

Pedair Afon Ministry Area

The Magazine

Nothing is impossible with God



Come and See



April 2025

REGULAR SERVICES IN THE MINISTRY AREA

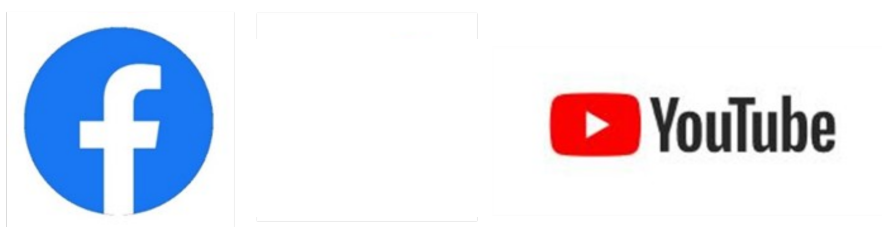


**You can find details of services for each church
on the middle pages of this magazine
and on the church notice boards**

**If you need more information please contact
your Ministry Area Council Representative,
or any member of the team,
who will be happy to help.**

**The Clergy Team and MAC members
are listed on page 40 of this issue**

**Look out for news on our Ministry Area Website,
Facebook and YouTube postings**



We are nearly there....

So, how is your Lent going?! Great, or not so great? Feeling like it is a long way to Holy Week, or has it flown by so far?

Has Lent felt like a complete disaster so far? Are you feeling a bit sick of it all?! If your Lent has stalled - did you start with plans that were a bit too much perhaps? I know of three vicars that boldly told the whole of Facebook they were coming off it for Lent only for them to sheepishly say it was too hard and they're all back on it now!



If this is how you are feeling too, fear not. I am going to share with you some suggestions to help us re-engage with Lent this year.

Firstly, we can practice what is called 'Gratitude in the Moment'.

Whenever I want to start over anything, I often think: "I'll start over later, tomorrow, when I've got time to sit down and take stock and then I will begin again." Inevitably, that moment never comes because I don't make it happen. I don't start over in the heat of the battle. So the battle never ends.

If you feel like you're drifting through Lent right now, please don't wait for the perfect time to restart. It won't happen- there isn't a perfect time. So wherever you are, stop, give yourself a few spare minutes, and thank God for, say, ten things about your day or your life right now. Gratitude can help us turn our hearts back to God when we don't know where else to begin

Secondly, we could ask ourselves what we have learnt so far this Lent.

When the road ahead looks long, it's easy to forget how far we have already come. So we can ask ourselves, what have we learnt so far this Lent? If the answer is 'nothing': maybe we need to ask ourselves again! It doesn't have to be anything specifically Lent related.

Maybe God has been working in our lives in a way we didn't at first realise? Maybe there is something nagging us in the back of our mind that God wants us to look at? Or perhaps we have learnt something through what we have given up, or taken up, that has surprised us? If we just take a few moments to remind ourselves why we started what we started, and rejoice in what we have learnt so far - even if it is only in the really little things!

The third suggestion would be to give ourselves a some time in a 'retreat'.

Now we may not have the luxury of being able to go away on an actual retreat between now and Easter, but is there a day, half day, or even just an

evening between now and then that we could turn into a mini retreat for ourselves?

If we have a really busy lifestyle, this may not be possible- but you might wish to include partners and family in your retreat plans too.

Ideas could include: a special visit to a new church or the Cathedral in Llandaff, going on a walk, writing our thoughts down, journaling, art, reading the Sunday gospel, spending some time in silence, and of course, in prayer. Perhaps we could intentionally put all the distractions (TV, radio, internet, phone, music etc) away for a set period of time and enter into some quality time with God.

My fourth suggestion would be that if we didn't start Lent with a plan, perhaps we could make one now!

Lent isn't meant to be a competition of who can give up the most, or be the most holy. It is meant to be a time of renewal, of clearing out the junk in our lives and letting Springtime enter our hearts, but let's also not forget that it is a time of friendship, of walking with Christ through his time in the desert. So when I say, 'make a plan' I don't mean, sit down and work out how you can cram in everything in the next few weeks. Instead, ask yourself - how can I plan my day so that there is a way I can best grow in time spent with Christ?

And finally, we could just walk quietly and humbly with our God...

As we get ever nearer to Holy Week, we need to remember that God wants us as much as we want Him. As good and wonderful as all the extra things we may be doing or giving up for Lent are, we need to remember to get to the heart of what this means for us personally. Perhaps we can focus our bible reading from now on in on the Gospel passages of Christ's return to Jerusalem, the Last Supper and the Way of the Cross, or maybe we can look at the Holy Week and Easter services listed in this magazine and just turn up at church. Now is the time to say to Jesus: "Lord, I have let myself be distracted in a thousand ways, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you.

May we come into Christ's embrace, and grow in His love, so that together, we can walk through the events of Holy Week with Him, and rejoice with Him on the other side! Amen.

Reverend Ceri



Ministry Area Annual Vestry Meeting 2025

The Annual Vestry Meeting will be held in June, and one of the things we need to do in preparation is to compile the annual report.

This will include reports from the clergy team, officers of the Ministry Area Council, and MA representatives of each of the churches, Mothers' Union, and in fact anyone who wishes to contribute.

Please send your report as soon as possible to Holly, the MA Secretary, and definitely by May 15th, so that the report can be printed and published in good time.

The date of the meeting will be announced in the May issue of the magazine. The meeting will be open to all interested parties. If you wish to vote in elections for wardens/MAC members, please check that your name is entered on the Ministry Area Electoral Roll.





St David's Wyndham

Easter Services

Friday 18th April: 2pm

Stations of the Cross. A chance to follow Jesus' journey to the cross through readings and prayer. Followed by Hot Cross Buns in the vicarage

Easter Sunday, 20th April. Service of light. 7am followed by breakfast in the vicarage

ALL WELCOME





St. Tyfodwg Glyn Ogwr Easter Services

Maundy Thursday Agape Supper: 7pm

Agape Supper. An informal service to celebrate the last meal Jesus shared with his friends. Come and join us for some bring and share food and prayer.

Easter Sunday: 10am

A traditional Easter service to celebrate the Resurrection.

All are welcome!



Praying Together At Home

In the morning

Lord, open our lips and we shall praise your name.

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

A bible reading from the lectionary of the day

A Collect (prayer for the day/week)

The Lord's Prayer

May the Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in
eternal life.

Amen.

Praying Together At Home

In the evening

O God, come to our aid. O Lord, make haste to help us.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,
The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

A reading from the lectionary of the day

A Collect

The Lord's Prayer

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.



