

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

October 2026

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Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

I am writing these words in a rush, the copy date for the magazine is looming and as ever and to my shame I have left it late again. I returned to work 17 days ago after my annual summer holiday and it seems that I need another week off to recover from it and to catch up. August tends to be a quiet month in the church, people are away and so not much happening other than the run of the mill things that always need to be dealt with. When we land in September all that changes and the next few months begin to look full, there is Harvest-tide, All Souls, Remembrance, Advent and before we know where we are Christmas will be upon us. For me, the last third of the year is possibly my favourite time of the year despite the manic nature that it can bring. This year there is an extra date in the calendar with a confirmation service at the end of November and with it a series of sessions of preparation for the candidates before they are confirmed by the Bishop. All in all, it is a busy time for the church and all who are associated with it and in my case the memories of a relaxing time away are vanishing into the past.

I am not writing this to elicit any sympathy; it is the nature of ministry coupled with the events and seasons of the year. But it does remind me that there is often a need to ensure that a bit of time is taken to relax and unwind, I am very bad at doing this as Lisa will tell you. However, if we look to the Gospels, we see time and time again when Jesus went off to pray on his own, to relax and unwind. He tells his disciples that they too should make a point of stopping and stepping away from the crowds. This is sage advice and certainly something I should follow as should we all. In the busyness of life, we can often get so caught up and fail to take good care of ourselves. We might think that we do not have the time, that there is so much to do that needs our attention. This time of year is certainly one for reflection, we should acknowledge the wonders of God's great creation as we celebrate the harvest. At All souls and Remembrance-tide we should recognise the love and sacrifice of those who have passed this way before us and with Advent and Christmas we would do well to think about the great joy and wonder that comes with the incarnation of the Son of God. We can do none of this, if we don't take the time to just stop and still ourselves. Obviously we do this in our worship, but we must make time in our daily lives to stop and spend time quietly marvelling and giving thanks for what we have. If we are continually rushing around, we may very well miss the whispered voice of the Spirit, fail to see the wonders around us and fail to recognise the love and grace that is bestowed upon us.

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Perhaps I can take my own advice and remember that even Christ Himself took time out to rest, I sincerely hope that you can too, we will all be better for it.

Blessings

Fr. Jim



St. Mary's News

CONFIRMATION

A confirmation service will be held on the 22nd of November in St. Mary's and anyone wishing to be confirmed please could they speak to Fr. Jim ASAP.

There will be a few preparation sessions beforehand and dates for these are as follows:

Thursday 22nd and 29th October Thursday 5th, 12th and 19th November There may be some flexibility the week of half-term.

All in the Parish Room Kidwelly at 7.00pm

Harvest at St. Mary's

Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 4th October at 11.00am followed by our Buffet Lunch in church. There is no charge but donations for church funds will be welcome. We will put a list at the back of church for you to sign up for the lunch. Co-ordinator for the lunch will be Anna Brown. 07971 797164. #

We will decorate and clean brass in church on Friday 2nd October from 10.00am. Donations of flowers, fruit and vegetables or money will be appreciated to enhance church in readiness for our thanksgiving.

St. Mary's Readers and Sides people for 9.30am

Readers

Sides people

October

4th Chris Steyn

Heather and Layla

11th Gavin Witt Cymraeg Jayne Roberts

Kath and Brian

18th Maureen James

Mandy and Lynne

25th Angela Tonge

Lynda and Angela

November 2026

1st Brenda Evans

Maureen and Angela



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

October

7th October Canon Bryan 14th October Kath Nicholas
21st October Nevin Davies 28th October Ian Walker
November 4th Brenda Evans

100 Club -Winners for September 101, 25, 99

Thank you to everyone who supports the 100 club. It provides much needed extra income for the church funds. Contact Brenda if you would like to join the 100 club.

Altar Flower Rota

4th October Harvest – Joint effort Contributions welcome to decorate the church for Harvest Festival.

