

# Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area Magazine



November 2022

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# Parish Magazine

The Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area comprises the Parishes of: St Bridget's, St Brides Major; St Michael and All Angels, Ewenny; St Giles, Gileston; St Cattwg's, Llanmaes; St Michael and All Angels, Llanmihangel; St Illtud's, Llantwit Major; Holy Trinity, Marcross; St Mary's, Monknash; St Donat's, St Donats; St Tathan, St Athan; All Saints, Southerndown; St James, Wick.

This magazine serves them all.

**Contributions to be in by 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month please**

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## This Month's Cover

The season of Advent starts on 27<sup>th</sup> November and ends on Christmas Eve. The cover shows the Advent Candles in their holder. These candles are lit on the successive Sundays in Advent finishing with the fifth, and last, on Christmas Eve; each has a special significance. The first Advent candle is blue and is known as the Prophecy Candle or Candle of Hope. The second is also blue and called the Bethlehem Candle, or the Candle of Peace. The third is pink and is the Shepherd candle or candle of Joy. The fourth is blue again and called the Angel Candle or Candle of Love. The Christ Candle is the 5th and is white. It is placed in the centre of the holder.

## Clawr y Mis hwn

Mae cyfnod y Dyfodiad yn dechrau ar 27ain o Dachwedd, eleni yn 2022, ac yn gorffen ar Noswyl Nadolig. Mae'r clawr yn dangos Canhwyllau'r Dyfodiad mewn plethdorch. Mae'r canhwyllau yn cael eu cynnau un Sul ar y tro yn ystod cyfnod y Dyfodiad, gan orffen gyda'r pumed, a'r olaf, ar Noswyl Nadolig. Mae i bob un arwyddocâd arbennig. Glas yw'r gannwyll gyntaf ar Syl cyntaf y Dyfodiad ac fe'i gelwir yn Gannwyll Broffwydol neu Cannwyll Gobaith. Mae'r ail hefyd yn las ac yn cael ei galw'n Gannwyll Bethlehem, neu Cannwyll Heddwch. Mae'r drydedd yn binc ac yn gannwyll y Bugail neu Cannwyll Llawenydd. Mae'r pedwerydd yn las eto ac fe'i gelwir yn Gannwyll yr Angel neu Cannwyll Cariad. Cannwyll Crist gelwir y gannwyll ar y 5ed Sul ac mae hon yn un wen. Fe'i gosodir yng nghanol plethdorch y Dyfodiad.

---

*Politicians should read science fiction, not westerns and detective stories.*

# Diary

## Regular Events

Each Monday	Morning Prayer	9.00 am	via Zoom
First Tuesday	Mothers' Union	2.00 pm	St Illtud's
Each Tuesday	Chair Yoga	10.00 am	St Illtud's
	Prayers for the Parish	11.00 am	via Zoom
Each Thursday	Morning Prayer	8.30 am	Zoom. St James
	Clothes Bank	9.00 am	St Athan
	Seasons	2.00 pm	St Illtud's
	Celtic Contemplation	6.30 pm	St Illtud's (from 10 <sup>th</sup> )
	Bell ringers Practice	7.30 pm	St Illtud's
First Friday	Open Mic	7.30 pm	St Illtud's

## November

15 <sup>th</sup> Tues	MAC Meeting	7.00 pm	via Zoom
16 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Ecumenical Choir Practice	6.30 pm	St Illtud's
20 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Traidcraft Stall (after service)	10.30 am	St Illtud's
23 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	Traidcraft Stall (after service)	11.00 am	St Illtud's
	Ecumenical Choir Practice	6.30 pm	St Illtud's
25 <sup>th</sup> Fri	MU Corporate Communion	10.30 am	All Saints
27 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Turn on Christmas Lights	3.00 pm	St Athan
	Christingle	5.00 pm	St Tathan
28 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Healing Service	7.00 pm	St Illtud's
30 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Ecumenical Choir Practice	6.30 pm	St Illtud's

The connection code for Zoom Streamings will be found in the weekly newsletter.