Readings and Collects

<p>Mon 31 March Isaiah 65. 17-21 Psalm 30 John 4. 43-54</p>	<p>Tues 1 April Ezekiel 47. 1-9, 12 Psalm 46 John 5. 1-18</p>	<p>Wed 2 April Isaiah 49. 8-15 Psalm 145. 8-14 John 5. 19-30</p>
<p>Thur 3 April Exodus 32. 7-14 Psalm 103. 1-12 John 5. 31-47</p>	<p>Fri 4 April Wisdom 2. 1a, 12-22 Psalm 34. 15-22 John 7. 1,2, 10, 25-30</p>	<p>Sat 5 April Jeremiah 11. 18-20 Psalm 7. 1, 2, 8-11 John 7. 40-53</p>

<p>The Fifth Sunday of Lent: Passion Sunday Isaiah 43. 16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3. 4b-14 John 12. 1-8</p>	<p>Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>	
<p>Mon 7 April Brynach Susanna 1. 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Psalm 23 John 8. 1-11</p>	<p>Tues 8 April Griffith Jones Numbers 21. 4-9 Psalm 102. 1,2, 15-22 John 8. 21-30</p>	<p>Wed 9 April Dietrich Bonhoeffer Daniel 3. 13-28 Psalm 24. 1-6 John 8. 31-47</p>
<p>Thurs 10 April Genesis 17. 3-9 Psalm 105. 1-9 John 8. 51-59</p>	<p>Fri 11 April George Augustus Selwyn Jeremiah 20. 7-13 Psalm 18. 1-6 John 10. 31-42</p>	<p>Sat 12 April Ezekiel 37. 21b-28 Psalm 121 John 11.45-57</p>

<p>The Sixth Sunday of Lent: Palm Sunday Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19. 28-40 Psalm 118. 19-29 Philippians 2. 5-11 Luke 22. 14- 23.56</p>	<p>Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>
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<p>Monday in Holy Week 14 April Isaiah 42. 1-9 Psalm 36. 5-11 Hebrews 9. 11-15 John 12. 1-11</p>	<p>Tuesday in Holy Week 15 April Isaiah 49. 1-7 Psalm 71. 1-8, [9-14] 1 Corinthians 1. 18-31 John 12. 20-36</p>	<p>Wednesday in Holy Week 16 April Isaiah 50. 4-9a Psalm 70 Hebrews 12.1-3 John 13. 21-32</p>
<p>Maundy Thursday 17 April Exodus 12. 1-4, [5-10], 11-14 Psalm 116. 1,2,12-19 1 Corinthians 11. 23-26 John 13. 1-17, 31b-35</p>	<p>Good Friday 18 April Isaiah 52. 13- 53. 12 Psalm 22. 1-21 Hebrews 10. 16-25 John 18.1-19.42</p>	<p>Easter Eve Sat 19 April Job 14. 1-14 Psalm 31. 1-4, 15-16 1 Peter 4. 1-8 Matthew 27. 57-66 <i>or</i> John 19. 38-42</p>

<p>Easter Day Sunday 20 April Isaiah 65. 17-25 Psalm 118. 14-24 Acts 10. 34-43 John 20.1-18 <i>or</i> Luke 24. 1-12</p>	<p>Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. Amen.</p>	
<p>Monday in Easter Week 21 April Acts 2. 14, 22-32 Psalm 16. 1, 5-11 Matthew 28. 8-15</p>	<p>Tuesday in Easter Week 22 April Acts 2. 14, 36-41 Psalm 33. 1-5, 18-22 John 20. 11-18</p>	<p>Wednesday in Easter Week 23 April Acts 3. 1-10 Psalm 105.1-9 Luke 24. 13-35</p>
<p>Thursday in Easter Week 24 April Acts 3. 11-26 Psalm 8 Luke 24. 36b- 48</p>	<p>Friday in Easter Week 25 April Acts 4. 1-12 Psalm 116. 1-9 John 21. 1-14</p>	<p>Saturday in Easter Week 26 April Acts 4. 13-21 Psalm 118. 1-4, 22-29 Mark 16. 9-15</p>

<p>The Second Sunday of Easter Exodus 14. 10-31; 15.20, 21 Psalm 118. 14-29 Acts 5. 27-32 John 20. 19-31</p>	<p>Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>
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<p>Mon 28 April *Mark, Evangelist Acts 15. 35-41 Psalm 119. 9-16 Ephesians 4. 7-16 Mark 13. 5-13 *Moved from 25th April</p>	<p>Tues 29 April Catherine of Siena Acts 4. 32-37 Psalm 93 John 3. 7-15</p>	<p>Wed 30 April Acts 5. 17-26 Psalm 34. 1-8 John 3. 16-21</p>
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A Cycle of Prayer for Each Day of the Week

Sunday

Give thanks for the resurrection.
Pray for the worldwide Church.

Monday

Give thanks for creation.
Pray for healing of the environment and for all those who work on the land.

Tuesday

Give thanks for God's gifts of mind and strength.
Pray for opportunities of service.

Wednesday

Give thanks for family and friends.
Pray for all who live alone or in fear.

Thursday

Give thanks for health and social care workers.
Pray for healing for all who suffer.

Friday

Give thanks for those who work for peace.
Pray for forgiveness and reconciliation.

Saturday

Give thanks for God's provision and care.
Pray for the coming of Christ's Kingdom.



Christian Care for Families

St David's Pencoed Mothers' Union

Our meeting in March was very enjoyable and interesting. We had a visit from local author Maggie Jenkins. Maggie writes in the genres of historical fantasy fiction and police procedural crime fiction. We had a fascinating insight into the difficulties of becoming a published author. Maggie began her writing with short novels for young disabled horse riders. Her Crime novels are inspired by a long career in S. Wales police force.

In Maggie's Own words

Hi Joan,

Thank you so much for the warm welcome. I really enjoyed my afternoon. It was lovely to share my writing journey with you all. Today I spoke about what has inspired me as a writer and about my three novels.

1. "An Arrow Through Time"

2. "Bullet through the mist"

The first 2 books of the Meredith series

3. "Cassandra's Web"

A crime and corruption thriller based in S Wales Bristol and Glasgow. All the books are available in paperback and Kindle, through Amazon or can be obtained direct from the author at a discount. Contact me by email.

Author maggiej@gmail.com

Follow my author page on Amazon for future publications.

Thank you to all the ladies who attended.

Regards Maggie.

April 2nd Lenten Lunch Church Hall 12 30 .

Mothers Union are organising and preparing the lunch, but it is an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us. The lunch is free. Just come along and enjoy. Mothers Union Members meet in the hall at 11:30.

Soup Bread Desserts Cheese Tea and Coffee.

This will be followed by our usual meeting for members at 2 p.m.

Condolences

We were sad to hear of the passing of member Dorothy Moore. Dorothy was a faithful and supportive member of Mothers Union for many years. She was much loved by all the group and will be sadly missed. We send love and condolences to Brian, Bethan and David. RIP Dorothy . "Memories of a loved one will never fade and die."

Spencer Fudge

Sad to hear that Spencer Fudge has passed away. Spencer was a faithful member of St David's Church and Church Warden and Parish Councillor for

many years. He was a lovely man, a true gentleman with a delightful sense of humour. Spencer had a long career as a Primary School teacher. He ended his career as Head teacher of Bryncethin Primary school. Spencer was very proud that his mum and dad were the first couple to get married in St David's Church. Condolences to his daughter Helen and family.
R I P Spencer. Fond Memories.

Prayers

We remember in our prayers Leeann, having a long awaited operation on March 20th. We pray for a speedy recovery. Love from all our members.

Kath is now home after her successful hip operation and making excellent progress.

Eileen is now home after her stay in hospital. Sending love and prayers for her continued recovery.

