Crud yr Awel, along with her band of helpers from Menter y Mynydd. This is a truly magnificent sum and we thank Helen and her sponsors and supporters for raising money for this very deserving charity. Pob lwc i ti Helen yn dy ymdrech o godi arian i'r elusen hon.

Condolences

Our sympathy is extended to the family of the late Michael Morgans of Llanelli, who passed away last month after a long period of ill health. Mike was brought up in Mynyddygarreg. His parents Jim and Maggie kept the village Post Office for many years, hence Mike earning the name Mike y Post , as he was known to the villagers throughout his lifetime. We remember all his family at this time. The Funeral was held at Llanelli Crematorium.

The village was greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Mr Arthur Lewis, Morolwg, after a short illness. A well-liked gentleman, his roots firmly in his birthplace of Mynyddygarreg, he took great interest in local history and ancestry and was a very keen gardener who derived great pleasure in growing and sharing his garden produce with everyone he knew. His late wife, Jean, was a faithful and much-loved member of Eglwys Sant Teilo. Our deepest sympathy go to his children Elfryn, Siân, Wendy, and Helen and their families.

Arthur's funeral will be held in St Mary's' Church on Saturday 5th April.



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Following the passing of the late Mrs Beryl Williams, Hillcrest, Rebecca and family wish to thank everyone for the support and loving messages and gestures they received and also for the generous donations received in Beryl's memory which were gratefully received by the Chemotherapy Unit at Prince Philip hospital in conjunction with Helen John's fundraising. Hoffe Rebecca a'r teulu ddiolch i bawb am bob arwydd o gydymdeimlad ac am y rhoddion hael i ysbyty Tywysog Philip.

Neuadd Mynyddygarreg will hold a Bingo evening on Saturday 5th April, with cash prizes. Do come along for a fun evening. Light refreshments will be on sale. On Sunday April 13th, they will host an Easter Egg hunt for the younger people. Details of all events can be found on their Facebook page,

A reminder of the KAMPS pantomime , 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears ' on 25th, 26th, 27th April. Please support this hard-working group of local thespians who provide us with much entertainment treading the boards throughout the year.

Warmest Congratulations and very best wishes to our dear friend, Rev. Roger Morley-Jones on the recent celebration of a milestone birthday. Llongyfarchiadau, bendith a chariad Roger oddiwrth eich ffrindiau yn Eglwys fach Sant Teilo.

Our very best wishes to Tomos Jôb and Audrey Griffiths, Tyhir, who were hospitalized recently. Dymunwn gwellhad buan i'r ddau a, dyddiau gwell i ddod.

Capel Horeb will hold an Easter Day service at 2.00pm. Officiating will be the Rev.Ian Sims.

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APRIL Lent / NICOLA REEVE

MAY PEGGY DAVIES

READERS ROTA

6th APRIL JAYNE ROBERTS

20th APRIL NEVIN DAVIES

4th MAY DORIAN REEVE

Centenary Celebrations for the First Church in Wales church

The first church to be consecrated after the disestablishment of the Church in Wales in 1920 has just celebrated its 100th anniversary.

St Martin of Tours in Llay, near Wrexham, opened in 1925 as the village was being developed. It was built to serve miners at the new Llay Main Colliery and their families. It was described in a newspaper report at the time as being “cheering evidence of the courage and vitality of the Church in Wales”.

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Newyddion Sant Maelog News

Readers/Darllenwyr

April 6th - Helen Davies

13th - Sarah Walters

20th - Shan Rees

27th - Bethan and Elen

Doors/Dryisiau

6th Helen Davies

13th Sarah Walters

20th - Shan Rees/Rheinalt Jones/ Kath Williams

27th - Sally Rees

Flowers/Blodau

27th April Shan Rees

4-11 May Mary Jones Cilfeithy

The church quiz held in March was a very entertaining and successful evening. There were 18 teams battling it out and the victors were 'The big fact hunt' who very kindly donated their winnings to the church. Thank you to Eleri Hughes and Llinos Jones for being quiz masters and to Eleri who also wrote the questions. Thank you also to everyone who attended and brought food and raffle prizes.

Congratulations to Sally Rees on the birth of her grandchild. Ellen and Enis Dzebo welcomed their second child at the beginning of March, a beautiful boy, Kaid.