18th/25th October Heather Witt

1st/8th November Ceris Harries (Pulpit Stand)

If you would like to go on the altar flower list in 2027 or contribute to the Flower Fund, please contact me. (01554 890 803)

Congratulations to Thea Harknett, daughter of Revd. Helen Harknett, on becoming the Head Chorister at Southwark Cathedral last month.

Prayer Corner:

We continue to pray for all those in our community who are unwell either at home, in hospital or in residential care just now. By the votive candle stand in St. Mary's, there is an intercessions book where you may leave



any prayer requests which will be prayed at the Wednesday morning Eucharist service.

Lord, hold us, help us, heal us, that with our broken lives we may be made whole in you. Amen

For those who have died recently in our community and for those bereaved by the loss of a loved one we pray: *God, you give us life to live and celebrate; you*

know our grief when loved ones leave us: help us recall that you have lived though death and brought all loved ones home. Amen



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Ty-Golau at Kidwelly

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When? Every Monday morning
(10.30-12.00)

Refreshments included in the price of £6.00
Carers £2

For further information contact: Janet Lewis
(Manager) Tel: 01554 890 896



Branch News

October's meeting will be on Wednesday 14th October at 2.00pm in the Parish room and will be a planning meeting for the upcoming session.

150th Anniversary Celebrations – Join Us Join In

This mmembers from across our global fellowship will gather to celebrate our shared faith, reflect on all that Mothers' Union has achieved over 150 years and look ahead to the future together. With worship, inspiring speakers, opportunities to connect and plenty of time for fellowship, it promises to be a memorable celebration of our worldwide movement.

We look forward to welcoming delegates to Durban as we celebrate this special milestone together.

New CEO appointed

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Alison Marshall as the new Chief Executive of Mothers' Union.

Alison brings more than 30 years of experience in international development, advocacy, campaigning and charity leadership to the organisation, as Mothers' Union looks ahead to the next chapter of its worldwide mission.



Weekly what's on at Canolfan John Burns



**Booking
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Activities**

We host a wide range of activities
at the Centre, including:



- A variety of chair-based exercise classes
- A regular coffee morning
- A dementia support group
- The local Scout troop
- Yoga
- Tai Chi
- Parent and baby sessions
- Local interest groups
- Counselling and health clinics
- High-impact exercise sessions



For further details please call us on
01554 890840 or pop by.

Our standard opening times are
9am-5pm Monday - Friday.



We also have volunteer
opportunities.



Carmarthen Road, Kidwelly SA17 5AB

Information correct as of 14th January 2026

Parish Room Activities



PLANT DEWI

Lle Mae Teuluoedd yn Bwysig
Where Families Matter

Mae Canolfan Deuluol Porth Tywyn sy'n rhan o Blant Dewi yn dychwelyd i ystafell y Plwyf, bore Iau 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 has returned 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.

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cfo.kidwelly>

Repair Cafe

We are a branch of Repair Cafe Wales and staffed entirely by volunteers, funded through donation. We can fix small electric appliances (including PAT testing), textiles, bicycles, hand tools and sharpen blades. We'll have

a look at anything you can get through the door. Any replacement parts need to be paid for by the customer, but we can help you source them. Whilst you wait for your item to be fixed you can have a cuppa and a biscuit for a small donation. We're happy to talk you through what we're doing and share our skills. We're always on the lookout for new volunteers and repairers

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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.



1st Kidwelly Rainbows Brownies, Guides and Rangers

Rainbows: aged 4-7

Brownies : aged 7-10

Guides : aged 10-14

Rangers : aged 14-18 yrs

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

The group held a family Bingo event in the Parish Room recently and raised £295.00 for their funds to help cover their census this year. It costs £55 per girl for the year, so they have some big bills to pay!!

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.

All items for the November magazine should be submitted no later than the 16th October please.



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TY-GOLAU
(HOUSE OF LIGHT)



Ty Golau Dementia Charitable Trust

How would you like an opportunity to make a positive difference to those people in our community who are living with dementia?

Are you free on a Monday morning each week?

If the reply to these questions is yes, then we have just the opportunity you've been looking for!