We send love and prayers to Norman and Jean Davies who are now in residential care in the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Court Porthcawl. They have both settled in well and Norman is now taking an active part in the Sunday Worship service.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

Mothers Union would like to Congratulate Ian on becoming Director of Ordinands at Llandaff Cathedral. We wish Emma and Ian good luck as they start the next chapter of their Ministry. A group of us along with members of the congregation and Ministry Area attended his licensing by Bishop Mary on the 16th March at Llandaff Cathedral. We will miss you both and wish you well !!



Ian's Licensing in Llandaff Cathedral

Continued.....

April Birthdays

Judy 8th

Happy birthday Judy. See you in Craft !!

Cleaning Rota—April

Joan, Angelia

Easter flowers

If any one would like to give donations for Easter flowers or Easter arrangements, please let Angelia know.

Dates to remember

Wed. April 2nd Lent Lunch and Meeting

Tues. May 5th Banner Festival at St Davids Wyndham, Ogmores Vale 7pm

Wed. May 6th Meeting 2pm Church Hall Speaker Jodie Absalom, Superintendent Registrar for Bridgend (Kath's Daughter)

June 4th Speaker Sara Davies Religion and The Law

Monday July 7th Deanery Get Together Maesteg 7pm

God bless

Joan Sheldon



Lent Lunch

St David's Church Hall, Pencoed
Wednesday 2nd April, 2025
12:30pm



You are invited to join us for a simple lunch
as we continue our journey through Lent.

All Welcome!

The Chosen is Back!

9am, the 1st Saturday of every month, St David's Church , Pencoed



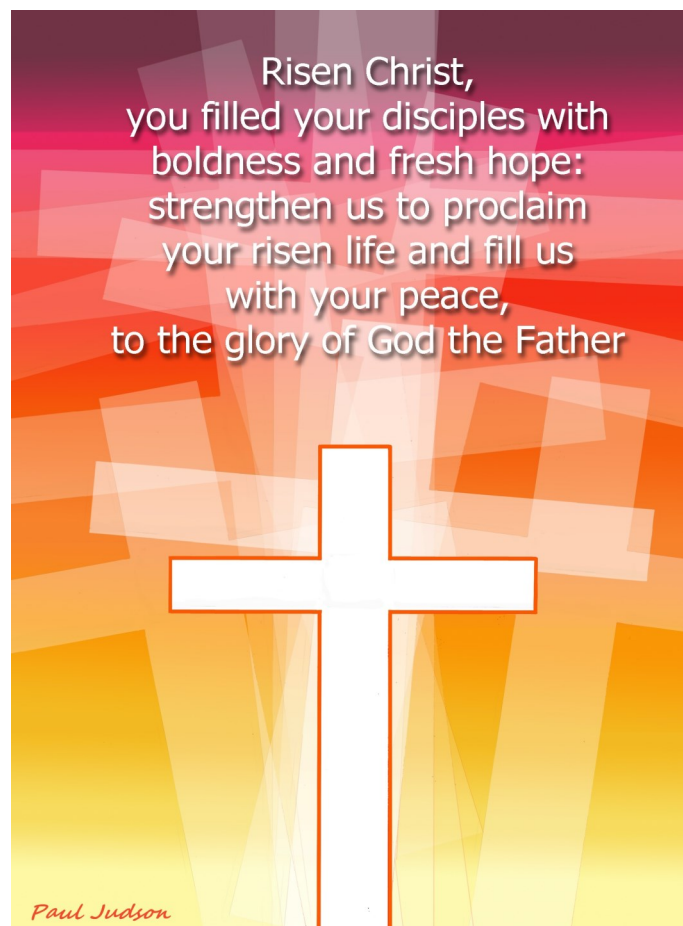
Great news! We've started watching *The Chosen* again on the first Saturday of every month , bringing the life of Jesus to our screens in all its rawness, beauty, and glory. It's an enlightening experience, making the Gospel feel so real and relatable.

Although we will miss Ian and Emma, *The Chosen* continues with John, Judy, Maureen, and Sara leading the way. So why not join us? Enjoy fellowship, tea, coffee, and pastries while we chat about what we've watched and how Jesus speaks to us through it. Come along—you won't regret it!

See you there!

God bless

Sara



St David's Church, Bettws



We celebrated St David's Day at Bettws church with a coffee morning. Bettws church is one of 4 churches within Pedair Afon Ministry Area dedicated to St David; the others are Wyndham, Pontycymmer and Pencoed.

There was lots of catching up over tea, coffee and cake which made it a special occasion.

Thanks to everyone who came and to the cake and marmalade makers. Refreshments flowed throughout the morning and we raised £202 for church funds.

Jane Phillips
MAC St David's Church Bettws



24th April - Mellitus, the Saxon pagans, and St Paul's Cathedral



Our present bishops have big troubles within the Church. Mellitus had big troubles outside the Church.

It all began quietly enough in Rome, where Mellitus was born into a noble family, and became abbot of a monastic community. Then in 601 Pope Gregory the Great sent him to help Augustine, who had arrived in Canterbury in 597.

In 604/5 Augustine consecrated Mellitus to be first Bishop of the East Saxons. Mellitus settled in the capital, Londinium (London), and his wooden cathedral stood on the site of what is now St Paul's.

Mellitus began to evangelise but struggled to make any progress. The Anglo Saxons were very attached to their pagan temples and celebrations. Then Pope Gregory had an inspiration: he told Mellitus not to destroy the pagan temples and banish the pagan feasts. Instead, he should *adapt* them. So, Mellitus simply cleansed the Saxon temples and removed the Saxon idols. He then re-dedicated the buildings to God and re-directed the pagan Saxon feasts towards Christian feast days.

Bede reports that Pope Gregory had reasoned: "If the people are allowed some worldly pleasures ... they will more readily come to desire the joys of the Spirit." The Pope was right – the new approach certainly transformed and spread missionary endeavour throughout the Saxon kingdom.

But then, in 616, Kent and the East Saxons had two new kings. These new rulers reverted to paganism but demanded that Mellitus still give them the Eucharist.

Mellitus refused, was banished, and then fled to Gaul for safety. When it was safe to return, he got as far as Canterbury, where in 619 he was chosen to be the third Archbishop of Canterbury.

News from St Bride's Church, Llansantffraid



St Bride's M U

Mothers Union started back Tuesday 18th February after our winter break.

The meeting started back with prayers and then our AGM .We welcomed two new members, Mair and Gill who have transferred from Porthcawl.

We discussed what we were going to plan in for the year talks, quizzes and an afternoon tea for the caravan.

We held our next meeting Tuesday 4th March in which the fire service came to give a talk on fire safety, I think we were all surprised when 4 fire officers came !

Kay



St Bride's Lent Lunch

A Lent Lunch was held on Saturday March 8th in St Brides, and what a glorious spread! One lady visited and next day posted on social media: -

“Me and my daughter came yesterday. We were expecting a cuppa and a biscuit. Wow we were in for a treat! We had a lovely time and all the church members there were so welcoming. Thank you so much.”

Well done, everyone!