Llandyfaelog show had their AGM Meeting in February. Peter Francis was thanked for his hard work as Chairperson for the last year and Llinos Jones was appointed the new Chairperson for this year's show which will be in September. Mary Francis-Jones was appointed secretary and Jenny Jones continues as treasurer.

We wish David Hughes a speedy recovery after a recent fall. Gwellhad buan i ti David.

Deepest sympathies go to Gareth Thomas who has sadly lost his father. Pob cydymdeimlad i ti Gareth a Carys.

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It was sad to hear the news that Maralyn Edwards former landlady of the Red Lion had passed away. The funeral was held in Llanelli crematorium by Father Jim Flanagan.

Whats on

April 5th - Llandyfaelog Show have a 'Tip it' evening at village hall starting at 7.30. Refreshments and a bar are available.

Easter Sunday - following the Service there will be an Easter egg hunt at the church and hot cross buns.

9th June - The hall committee has arranged for St John's Ambulance to do a community first aid training at 7.30pm at the hall. If anyone is interested please contact Arfon the hall secretary 07772254393.

It is time to renew the 100 club membership for the hall. If you have had membership before and would like to continue or to join as a new member please contact the hall committee.

Where did your Easter Egg come from?

Your Easter egg can be traced back to the early Church in Mesopotamia.

Since ancient times, people had been giving each other eggs at pagan Spring festivals, as eggs were a symbol of the new life and rebirth in nature all around them. Then came Jesus and His death and resurrection, which made Easter the ultimate time for Christians to celebrate new life and rebirth. After that, it was only a matter of time before eggs found their way into commemorating Easter.

This seems to have first happened with the very early church in Mesopotamia, where those early Christians began dyeing their eggs after Easter, to celebrate the new birth that Jesus had given to them. The practice of using eggs in Easter celebrations then spread to the Orthodox Churches, and from there to the Western Churches across Europe.

This year, why not buy an extra Easter egg or two, and join our church in donating them to our local food bank? You will make some local children very happy!



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The paintings of JMW Turner



It was 250 years ago, on 23rd April 1775, that ground-breaking British artist J M W Turner was born. The London-born

watercolourist and printmaker transformed the established methods of painting, sweeping aside classical preoccupations of form and order.

Joseph Mallord William Turner, known in his time as William Turner, was a child prodigy born to a modest lower-middle-class family. He enrolled at the Royal Academy of Arts when he was 14 and exhibited his first work there a year later. He was a controversial figure, prone to depression and eccentric ideas, such as having himself tied to the mast of a ship during a storm so that he could experience what he wanted to paint.

Nevertheless Turner, who never married but had two daughters by the widow Sarah Danby, had many admirers and supporters from the outset. He travelled widely, particularly around Europe in 1802, and worked in the open air on detailed pencil sketches which he then turned into paintings.

One of his supporters was the MP and artist Walter Fawkes of Farnley Hall, near Otley in Yorkshire, and Turner returned to the area frequently to paint. He was also a friend of the Norwich School artist and clergyman Thomas Daniell. Turner was certainly not a conventional Christian, but he had attended a Methodist Sunday school as a child and had a deep belief in God as Creator, which he reflected in his use of light in landscapes. Many of his paintings had Biblical themes.

Considered one of the most influential artists of all time, Turner is pictured on the £20 banknote, and this year sees a twelve-month festival of events and exhibitions across the UK to mark the 250 years since his birth.



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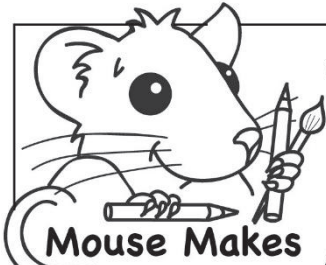
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 and showed us the resurrection to
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Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
 "Jesus ...is not here, for He
 has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6



Jesus is here

Jesus said:
 "Where two or three
 come together
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 there with them."
Matthew 18:20



READ the story of
 the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
 and *21:1-14*