We are seeking volunteers who are willing to help with, e.g., getting service users to sessions at Ty Golau on a minibus (not driving), dealing with cash subscriptions, perhaps even playing the piano, and helping to tidy up after our weekly sessions. No previous experience is necessary, but you do have to be over 18 to apply.

If you think you fit the bill, please contact Elaine Morrisroe on 07751050839 or elaine.morrisroe@btinternet.com for a chat and application form, and you could soon be part of our team.



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Town News

Royal British Legion

The next meeting will be on Monday 5th October in the Boot and Shoe at 7.30pm

A reminder that there is a Quiz in the Boot and Shoe on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month for RBL funds.

Kidwelly Twinning Association

Dates for your diary -Market bake stall October 3rd, November 7th, and Christmas market on December 5th.

The next big music night will be on Friday 14th November with The Worried Men of Gower performing at the Princess Gwenllian Centre. More details later. Please do try and support either of these events.

KIDWELLY SENIOR CITIZENS.

Not quite what we expected for our September meeting, we were going to have a lovely buffet but had to cancel as we had the small room at the Rugby Club. But we were able to welcome another new member, Petra Trinci. We hope she enjoys being with us.

Get well soon wishes go to Corrie, after an operation, and Liz who is recovering well from her hip operation.

The trip to Fishguard in August was a great success, somewhere that a lot of us hadn't been for a long time. Plenty to do there, including seeing the tapestry depicting the last invasion of Britain by the French. Beautiful embroidery telling the story. Also stopped off at Tregwynt Woollen Mill on the way home.

Two trips were arranged, one to Talbot Green in September, and one to Pontypridd, where they apparently have a good market, on October 21st. We had a vote on where to go for our Christmas 'Do' and the majority voted for the Red Lion. This will be on December 16th.

So our buffet will now be at our next meeting, 7th October in the Rugby Club, starting earlier at 1.30pm.

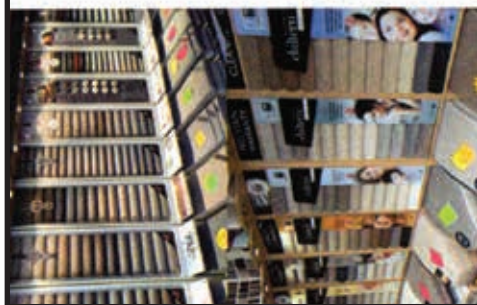


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Newyddion St. Teilo News

Well, here we are, rolling into October when the clocks roll back an hour on the 25th. Most of us will be thinking the same thing as we have done for years, is a change of time truly necessary? We are told it is to do with light and ease of work, but does that really apply any more, particularly to industry? But mainly, October signals end of summer and a lengthy (it seems) winter, (Winterfyllleth of old). For youngsters of course it signals Halloween and Trick and Treating and dressing up, and for us oldies oh, memories of the much anticipated visit of the Kidwelly Fair with its streets full of stalls, breathtaking rides and games and, winning a goldfish with three darts which was lovingly carried home in a tiny plastic bag, to forever live its life in a bowl on a shelf and fed with a daily pinch of food and a weekly water change. For adults, we have harvested the summer produce and are giving thanks for the bounteous store and gifts we have received. Ecclesiastes 3:1 gives us a beautiful sentence and covers so much in life. October in Roman times was the Eighth month (Octo), The calendar starting in March, January and February were not in being. It is also known for being Wine month (to harvest the grape). One piece of trivia I learnt in school, William Shakespeare never mentioned the month of October in any of his plays! But, as we celebrate Thanksgiving in our Churches and Chapels, let us do so with a gladsome song because we have so very much to be grateful for, Diolch a fo I Dduw.