**If you have organised an event and want publicity, please make sure that the Office knows all about it so that details can appear in the weekly newsletter and here in the magazine.**

Elaine, Rhian and Sian Davies would like to thank Fr Edwin and all our friends in St Illtud's for their support, kind messages and flowers before John's death and around the funeral.

It was lovely that so many of you wanted to help us say goodbye to our beloved husband and Dad.

---

*Love recognises no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination. full of hope.*

## From the Editor

Dear Friends,

Words have always fascinated me. Complicated words, technical words, foreign words, and words that carry a wealth of meaning to name but a few. There are words which, at face value, have the same import but really have a subtle difference and words which have just one, absolutely specific, meaning. By the age of eighteen months, a typical child can say 50 words and by the age of five, will recognize about 10,000 words. An educated adult will have a vocabulary of 20,000 to 35,000 words.

Words are the way that we communicate with each other, and a wide vocabulary makes it easier to convey specific meanings and be understood clearly. In linguistics there is a style of language known as transactional English, where the whole object is merely to convey meaning. I was once involved in an argument with two teachers of French as to which was the most important aspect of their teaching of the language. One said it was accent the other said that it was grammar. I disagreed completely and saying "Surely you cannot convey any meaning without vocabulary; that must be the most important."

BASIC (British American Scientific International and Commercial) English was invented in 1925 and further developed after the Second World War. It has a limited vocabulary of 500 - 1000 words with grammar to suit. It was intended to be a means of spreading the use of English as a second language and has been modified and used successfully for this purpose. The most commonly used words in English are boringly simple like: 'the', 'of', 'and' 'a', but the much more important ones are, more interestingly, the nouns.

What, then, are the words which appear most frequently in the Bible? I would expect that most lay Christians are more familiar with the New Testament rather than the Old and, more particularly, the first four books. These carry the message which defines our belief. Maybe there has been an analysis of these books to determine word frequency, but to what purpose? I venture to suggest that there are two words which are oft repeated and have the greatest wealth of significance. They are "LOVE" and "PEACE".

Yours sincerely. *Eric*

---

*If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.*

# From the Ministry

## *Saints and Swallows*

The Psalms run like a golden thread through Morning and Evening Prayer and other services of the Daily Office which mark the pattern and rhythm of our Christian lives. They are found in the Eucharist, Marriage, and other Sacramental services of the Church. They have provided inspiration for many prayers and hymns we use in worship today. The Psalms express the wonder felt by those who gaze at the glory of God's creation. They give words to the sorrow of sin and the ugly side of life. They profoundly express the horror of loneliness and alienation. Remember, as Our Lord hung on the Cross he quoted from the Psalms.

As you can guess, the Psalms have always played a large part in my "Pastoral Ponderings". More recently these ponderings came from the place where I spend most of rest days, in the workshop on my parent's farm. Looking up to the rafters of the barn and in the storage containers in front of the work bench you will see swallow nests. These nests I have watched the mothers build over the summer from the materials around them of straw, hay and baler cord. Of course, as Autumn has drawn us further into her season, the young have long gone, their tentative steps out onto the electric wire as their mother taught them to fly completed, they have headed south for the winter.

But ponder now on this portion of Psalm 84:

*How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of Hosts!  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lords;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.  
The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;  
happy are they who dwell in your house!  
They will be always praising you.*

Think of those generations of both Jews and Christians who have loved this ancient poetic record about Palestinian birds constructing their nests in the wall niches of Solomon's temple. It is a sight which prompts the words "my King and my God". But just like that bird's nest, just like Solomon's temple it was passing away. The true and lasting temple of God, the term we use to speak of our longing and the place of our rest, is Jesus Christ the Lord. He is God's temple and God abides in Jesus. Jesus is the one place where we meet God, and we too abide in Jesus, being united with him: "You, Father, are in Me, and I in you...just as we are one; I in them, and you in me; that they may be made perfect in one".

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*Beauty is in the heart of the beholder.*

(Jn 17:20-23).It might be helpful to look up or listen to the great hymn 'Abide with Me'.