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John 14:3



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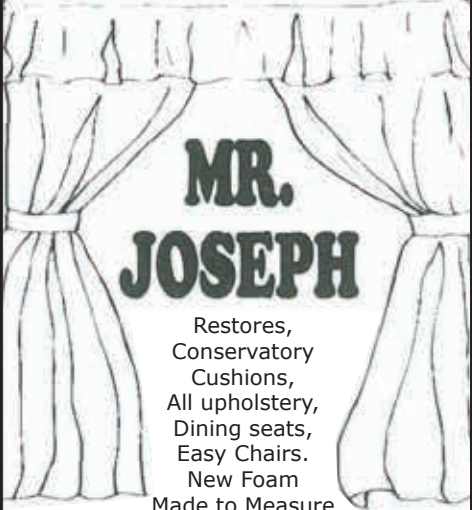
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Parish Readings for April 2025

Red Lectionary pages in []

Sunday 6th April 5th Sunday of Lent: Passion Sunday

Liturgical Colour: Purple/Red

Eucharist: Isaiah 43.16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3.4b-14; John 12.1-4 [p835]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 35 or 35.1-9; 2 Chronicles 35.1-6,10-16; Luke 22.1-13

Reader: Ted Rowlands

Sunday 13th April 6th Sunday of Lent: Palm Sunday

Liturgical Colour: Red

Eucharist: *Liturgy of the Palms:* Luke 19. 28-40; Psalm 118.[1,2]19-29; Philippians 2.5-11; Luke 22.14-23.56 or Luke 23.1-49 [p838]

Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-16,[17,18]; Philippians 2.5-11; Luke 22.14-23.56 or Luke 23.1-49 [p840]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 69.1-18; Isaiah 5.1-7; Luke 20.9-19

Reader: Jenny Jones

Sunday 20th April Easter Day Liturgical Colour: White

Eucharist: Isaiah 65.17-25; Psalm 118.[1,2]14-24; Acts 10.34-43; John 20.1-18 or Luke 24.1-12 [p851]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 66; 114;117; Isaiah 43.1-21; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 or John 20. 19-23

Reader: Kath Nicholas

Sunday 27th April 2nd Sunday of Easter Liturgical Colour: White

Eucharist: Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20,21; [p 1190] Psalm 118. 14-29 or 150; Acts 5.27-32; John 20.19-31[p859]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 16; Isaiah 52.13-53.12 or 53.1-6,9-12; Luke 24.13-35

Reader: Kath Nicholas

Sunday 4th May 3rd Sunday of Easter Liturgical Colour: White

Eucharist: Zephaniah 3.14-20; [p1192] Psalm 30; Acts 9.1-6,[7-20]; John 21.1-19 [p864]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 86; Isaiah 38.9-20; John 11.[17-26,]27-44

Reader: Brenda Evans

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the effect of Easter...

The Real Easter

In CS Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, the lion Aslan is put to death by the White Witch. The stone table on which He is killed cracks in two, but Aslan meets with Lucy and Susan alive again. He explains the Witch's failure:

'her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack, and Death itself would start working backwards.'

This is a great picture of what Jesus' cross and His resurrection has achieved. As Paul writes, *'I want to know Christ, to know the power of His resurrection'* (Philippians 3:10). To understand the real Easter, we should experience the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!

New Hope: Like the girls in the story, Easter highlights the sadness and confusion that loss brings. Yet the resurrection of Jesus brings new hope, as it demonstrates the victory secured by the cross over sin, Satan and death. We can face life's difficulties knowing that Jesus walks beside us.

New Love: Our relationships are often characterised by a lack of forgiveness, hurt and betrayal. Yet Jesus' resurrection opens the possibility of new love, as His power enables us to accept others and forgive them.

New Life: When we are trying to make sense of life, like the girls in the story, Jesus offers us a living relationship with Himself. It's a friendship with God through Jesus that can begin today and continue for eternity.

When Lucy met Aslan again, she cried: *'Oh, you're real, you're real!'* We too can find the real Easter through a life changing encounter with the living Christ.

Easter Thoughts in a Churchyard

It's a yearly paradox. You've brought some flowers to the churchyard to lay on the grave of a loved one. All around you are graves and headstones, reminders of the inevitable end of life's earthly journey. But it's Easter Day, and from within the church you can hear the singing: 'Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!' Perhaps then you notice a few other things. You're standing among the fresh daffodils and the grass that's suddenly green and growing again. For a moment you pause and reflect on the reverse of an old saying. In the midst of death – we are in life!