MYNYDDYGARREG SENIORS CLUB 's last meeting welcomed as speaker, the Venerable Randolph Thomas who, entertained us with his usual jolly but deeply meaningful words, sharing with us his life and ministry. Many of us well remember him arriving in Kidwelly as a young Curate and the impact he made on our Parish bringing so many young people into the Church. The planned outing to Hereford Cathedral and Oakchurch Farm Shop on the 29th September was finalized and the Christmas Dinner venue was discussed. At our November meeting, we have Elin Cullen taking us in a Christmas Wreath making class. Anyone wanting to join us for that one, please get in touch. The Raffle was won by Marlene.

To celebrate Dorian's very big Birthday, Mair Anlais provided a densely lit Birthday Cake (diolch yn fawr i ti Mair) and Dorian brought along cakes so our tea ladies of the day, Jayne and Mair, were kept very busy. Happy Birthday in song was wished to Annette for her September birthday. The next meeting will be at the Neuadd ,7th October, 2.00pm, all welcome.

Tai Chi
Shibashi
For Your
Nearest
Class Contact
Jane

07792814312
739jane@gmail
.com

WE EXTEND OUR CONOLENCES to Peggy and Raymond on the passing last month of Peggy's cousin and dear friend, Marged who lived in Meinciau. Meddwl amdana ti a'r teulu Peggy.

Also, condolences to the family of the late Lloyd Morgans who passed away recently. A familiar and much-loved sight around the village where he lived for some time at Parc Sidan cottage, we will remember him with affection.

A MURDER MYSTERY night will be held at the Hall on Saturday 3rd October. Presenting 'The Mystery of Talbot Manor' will be our local group of Thespians, KAMPS. Tickets inclusive of Light Buffet are £10, (and selling fast) to be purchased pre-event online.

NEUADD MYNYDDYGARREG's annual BEERFEST held in September was a great success, with a huge crowd being entertained by Crows Foot, Brook Fox and, the Wurlitzers. Safe to say, a grand time was had by all. The Chairman, Cllr. Carl Peters-Bond, wishes to thank Neil and Sue Woodward along with the Committee and friends for their very hard work towards this event and everyone who attended and made it such a fun event. Diolch I bawb am gefnogi y digwyddiad a'n Neuadd y Pentre.

A CONCERT BY THE GROUP 'A'R LÔG' will take place at the Neuadd on Friday 19th October. The group are touring Wales as part of their 50th year celebrations. Tickets are £22 and are obtainable from the organizer Helen John, Crud yr Awel. Tel. 891480., the proceeds to be donated to Charity.

A SERVICE AT CAPEL HOREB will be held on Monday 12th October at 6.00pm when the Parchedig Beti Wyn James will officiate at a Thanksgiving/ Diolchgarwch service. All are welcome.

THE MYNYDDYGARREG TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY will take place on Friday 27th November at the village Park. More details to follow.

A NEWLY FORMED TAI CHI class is to be held at the Neuadd every Thursday at 2.00pm., weekly fee £7.50. All ages welcome.

SANT TEILO'S HARVEST THANKSGIVING FOODBANK APPEAL will once again go to their usual Charity, Myrtle House, Llanelli. Any Food donations will be gratefully accepted in the next couple of weeks.

THE SANT TEILO ANNUAL COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE new date is now Sunday 13th December at 7.00pm. (not 6th). Sorry for any inconvenience caused. DR

CROESO NÔL ADRE i Megan Reeve after her working trip to Asia and Australia, a visit which she appreciated very much. Falch i gael ti adre yn sâff Megan Rowena x

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And my sincere thanks for every token, cards, gifts and love given to me as I reached the grand Birthday in August. To my little family, you mean the world to me and gave me a birthday to remember., diolch. To my dear wonderful friends, where would I be without you all, not just for my birthday but for your support all times, diolch o galon. Philippians 1:3. Dor x

FLOWER ROTA

OCTOBER. Christine Evans.