This unity is revealed profoundly in the Church's November Feast Days of All Saints, All Souls and Christ the King. They act as reminders to us that individually and as the Church we are part of something greater than ourselves. That we are part of a family of God and that saints are both young and old, living and departed. We are a family of faith through the love of God found in Jesus.

Just think, like that swallow with her young, how blessed we are by those saints who have been our teachers, our mentors and our encouragers who enabled us to grow and mature in faith. It is in the company of saints, as a family of faith and in that relationship with Jesus that we find life and vitality as we seek to live as saints today. Something we should be joyful about. In the words of the psalmist "*Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will be always praising you.*"

*Fr Craig on the Memoria of St Ignatius of Antioch (c117), Bishop and Martyr.*

## Slaving

The Royal Navy could do nothing about the slave trade until after Nelson had died. He died at Trafalgar in 1805. In 1807 the navy could then set about clearing away the South Atlantic slave trade. It took them 60 years to accomplish that. Nelson wanted to keep the slave ships to train British sailors in operating a complicated full rigged sailing warship.

The irony was his seamen were even better trained in chasing and fighting the slave ships and so closing that slave trade.



Brig chasing a slaver, just as great, great, great grandad William did.

Bill Henderson

---

*I think that a good Mountaineer is usually a very sensible Mountaineer.*

# Bringing Hope and Healing Worldwide

In St. Luke's Gospel Chapter 10 a young man asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?", and Jesus replied by telling the story of the Good Samaritan. This is the foundation upon which the New Hope shop came into being by the care and calling of Gordon and Heather Taylor.

The aim has always been to raise money to provide relief for the sick and poor, by improving living conditions for those in the developing world, particularly those in need of water, medical aid and education in Nicaragua.

Money from the New Hope shop helped improve living conditions in Bluefield where families who live in the suburbs of Bluefield work on rubbish tips and struggle to survive. New Hope helped to improve these poor living conditions through schemes such as building a health clinic. Water projects were established, and education was high on the list, so a school was built and staffed.

Gordon includes the following example of one of his many experiences of God's guidance at work, as when the shop began: *We opened the shop in October 2002 with no money. When we opened the door there was an envelope on the floor, and inside was a banker's draft for one thousand pounds.*

*On a flight to Nicaragua the plane was late arriving in Houston and I missed my flight to Managua. I saw a girl crying in Houston airport and asked her what was the matter. She said she came from Nicaragua and had been to Washington, but when she came back the flight was fully booked for Nicaragua and she had been there for three days, had spent all her money and could not purchase a ticket for Managua. I paid for a night in a hotel and the flight for her.*

*When I got to Bluefield I had a call from the British Embassy in Nicaragua and I was asked had I paid for a flight for a girl? I was then asked what I was doing in Nicaragua, and when I said building a school, they said they would pay for the roof as a thank you.*

The Nicaraguan Government has now taken over what Gordon began, so sadly it is time to close the shop, with heartfelt thanks for all the donations in money, goods and endless help and time from many volunteers over the years.

Most of all, thanks to Gordon and Heather for answering the question - Who is my neighbour?

*Revd. Joy Birkin, one of the Trustees.*

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*The writer has to force himself to work. He has to make his own hours and if he doesn't go to his desk at all, there is nobody to scold him.*



## John Webber

Most readers will remember Rev'd John Webber who was Rector in the Benefice from 2004 to 2010. He commemorated his 50 years of being a priest by coming to St Illtud's on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September to celebrate a Eucharist. He was ably assisted by Father Craig Vaughan who, in point of fact, took most of the service and gave a moving address straight from the heart. He described how John had been his mentor and recounted several anecdotes about the times he had received help and advice. Clearly, there was great affection between the two men. While it was sad to see that John had to sit for much of the service, it was good to hear him tell us about St Jerome whose day it was, and to have him administer Communion.