That essentially is what Easter is about – an annual reminder that death is not the end of the story. Cookham, in Berkshire, was once the home of the great 20th century painter, Stanley Spencer. Perhaps his most famous painting is 'Resurrection in Cookham Churchyard', which depicts local residents – many of them recognisable village characters – rising up out of their graves to be greeted by the risen Jesus, standing in the church porch. It's a glorious, vivid, shocking reminder of a great assertion. The graveyard is not a terminus, but a junction.

The resurrection of Jesus (and hence our resurrections, too) is the defining claim of Christianity. Christians don't follow the teaching of a prophet who died many centuries ago, or of a holy man whose life is an example to follow, excellent as that may be. They put their trust in a Saviour whom they believe is alive and with them now, and they also believe that through Him they too will move through the junction of death to the journey that lies beyond – a journey he talked about to His followers.

The annual paradox lies in the inescapable fact of death, indelibly represented by those graves and headstones, and in the equally inescapable fact that – in apparent defiance of all logic – human beings down the ages have clung to the belief that death is not the end.

Every culture has its story of the life beyond – the Elysian fields, Valhalla, Nirvana, Abraham's bosom. But only with the coming of Jesus, and the witnessed events of that first Easter morning, has our instinctive belief been given wings. The paradox is the heart of everything. Death is a fact, but life is greater than death. 'Because I live', said Jesus, 'you will also live'.

Second most dangerous place in the World for Christians

After North Korea, where in the world is it most dangerous to be a Christian?

The World Watch List puts Somalia in second place. In the entire country there are only hundreds of Christians, almost all from a Muslim background.

As under President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, being Muslim is a huge part of Somali identity, to reject Islam is seen as a huge betrayal. Somali converts to Christianity are often killed on the spot when their faith is discovered – murdered either by Islamic militants or even their own family.

Believers who aren't killed outright face vicious persecution from family members, house arrest, forced marriage, sexual violence or being forced to take part in Islamic rituals.

Al-Shabaab, a violent Islamic militant group at war with the government, controls large swathes of the country. This group enforces a strict form of Sharia (Islamic law) and is especially keen to eradicate Christianity from Somalia. Church leaders are particularly targeted.

How can you help Somali Christians? Please keep praying, as your prayers make an enormous difference to those following Jesus, no matter the cost.

Open Doors supports Somali believers across the Horn of Africa through discipleship training and by equipping them to cope with severe persecution. If you want to help, please go to: <https://www.opendoorsuk.org>

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 Brownies, Guides, Rangers

Josie Wells 07876340377

Jennie Collins 07534212314

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: Brenda Evans
07796430991

Royal British Legion: Trevor Eliot
07807710699

Ty Golau: Janet Lewis 01554 890896

WI President: Nannette Jones 01554
890206

St. Mary's Kidwelly

**Lent Course on Wednesday evenings
2nd, 9th, 16th April – details inside
magazine**

**Lent Lunches on Thursday 3rd, & 10th
April at 12 noon in the Parish Room**

3rd April

7.00pm Taize service

6th April

9.30am **Lent 5/Passion Sunday**
Choral Eucharist

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 8th

12 noon MU fundraiser in the
Parish Room – Soup & Dessert

13th April

9.30am **Palm Sunday**
Choral Eucharist

11.00am Cymun Bendigaid

4.00pm Festal Palm Sunday
service

**Holy Week Services – details in the
magazine**

20th April

5.55am **Easter Day**
Sunrise service
9.30am Choral Eucharist
6.00pm Festive Evensong

27th April

9.30am **Easter 2**
Family Eucharist

6.00pm Evening Prayer

4th May

9.30am **Easter 3**
Choral Eucharist

6.00pm Evening Prayer

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

Services

April 2025

St Maelog's, Llandyfaelog

6th April Sunday

11.15am Bilingual Morning Prayer

13th April

11.15am **Palm Sunday**
Bilingual Eucharist

Maundy Thursday

10.30am Eucharist & Stripping of
the church (feet washing)

Good Friday

10.30am Devotional Service

20th April

11.15am **Easter Day**
Bilingual Eucharist

27th April

11.15am **Easter 2**
Bilingual Family
Service

4th May

11.15am **Easter 3**
Bilingual Morning
Prayer

St Teilo's, Mynyddygarreg

2nd April

7.00pm Lent Course

6th April

11.15am **Lent 5**
Bilingual Eucharist

20th April

11.15am **Easter Day**
Bilingual Eucharist

4th May

11.15am **Easter 3**
Bilingual Eucharist