Ministry Area Services in April

Tues 1st	5:30pm	Evening Prayer, St David's, Wyndham
Weds 3rd	10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
Sat 5th	9:00am	Watching The Chosen, St David's, Pencoed
Sunday 6th		5th Sunday of Lent—Passion Sunday
	9:00am	Holy Communion, St Ild& Curig, Llanilid
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws
	11:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
	11:15am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
	4:30pm	Family Service, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr
Tues 8th	5:30pm	Evening Prayer, St David's, Wyndham
Weds 9th	10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
Sunday 13th		Palm Sunday
	9:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
	9:30am	Holy Communion, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws
	10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
	11:00am	Holy Communion, St Paul's@Bethel, Heol-Y-Cyw
	11:15am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
	3:30pm	Evening Prayer, St David's, Pencoed
Mon 14th		Monday of Holy Week
	11:00am	Chrism Eucharist, Llandaff Cathedral
	7:00pm	Evening Worship, St David's, Pencoed
Tues 15th		Tuesday of Holy Week
	5:30pm	Evening Prayer, St David's, Wyndham



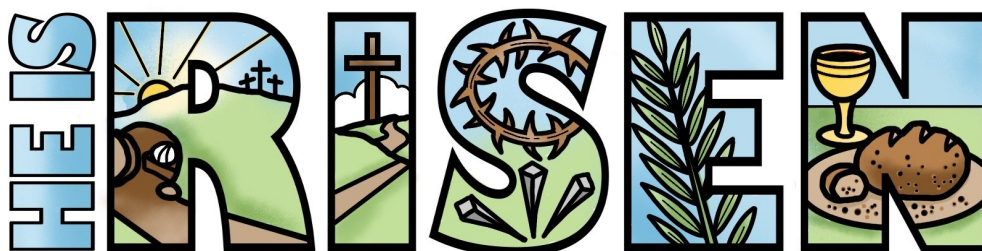
Ministry Area Services in April

Weds 16th	7:00pm	Wednesday of Holy Week Evening Prayer, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
Thurs 17th	7:00pm 7:00pm 8:45pm	Maundy Thursday Agape Service, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr Holy Communion with foot washing and Watch of the Passion until.... Tenebrae (Compline) St David's, Bettws
Fri 18th	11:00am 2:00pm 2:00pm 2:00pm	Good Friday Family Service, St Bride's, Llansantffraid With crafts, stories and Hot Cross Buns Good Friday Reflections, St Ilid & Curig, Llanilid Stations of the Cross, St David's, Wyndham With Hot Cross Buns Good Friday Liturgy, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
Sat 19th	10:00am 8:00pm	Holy Saturday Messy Church, St David's, Pencoed Easter Vigil, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
Sunday 20th	7:00am 9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 10:00am 10:30am	Easter Sunday—Christ is Risen! Sunrise Service, St David's, Wyndham Followed by Breakfast at the Vicarage Holy Communion, St Ilid & Curig, Llanilid Holy Communion, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws Café Worship, St David's Church Hall, Pencoed

Note: There will be no mid-week services between Easter Sunday and Low Sunday.

Sunday 27th Low Sunday—Ministry Area United Service
10:00am Holy Communion, St David's Wyndham

Weds 30th 10:00am Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
10:00am Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
10:00am Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham



Ministry Area Services in May

Sunday 4th

9:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws
10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
11:00am	Holy Communion, St Paul's@Bethel, Heol y Cyw
11:15am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
4:00pm	Holy Communion, St Cein's, Llangeinor
4:30pm	Family Service, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr

Third Sunday of Easter

Weds 7th

10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid

Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed

Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Sunday 11th

9:00am	Holy Communion, St Ildid & St Curig, Llanilid
9:30am	Holy Communion, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws
10:00am	Holy Communion, St Brides, Llansantffraid
10:30am	Family Communion, St David's, Pencoed
11:15am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
3:30pm	Evening Prayer, St David's, Pencoed

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion, St Ildid & St Curig, Llanilid

Holy Communion, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr

Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws

Holy Communion, St Brides, Llansantffraid

Family Communion, St David's, Pencoed

Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Evening Prayer, St David's, Pencoed

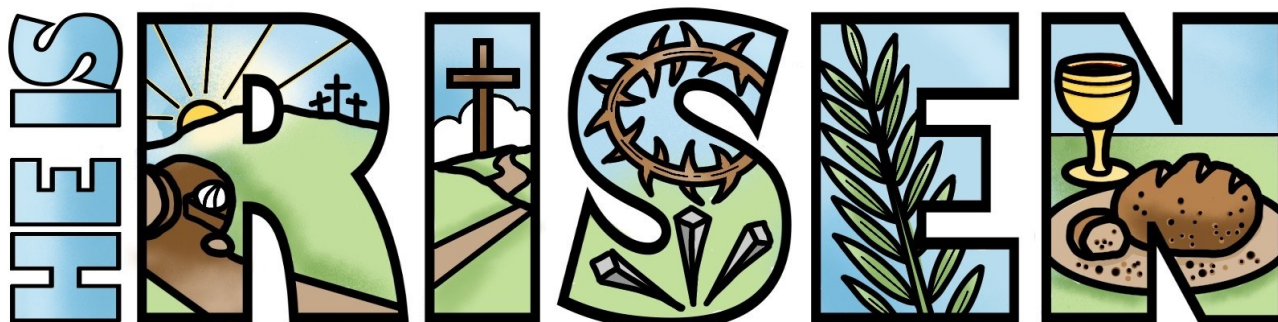
Weds 14th

10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid

Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed

Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham



Ministry Area Services in May

Sunday 18th

9:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
9:30am	Holy Communion, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws
10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
11:00am	Holy Communion, St Paul's@Bethel, Heol-Y-Cyw
11:15am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham
4:00pm	Holy Communion, St Cein's, Llangeinor

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Weds 21st

10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Sunday 25th

9:00am	Holy Communion, St Ildid & St Curig, Llanilid
9:30am	Holy Communion, St Tyfodwg's, Glynogwr
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Bettws
10:00am	Holy Communion, St Brides, Llansantffraid
10:30am	Café Church, St David's, Pencoed
11:15am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Sixth Sunday of Easter—Rogation Sunday

Weds 28th

10:00am	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Pencoed
10:00am	Holy Communion, St David's, Wyndham

Thurs 29th

	Ascension Day
7:00pm	Holy Communion, St Bride's, Llansantffraid





We had our transfer for the pascal candle from the Ministry Area. This is a sticky bit of plastic we put on the candle. Mr Mel is buying in bulk to save us all money. This made me think about church candles.

Our use of candles do not come from our elder brothers in faith, the Jews. They did and still do use lights in their worship and whilst the earliest converts to the church were Jewish they did not bring the tradition of lights with them. Surrounded by pagans who used candles in daylight to honour their gods they never used candles as part of worship. As the early theologian Tertullian said, 'Let those who has no light, kindle their lamps every day.'

So no candles for about 300 years. Until the Eastern Church used 'Gospel lights' which were only lit whilst the gospel was read, and extinguished afterwards. This light became a symbol of the truth of the gospel but it reminds me of a tale told by a warden about the number of steps from the nave to the altar. Three – represents the trinity; four? Represents the gospel. When in reality the number of steps was determined by the height difference.

Come the middle ages and an explosion of candles: on altars, in the sanctuary, and before saints. After the death of Henry VIII, the candles before saints were banned. As the Reformation advanced so did the prohibitions, Ash during Ash Wednesday, palms on Palm Sunday, and candles. Especially processional candles.