NOVEMBER. Margaret Hughes

READERS ROTA

4th OCTOBER. At St Mary's

18th OCTOBER Lisa Flanagan

1st NOVEMBER Linda Walters

Sudoku -medium

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



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Newyddion Sant Maelog News

Flowers/Blodau

4th October Sarah Walters
25 October -1 Nov - Kath Williams

11-18 October Ffion Bennett

Readers/Darllenwyr

4th October - Sarah Walters
11th October - Vivian Griffiths
18th October - Dyfrig Jones
25th October - Elen a Bethan

Door/Drws

Sarah Walters
Shan Rees
Sally Rees
Shan Rees

What's on

Harvest Thanksgiving - Tuesday 6th October with St Ishmaels YFC followed by harvest supper at the Red Lion Inn.

Coffee and chat - Tuesday 13th October at 10.30 with Ann Turner a retired medical herbalist. As always everyone welcome.
November's Coffee and chat will be a member of Carmarthenshire's toy appeal and that will be the 3rd of November.

St Maelog's church quiz night is on Friday 23rd of October at 7.30pm held in Llandyfaelog hall. A licensed bar and light refreshments available. The last quiz was great fun so please let Shan know if you would like a team.

The Feast of St Maelog is celebrated on Sunday 15th of November at 11.15am. Bishop Dorrien will be with us to bless the church bells followed by Sunday lunch in the Red Lion. Names to Sally and Shan please.

Confirmation Service in St. Mary's Sunday 22nd of November. There will be confirmation classes in St Mary's Kidwelly starting Thursday 22nd October. Please let Father Jim or Shan know if you would like to be confirmed or know of anyone who would like to.

Tuesday 15th of December is a return of our poultry whist drive. This will be held in Llandyfaelog hall at 7.30pm and money raised to St Maelog's church.



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2026 Community garden Competition

The 12th annual Llandyfaelog Community Garden Competition was won by Mr and Mrs Davies, Plas Glanrhyd, who received the Dennis Davies Shield. Competition judges were Becky Hill and Carrie Brill of Cilshafe Garden Design.

The Best Vegetable Garden section was won by 20 St Anne's Cwmffrwd. Second was Penrhiw, Croesyceiliog and third was Fforest Isaf, Llandyfaelog.

The large flower garden section was won by Ysgubor Hen, Llandyfaelog with Pibwr Villa, Cwmffrwd coming second and Pentywyn, Croesyceiliog third.

The small flower garden section was won by 14 St Anne's, Cwmffrwd. Plas Abercyfor, Cwmffrwd was second and 3 Bro Pedr, Llandyfaelog came third.

The container garden section was won by Llygaid yr Efail, Upland Arms with 3 Bro Pedr coming second.

The competition judges were very impressed by the quality of all the gardens and congratulations to everyone who was nominated.

Llandyfaelog Show

At the Llandyfaelog show last month a joint competition was held for the best decorated wheelbarrow. The competition sponsored by the show committee and Llandyfaelog Community council was open to individuals in the show's 5 parishes.

14 entries were received with judges, Mr Colin Jones and Bethan Jenkins awarding as follows

1st Llansaint WI £75.00

2nd John Burns Foundation £50.00

3rd St Anne's Church £25.00

The winning entry received the Mair Stephens Memorial Shield for Community Effort.

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Parish Readings for October

Red Lectionary pages in []

Sunday 4th October Trinity 18/Harvest Thanksgiving

NB: 11.00am

(Liturgical Colour: White)

Eucharist: Deuteronomy 8.7-18; Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9. 6-15; Luke 12.16-30 [p1155]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 67; 1 Chronicles 29.10-18; 1st letter of John 4.7-21

Reader: Ted Rowlands

Sunday 11th October Trinity 19 (Liturgical Colour: Green)

Eucharist: Isaiah 25.1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4.1-9; Mtthew22:1-14 [p387]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 139.1-11,[12-18]; Proverbs 3. 1-18; 1 John 3.1-15

Reader: Brenda Evans

Sunday 18th October St Luke/Trinity20 (Liturgical Colour: Red)

Eucharist: Isaiah 35.3-6 or Acts 16.6-12a; Psalm 147; 2 Timothy 4.5-17; Luke 10.1-9 [p1137]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 103; Sirach 38.1-14 or Isaiah 61.1-6; Colossians 4.7-18 Reader: Kath Nicholas