## Pearls

In February 1918, Lady Northcliffe, wife of the press Baron, had launched an appeal for women across Britain and the Empire to donate a pearl, in memory of a life lost or changed forever by the War, to raise funds for the Red Cross. The appeal took off more than she could have imagined and over the next nine months, nearly 4000 pearls poured in from across the world. They were made-up in 241 necklaces which were auctioned at Christie's in December 1918. They raised nearly £100,000 for the charity, which would be about £5 million today.

Some of the pearls came from famous women. Noël, Countess of Rothes, a survivor of the Titanic, gave two pearls which she had worn on that fateful night as she rowed a boat full of her fellow passengers to safety away from the sinking ship. The only piece of jewellery she had managed to save was her Pearl necklace, and as an act of Thanksgiving, she donated to Lady Northcliffe's Appeal.

Another lady sent a pearl, accompanied by the following message: "It is not a perfect pearl, but it is the only one I have. I send it in memory of a pearl beyond all price, already given, my only son, and I feel that perhaps one pearl in that great historic necklace from me may hang side by side with those of greater beauty, even as the mothers of only sons stand side by side with those who, richer, could give more."

*This article is reprinted here as a tribute on Remembrance Sunday. It is taken from the magazine 'The Lady' to which we give many thanks.*



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*We occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of us pick ourselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened.*

## Tree of Hope

This year it is the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of 9/11, when hijacked planes crashed into the World Trade Center in New York and killed 2,977 people in what was to become known as the worst terrorist attack in US history. In the aftermath of the attacks hope was in short supply, but when it did come, it was from an unlikely source.

A month after the tragedy, workers clearing Ground Zero found something left alive in the wreckage - a Callery Pear tree. This tree had been planted in the 1970s at the World Trade Center complex and had been uprooted and badly burned, lying buried beneath the rubble of the towers. Unsurprisingly, it was in pretty poor condition - only a single charred branch remained attached to the broken trunk with a few leaves still hanging on. However, the ground zero workers, taking it as a symbol of resilience, decided they'd attempt to rescue the pear tree, and this is what it looks like now.



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*When the best leaders' work is done, the people say "We did it ourselves."*

# Blackberrying

It's that time of year again. So many stored memories of blackberry-picking with family. Stained fingers - and mouths as more are eaten than placed in the basket. Pricked by thorns and acrobatics, trying to reach that one really juicy one which is just out of reach.



Blackberries are found in the UK from the end of the summer until October. They're often seen growing in woodland and hedgerows. Each berry, when ripe, is made up of 20-50 single seeds known as drupelets that are small, juice-filled and a deep purplish black colour. Technically, they are an 'aggregate fruit' rather than a berry.

Blackberries are a rich source of powerful antioxidants that give them their deep purple colour. One study demonstrated that an anthocyanin extract found in blackberry juice provided protective effects against heart disease. These little berries are also rich in vitamin C and potassium, both of which support a healthy cardiovascular system. If you like foraging for your berries, then you will be interested that a recent study found that consuming wild blackberries may provide a protective effect on the brain thanks to their rich polyphenol content. It is also worth noting that blackberries are a good source of the mineral manganese which plays an important role in brain function deficiencies; and the jam is lovely!

According to folklore, when the devil was cast out of heaven by St Michael, he landed on a bramble bush and cursed it. It was believed this caused blackberries to become unpalatable around 29<sup>th</sup> September – St Michael's Day – after which they should not be picked. Depending on what countries' folklore you subscribe to - it included scorching them, spitting on them, wagging his tail at them or throwing his cloak on them. He swore that they who ate blackberries after that date would become cursed or ill.

Penny Snowden

---

*I put my heart and soul into my work and have lost my mind in the process.*

# Humour

You know that you have got boys in the house when you have to wash the soap before it is fit to use.

A priest bought a lawn mower at a garage sale. When he got home, he pulled on the starter rope a few times, but the mower refused to start. He stormed back to the sale and told the previous owner, "I can't get the mower to start!" "That's because you have to curse to get it started," said the man. "I'm a man of the cloth. I don't even remember how to curse." "You keep pulling on that rope, and it'll all come back to you."