Candles were banned from Reformation churches, with the exception of those on the altar. They remained in their magnificent candlesticks, but were not allowed to be lit! Such was the Reformation.

Exactly how well these rules were enforced, especially in a very rural church like Llanilid is not known. With the Oxford movement, a Victorian Anglican church group that wanted a more higher church service, candles returned. Though they had crept back slowly in small churches.

One of the strengths of the Anglican Church in Wales is that you can worship in a church that is, as a friend said, 'full of smells and bells' that is high

church, or go low with an almost Puritan feel. All are welcome in the Church in Wales. Most, not all, have candles.

The pascal candle is found in most churches. Lit on Easter Day, and, depending on the church tradition, on every Sunday during the Easter season and maybe other days. Some are pierced with five knobs of incense representing the five wounds of Christ.

Other churches light an advent crown during the season of advent which always reminds me of the BBC TV childrens' programme Blue Peter. They always made one out of coat hangers – guess I am showing my age.

Back to candles. My first visit to Llanild church was to the Carols by Candlelight service that they held, just after Christmas. That was decades ago and I am now part of the Llanild family, as is everyone who wants to worship with us.

The service is a magical one. The lights are dowsed, the candles flicker, familiar readings and familiar carols. After the excess of Christmas it brings you back to the humility of Christ.

Curiously, after a few incidents with older people and candles – who should have known better – we use battery tea lights. The young people seemed to have respect for a naked flame.

We have a situation that the rabid advisors of the Reformation under Edward VI could not extinguish our candles as efficiently as health and safety.

Kevin Murphy

M A Warden





Coffee, Chat and Craft

Our afternoon meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, from 2pm to 4pm in St David's Church Hall, Wimborne Road, Pencoed.

In the meeting on March 11th we made mixed media undersea scenes in a box frame. The evening group on March 21st made Indian silk bracelets. All materials are provided, and help is available for those who want to have a go! There will be good company, chat, and most importantly, tea and coffee, and the good biscuits!

The next sessions will be: Afternoon, April 8th at 2pm; Evening at 6:30pm—date to be arranged—and there's no reason why you can't attend both, if you wish..

Come along and join us, we're a friendly group. You can bring your favourite craft, join in with a craft session, or just enjoy the chat and the good company.

Everyone is welcome and it's completely free. If you want more details, contact Donna or Judy.



One of the pictures made by the afternoon group (above) and the bracelets made by the evening group (right)

Wordsearch for Easter

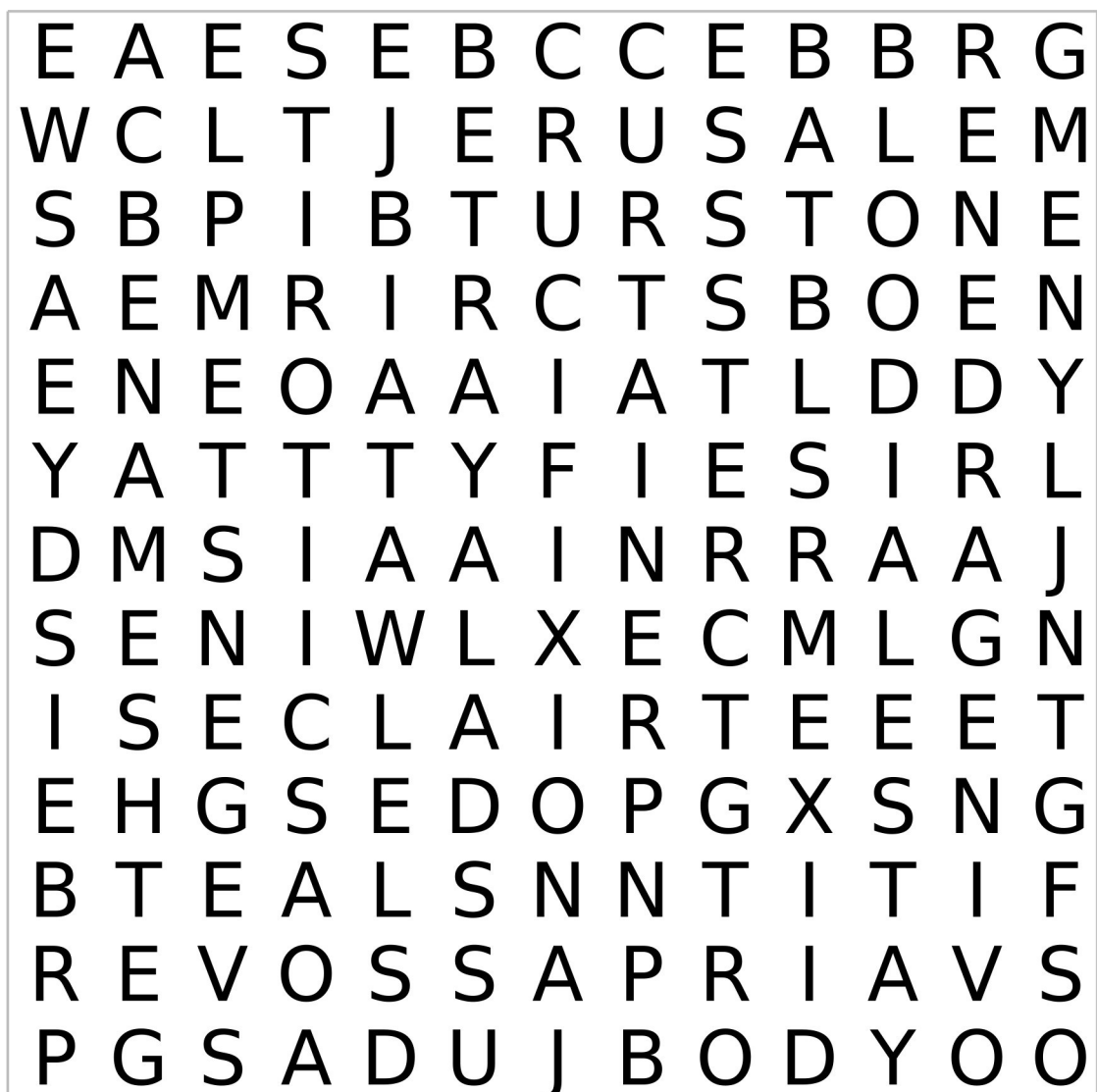
Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life. But because He does live, we have a sure and certain hope for our future.

PASSOVER
BODY
PILATE
SOLDIERS
TEMPLE
STONE

BREAD
BLOOD
JUDAS
CROSS
CURTAIN
RISEN

WINE
BETRAYAL
TRIAL
NAILS
TOMB
GARDENER

GETHSEMANE
JERUSALEM
CRUCIFIXION
VINEGAR
ANGEL
MARY





JOIN US AT THE GLYNOGWWR HUB

Community Hub

Join us in our activity groups, listed to right or hire the space for your own meeting or event.