Sunday 25th October Last Sunday after Trinity/Bible Sunday

Eucharist: Either Leviticus 19.1,2,15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8; Matthew 22.34-46 or Nehemiah 8.1-4a,[5,6]8-12; Psalm 119.9-16; Colossians 3.12-17; Matthew 24.30-35

Evening Prayer: Psalm 119.89-104; Isaiah 55.1-11; Luke 4.14-30

Reader Jenny Jones

Sunday 1st November All Saint's Day (Liturgical Colour: White)

Eucharist: Revelation 7.9-17; Psalm 34.1-10; 1John 3.1-3; Mathew 5:1-12 [p416]

Evening Prayer: Psalm 148;150; Isaiah 65.17-25; Hebrews 11.32-12.2

Reader: Ted Rowlands

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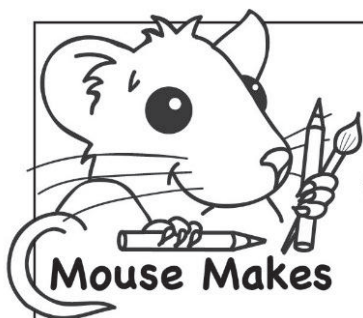
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2. Which book of the Bible has the shortest title?



4. He was an Old Testament prophet that has a book named after him.

9. The Old Testament book of poetry and songs.

11. The last book in the Old Testament.

12. Which book tells the story of the spread of Christianity?



1. How many books are there in the New Testament?

2



3

5. The first book of the Bible.



8. The last book in the Bible.

8

10. Who wrote the third book of the New Testament?

10

12

13. The Bible is also known as the

of God.
Hebrews 4:12

1

3

5

13

14

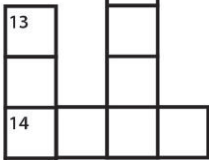
3. The Word of God is sharper than a two edged sword
Hebrews 4:12

6. God's word is like? A _____ and a _____
Psalms 119:105

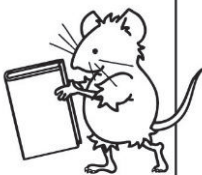
7. What are the first four books of the New Testament known as?



B I B L E S U N D A Y



14. A book of the Bible named after a woman





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How Tyndale affects what you say - today

It is 500 years since William Tyndale printed the very first English translation of the New Testament.

And hundreds of millions of people today are still quoting him, though they don't know it. For in 1526 Tyndale invented what would become some of the most famous idioms in the English-speaking world.

For instance –

“The salt of the earth”; “Go the extra mile”; “The powers that be”; “Eat, drink and be merry”; “A city on a hill”; “The apple of his eye”; “In the twinkling of an eye”; “Signs of the times”; “My brother’s keeper”; “Fight the good fight”; “Broken-hearted”; “Fallen flat on his face.”

These phrases were all invented by Tyndale, during his translation from the original Greek of the New Testament.

As a young Catholic priest in England, Tyndale had been inspired by Martin Luther’s groundbreaking translation of the Bible into German, and he went to work doing the same for English speakers. No wonder that the Bible Society describes Tyndale as a ‘background radical’ during Henry VIII’s reign (he’s mentioned in *Wolf Hall* but doesn’t get involved in the action).

Tyndale invented words, too, when he couldn’t find a direct English equivalent for a Greek or Hebrew concept. Here are just some:

Scapegoat: To describe the goat burdened with the sins of the people and sent into the wilderness.

Atonement: Literally “at-one-ment”, created to describe being at one with God.

Passover: Coined to describe the Jewish holiday where the angel of death passed over the homes of the Israelites.

Busybody: Invented to describe someone who meddles in other people’s business.

Tyndale’s work has survived multiple revisions of the Bible down the centuries. It is found in the Authorised Version of the Bible, the RSV, the ASV or the ESV, among others.

More at Bible Society’s website: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk> Just type ‘Tyndale’ into its ‘search’ box.