Accessible Space for Hire

Booking Officer:

meganwaite129@yahoo.com



CRAFT CHAT & COFFEE CLUB
10:00 - 12:00
TUESDAY
FORTNIGHTLY

HISTORY GROUP 1ST
WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH 3:00 -
5:00PM

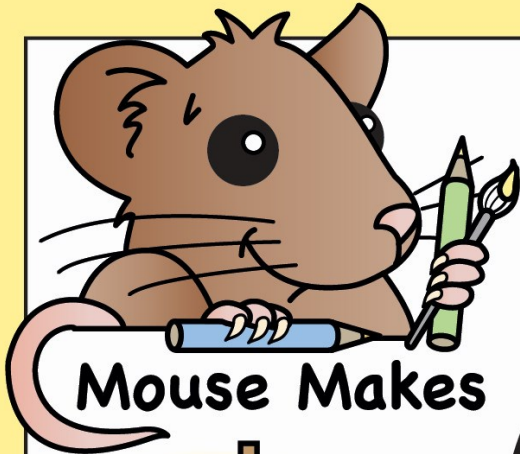
BOOK & JIGSAW
SWAP LAST
THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH 3:00-
4:30PM

COMING SOON
GARDENING CLUB

CHURCH EVENTS:
CHOIR, FASHION
SHOWS, SEASONAL
TABLETOP SALES

GLYNOGWWR HUB
St Tyfodwg Church
Glynogwr
Blackmill Bridgend
CF35 6EU

www.facebook.com/sttyfodwgchurch
Please see Facebook Page for
updates and changes and new
events
Like us and Follow us



Mouse Makes



On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
and showed us the resurrection to
come by His raising to new life!



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
in my name I am
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

R E D E E M E R
E A S T E R P I
S A V I O U R S
U L T I M J A E
R I E D E L I N
R V J E S U S S
E E W B S P E P
C C L O I S S N
T H O S A N N A
I R R O H Y E U
O I D N P P W S
N S G O T E L L
K T A F O A I O
I Y O G J C F R
N U J O Y E E B
G O O D N E W S



Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:
"I will come back
and take you to
myself so that you
will be where I am."
John 14:3



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
LORD • SAVIOUR • KING
RESURRECTION