Jason Williams Removals

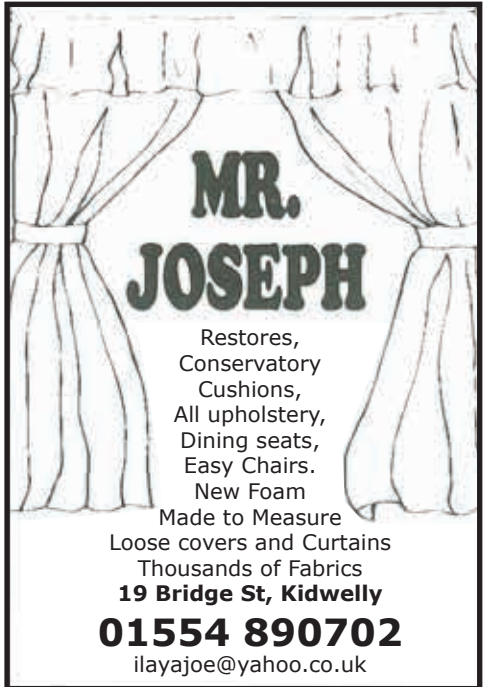
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Fall, Leaves, Fall

Emily Bronte 1818-1848

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.
I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day.

"Fall, Leaves, Fall" by Emily Brontë is a poem that celebrates the beauty of autumn and the transition to winter, expressing joy in the changing seasons. The speaker finds bliss in the falling leaves and welcomes the arrival of winter's snow, embracing the cycle of decay and renewal.

The Eagle

Alfred Lord Tennyson 1809-1892

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

The Eagle by Alfred Lord Tennyson is a short two stanza poem that speaks on the power and solitude of a lone eagle on a rocky cliff.

The poem begins with the speaker describing how a solitary eagle is standing on the top of a craggy cliff. From where he is perched, with his "crooked hands" gripping the rocks, he can survey the whole "azure world" around and below him.

Tennyson's eagle is in a real place of power and as soon as he is ready to, and not a moment sooner, he dives. In the final line, he makes his surprise move, barrelling down toward the water in search of prey.

Let me know if you've got a favourite poem you'd like to share. Brenda



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Thank you Dr. Luke!

by David Winter

‘Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, bless the bed that I lie on’ – my grandma taught me that one. At least it meant I never forgot the names of the writers of the four Gospels. This month Luke, the writer of the third of them, has his feast day – 18th October.

He was, we learn from the letters of St Paul, a ‘physician’ – an educated man and probably the only one of the writers of the New Testament who was not a Jew. In modern terms, he was Turkish. Paul took him as one of his missionary team on a long journey around the Middle East, and they clearly became close friends. Under house arrest later in his life Paul could write, ‘only Luke is with me’.

However, it is his Gospel which has established him as a major figure in the history of the Christian Church. Mark’s Gospel may have more drama, Matthew’s more prophetic background and John’s a more profound sense of the mystery of the divine, but Luke offers us a Jesus who is utterly and believably real. This man turned no one away, reserved his harshest words for hypocrites and religious grandees, cared for the marginalised, the poor, the persecuted, the handicapped and the sinful. His Gospel is full of people we can recognise – indeed, in whom we can often recognise ourselves.

He was also a masterly storyteller. Try, for instance, the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). Read it (this time) not as a sacred text but as a brilliant piece of storytelling: subtle repetitions (‘your son, this brother of yours’), believable characters, drama and profound emotion. There is the older brother, so cynical about his sibling’s alleged reformation, the ‘prodigal’ himself, so hesitant about throwing himself on his father’s mercy after the folly of his earlier behaviour, and there is the father, of course, abandoning the dignity of his role in the family and actually running to welcome his wretched son’s return.

There are more women in Luke’s Gospel than in any of the others, but also more poor people, more lepers, more ‘sinners’ and tax-collectors, more ‘outsiders’ who are shown to be ‘inside’ the love of Christ. This, for many of us, is the great Gospel of inclusion and compassion. Here is a Jesus for the whole world and for every one of us. Thank you, Dr Luke!

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