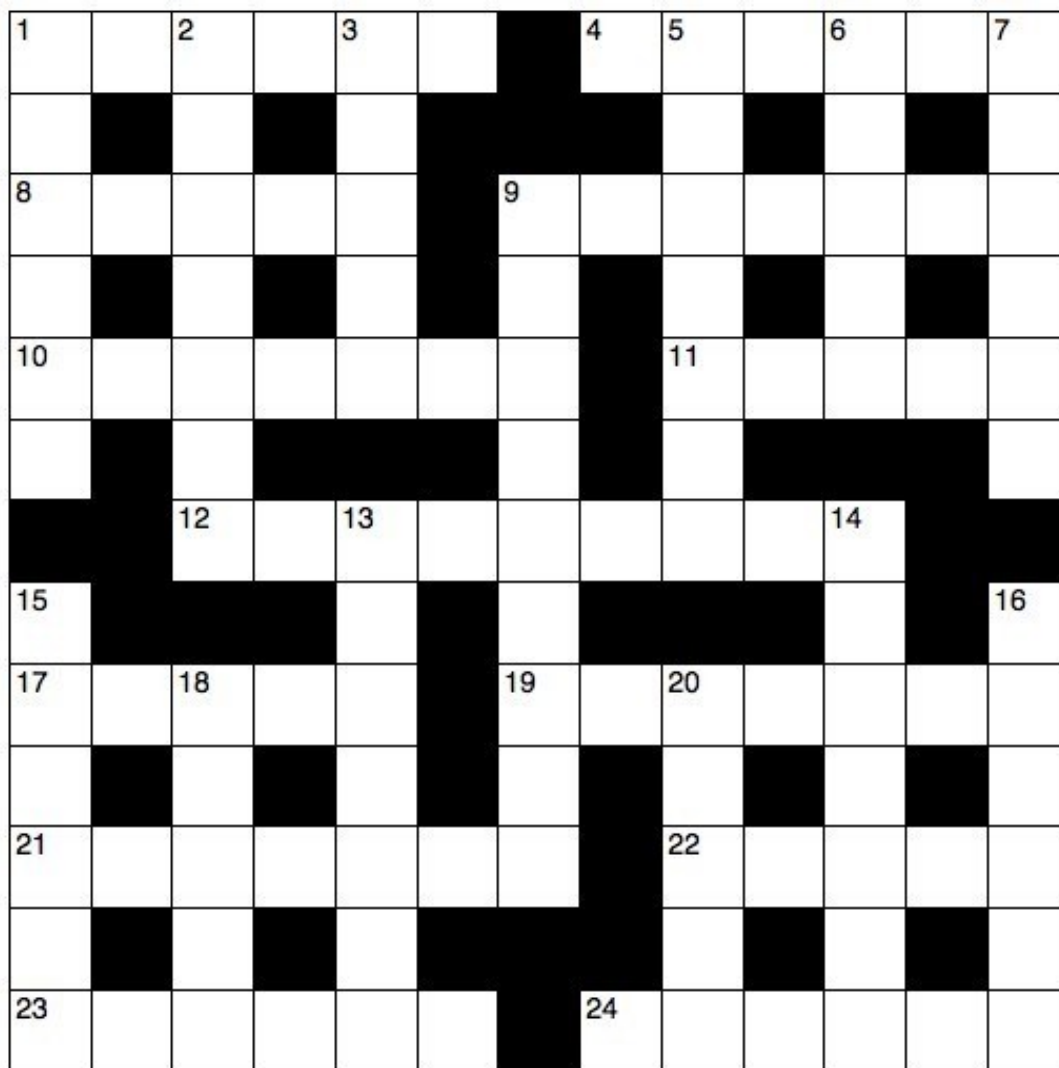


PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS • GO TELL • EASTER

MESSIAH • REDEEMER
CHRIST • SON OF GOD
HOSANNA • PRAISE



Crossword for April



Across

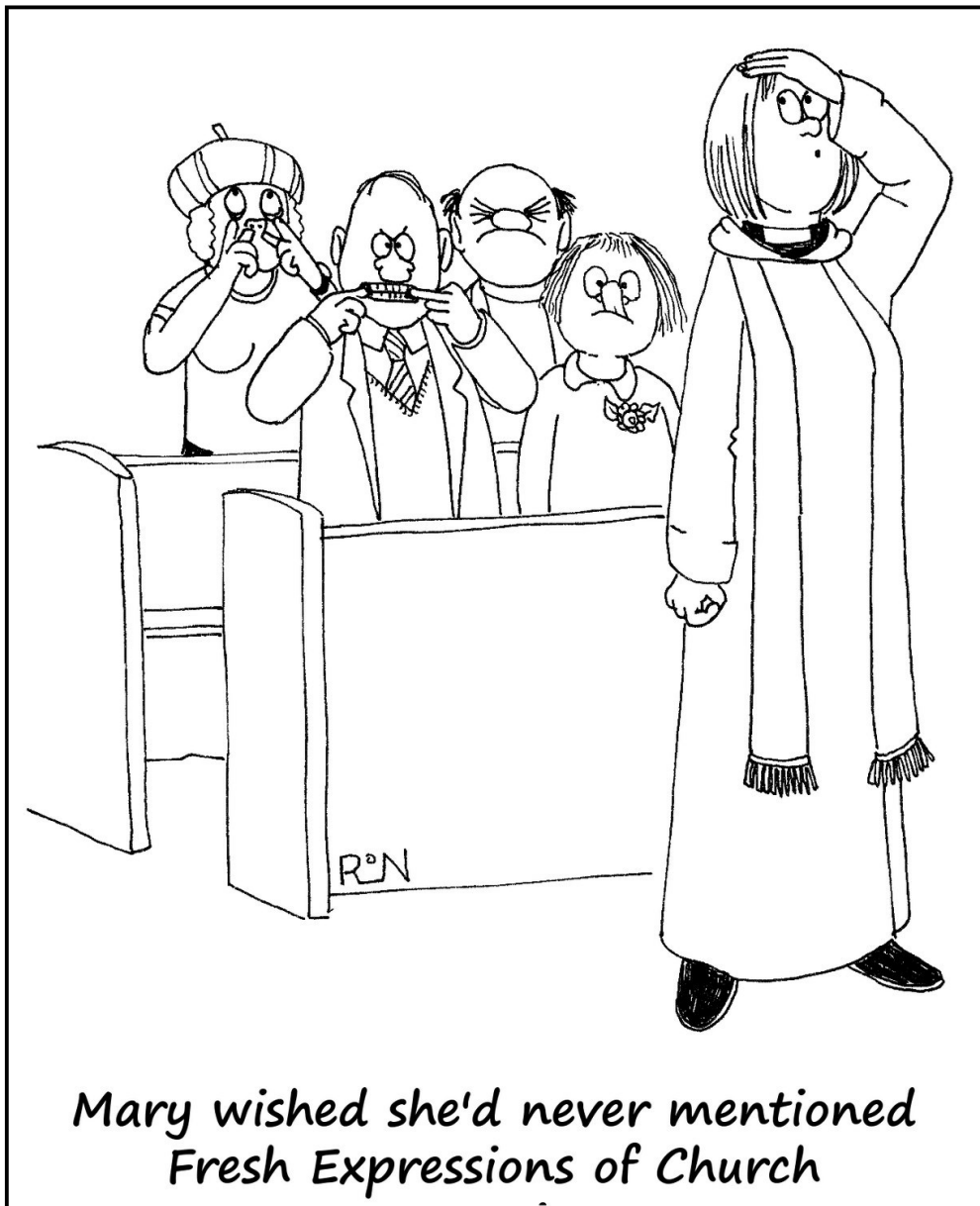
1 Relating to the whole universe (6) **4** The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6) **8** 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3) **9** He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7) **10** Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7) **11** 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5) **12** Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9) **17** Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5) **19** 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7) **21** Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7) **22** Grill (Luke 24:42) (5) **23** 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6) **24** 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Down

1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6) **2** Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7) **3** Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5) **5** For example, the Crusades (4,3) **6** 11 Across is certainly this (5) **7** He reps (anag.) (6) **9** Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9) **13** Man who asked the question in 11 Across, was in charge of all her treasury (Acts

8:27) (7) **14** They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7) **15** The human mind or soul (6) **16** 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is —' (Graham Kendrick) (6) **18** 'We played the flute for you, and you did not —' (Matthew 11:17) (5) **20** Bared (anag.) (5)

Solution below



ACROSS: 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Deliah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

DOWN: 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

St James the Least of All

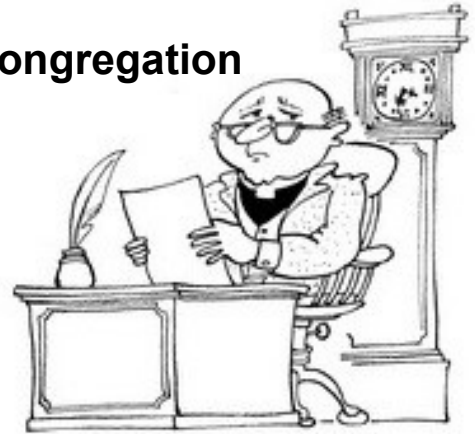
The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

On why you should never encourage your congregation

The Rectory

St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren



There are times when I indulge you too much; why I ever let you run your course 'Taking Responsibility for your Church' among our congregation, I am now unable to understand. I had hopes that it might encourage a few more people to volunteer for the flower rota, or to give occasional help mowing the churchyard. I even had a vague fantasy that someone might turn detective, and discover who had been eating the chocolate biscuits between Sundays, condemning the rest of us to munch on Rich Tea after Services.

Unfortunately, your course turned out to be inspirational, and it has fired up our members to take on all sorts of new initiatives. Enthusiasm in a congregation can be a very dangerous thing, especially if people start making decisions on their own.

Those who formed a welcoming group are admittedly well-meaning – although it was more than a little traumatic for those coming through the door the next Sunday to be greeted with frenzied handshakes, big toothy smiles, and even hymnbooks. That is unheard of in this church – we always ignore people and leave them to find hymnbooks – if they can.

Naturally, all those offering to take the prayers, produce new Orders of Service and even to give the occasional sermon have been booked on the appropriate training courses. By the time they have been completed, I can only hope they will have gone off the idea.

But it was the group which decided to "beautify" the church who have proved the most tiresome. Hanging the Christmas tree lights round the altar made it look as if I was standing behind a fairground stall, waiting to invite people to throw hoops round teddy bears – although I would have rather enjoyed making winners sit for the rest of the Service holding a polythene bag containing a goldfish.

Our pulpit has also been given a makeover, with the various panels painted in contrasting colours; I am sure the sixteenth century Flemish woodcarvers would be delighted with the result, although the next time any medieval

historians come to view it, I shall take the day off – probably travelling abroad.

My dear Darren, your course took the stopper out of the bottle; would you please run another to put it back?

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

A Note from your Editor



Don't forget to send me your news—the deadline for articles for the **May** issue of the magazine is **Friday April 18th** and any articles received after this date will be held over to the June issue ! The May magazine will be available on **Sunday April 27th**. Send me you news and your views—my contact details are on page 40 of this issue.

Judy

(PS It makes my job so much easier if you use plain text, no formatting)



'Publish the dates of the Easter services, but not the US bombing plans. Those were sent to us by mistake....'

On the first day of the week, in the evening

(John 20: 19-23)

*Locked in, afraid,
Uncertain, even after Mary's story, even after that
behind closed doors seemed safest,
on the first day of the week,
in the evening.*

*And then, the world changed.
He was with us!
Suddenly and wonderfully with us.
Jesus, our Lord,
alive and with us
in a new and completing way,
to bless us with His Peace,
to send us out to witness
in the power of His own Spirit breathed into us.*

*What a day!
The day of our risen Lord.
The first day of the week,
In the evening,
Hallelujah!*

By Daphne Kitching

Prayer for April 2025

Living Lord Jesus,

*We, your Easter People of today, thank You for the
Easter People of the Gospel accounts.
For the women, who loved You so much that they went
to the tomb, early in the morning, while it was still
dark. Thank you especially for Mary, who wept,
then rejoiced, then ran to tell the others,
“I have seen the Lord!”*

*Thank you for Thomas, who doubted,
then devoted his life to You, his Lord and his God; for
the disciples who ate breakfast on the beach with You;
for Peter, who was forgiven
and re-commissioned by You.*

*Thank You for them and Your witnesses
through all generations.
Thank you for Your true and living written Word,
proclaiming You, our true and living Lord,
who lived and died and rose again
to offer us forgiveness and life.*

*Thank you, Lord that because You live,
we have hope and assurance,
whatever challenges the world might bring.*

*Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again
Hallelujah!*

By Daphne Kitching

HOLY WEEK

Starts Sunday 13th of April

Holy Week begins with the commemoration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, marks the betrayal of Jesus on Spy Wednesday (Holy Wednesday), climaxing with the commemoration of the Mystical or Last Supper on Maundy Thursday and the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday.

HOLY OR SPY WEDNESDAY

In reference to Judas Iscariot's intent to betray Jesus, formed on Holy Wednesday, the day is sometimes called "Spy Wednesday". The word spy, as used in the term, means "ambush, ambuscade, snare". Additionally, among the disciples, Judas clandestinely was a spy and Wednesday was the day he chose to betray Christ.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday is part of Holy Week and is always the last Thursday before Easter. Maundy Thursday is part of the Christian celebration of Easter and marks the night of the Last Supper as told in the Bible. At the Last Supper, Jesus commanded that people should love one another, he then washed the feet of his disciples as an act of humility.

The word Maundy comes from the Latin, 'mandatum', or 'command' which refers to the instructions Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper. In many countries the day is known as Holy Thursday and is a public holiday. It is an important day in the Christian calendar and marks the end of Lent, a time for reflection for Christians that follows Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day.

To celebrate Maundy Thursday, the Pope - head of the Roman Catholic Church - traditionally washes and kisses the feet of 12 people - usually the members of the church. The washing of the feet of members of the congregation during a Maundy Thursday service by the celebrant has become popular in many Anglican churches in recent years.

The Stripping of the altar, the removing of all ornaments, linens, and paraphernalia from the sanctuary of the church at the end of the Maundy liturgy dates from ancient custom of the Roman rite done on Maundy Thursday. It is symbolic of the humiliation of Jesus at the hands of the soldiers.

WHY IS GOOD FRIDAY CALLED GOOD FRIDAY?

It is the day when Christians commemorate Jesus Christ's crucifixion. So why is it called Good Friday?

According to the Bible, the son of God was flogged, ordered to carry the cross on which he would be crucified and then put to death. It's difficult to see what

is "good" about it. Some sources suggest that the day is "good" in that it is holy, or that the phrase is a corruption of "God's Friday". However, according to Fiona MacPherson, senior editor at the Oxford English Dictionary, (OED) the adjective traditionally "designates a day on (or sometimes a season in) which religious observance is held". OED states that "good" in this context refers to "a day or season observed as holy by the church", hence the greeting "good tide" at Christmas or on Shrove Tuesday. In addition to Good Friday, there is also a less well-known Good or Holy Wednesday, namely the Wednesday before Easter.

The earliest known use of "guode friday" is found in 'The South English Legendary', a text from around 1290, according to the OED. The Catholic Encyclopaedia, first published in 1907, states that the term's origins are not clear. It says some sources see its origins in the term "God's Friday" or Gottes Freitag, while others maintain that it is from the German Gute Freitag. It notes that the day was called Long Friday by the Anglo-Saxons and is referred to as such in modern Danish.

WHY IS EASTER ON A DIFFERENT DATE EACH YEAR?

This year, Easter Sunday will be observed on Sunday, April 20th. This is based on the Gregorian calendar. Easter Sunday always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon. What is the Paschal Full Moon? The name "paschal" is derived from "Pascha", a transliteration of the Aramaic word meaning Passover. So Easter is specifically the first Sunday following the full Moon that occurs on or after the March or Spring equinox. The equinox being the time of year when the length of day and night are approximately equal everywhere on Earth.

So why does Easter come after the Paschal Full Moon?

Early Christians wanted Easter to coincide with the Jewish Passover, because Christ's death and resurrection happened after the Jewish holiday. Because the Jewish calendar is tied to solar and lunar cycles, the dates of Passover and hence Easter fluctuate each year.

Creighton Sims

St Tyfodwg's Church



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem.

The Chief Priests were plotting



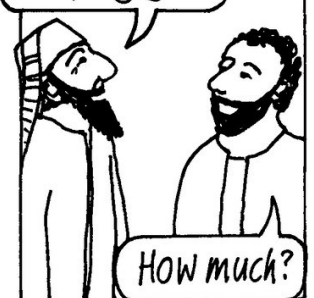
How can we get rid of Jesus?
He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...



I could help you.

We'd be happy to pay you

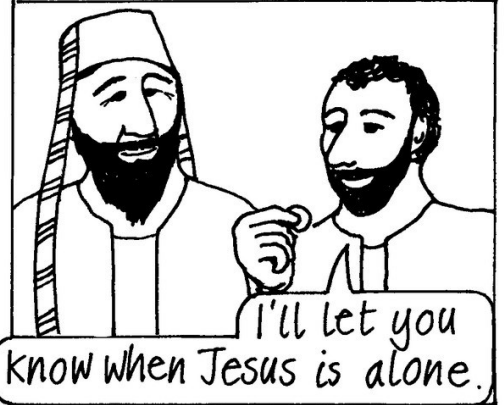


How much?

30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed
Ex. 31:32



I'll let you know when Jesus is alone.

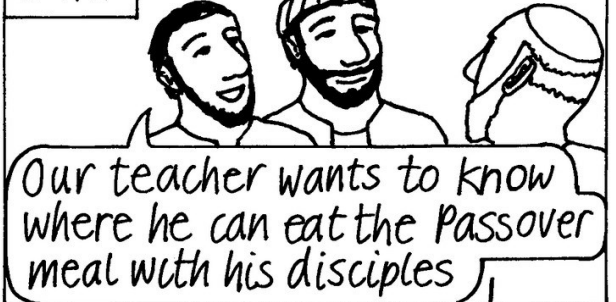
Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?

Go into the city and follow the man carrying a water jar to his home

They did, and asked the house owner



Our teacher wants to know where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples

The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use



Peter and John got the meal ready



That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.



Your Ministry Area Council

Clergy:

MA Leader	Vacancy	
Team Vicar	Rev Glenda Oglesbee	07592 149538
Team Vicar	Rev Geraint John	01656 532774
Team Vicar	Rev Ceri John	01656 532774
Associate Priest	Rev Chris Robinson	07727 243307
Reader	Mark Brampton	

Officers:

Lay Chair	Simon Dring
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	Jo Rees
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St Ceinwyr's, Llangeinor	Christine Evans
St David's Wyndham	Linda Kinsey
St Tyfodwg's	Helen Dando
St Ilid & St Curig, Llanilid	Diane Morris
St David's Pencoed	Sara Davies
St Paul's@Bethel	Anna Henderson

Ministry Area Magazine

Editor: Judy McCarthy

Please submit articles to jr.mc@talktalk.net or contact Judy on **01656 372801**, by **Friday 18th April** for the May issue

Please feel free to chat to your Church Representative if you have any questions or concerns. We're here to help.



Pencoed Veterans Hub



Open between 10:00 – 12:00

St David's Church Hall CF35 5NA

The first Saturday of each month

Come and join us for a chat and a brew

Check our Facebook page for more information

Or call Simon 07833 490632

All veterans and their family's welcome



Supported by Pencoed Royal British Legion
Email: pencoed.treasurer@RBL.community