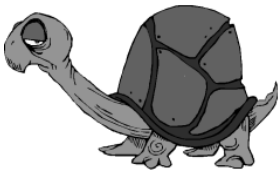
Gareth was loading a lorry and, thinking that there was no-one to hear him, began to whistle. He was really getting into it when a fellow worker in the next bay poked his head in. "You know, I always used to wish I could whistle," he said. "Now I just wish you could."

I asked my 91-year-old father, "Dad, what were your good old days?" His thoughtful reply: "When I wasn't good, and I wasn't old."

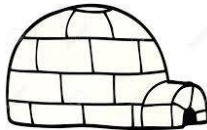
As Cenneth's sons were climbing into the back seat of their car, Gwilym, five, yelled, "I want to sit on the left". That didn't suit Padrig, four. "No, I want to sit on the left!" "I want the left". "No, I want the left!" Intervening, I said, "Since Cenneth is older, he can have the left side." "Thanks, Dad!" said Gwilym. "Which side is left?"

Ted: I bought the world's worst thesaurus yesterday. Fred: How bad is it? Ted: Not only is it awful, it's awful.

Teaching is not for sensitive souls. While reviewing future, past, and present tenses with my English class, I posed this question: "'I am beautiful' is what tense?" One pupil raised her hand. "Past tense."



Why do these funerals  
have to go past so  
quickly?



We don't want any  
bonfires here.



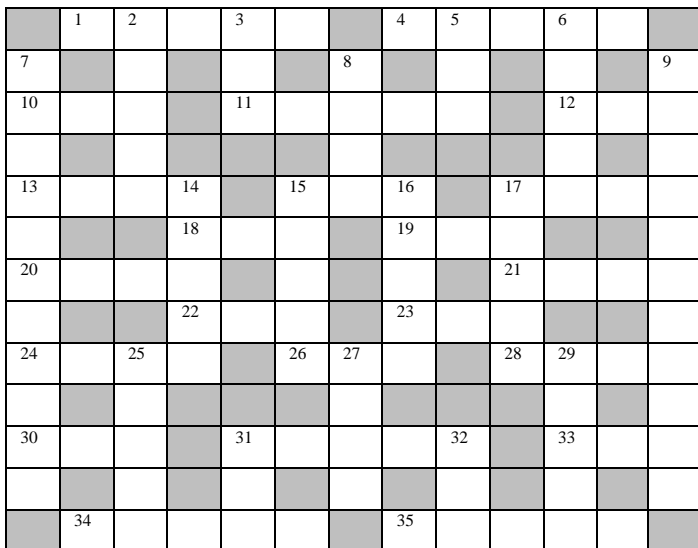
No! I don't want to  
go out doing trick or  
treat.

---

*They say "Don't try this at home" so I'm coming over to your house to try it*

# Puzzle Page

## Crossword No 120



### Answers

*Across: 1 Dread, 4 Lochs, 10 Err, 11 Brawl, 12 Sister, 13 Cold, 15 Pat, 17 Gait, 18 Ivy, 19 Emu, 20 Char, 21 Iron, 21 Too, 22 Ill, 24 Many, 26 Nod, 28 Text, 30 Eft, 31 Squad, 33 Rev, 34 Wharf, 35 Joked.*

*Down: 2 Rural, 3 Alb, 5 Owl, 6 Henna, 7 Beachcomber, 8 Gala, 9 Instinctive, 14 Dirty, 15 Pylon, 16 Tepid, 17 Remorse, 25 Notch, 27 Onus, 29 Eerie, 31 Sir, 32 Duo.*

### Miniquiz

- 1 Who was elected Conservative MP of Oldham in 1900?
- 2 Which British car manufacturer produced the Vantage and the DBII?
- 3 Which holy book's title means 'recitation' in Arabic?
- 4 Which musical is the longest running show on Broadway?
- 5 Which poem by John Masefield describes a 'Dirty British coaster with a salt-caked smokestack'?

### Answers

*1 Winston Churchill, 2 Aston Martin, 3 The Koran, 4 Phantom of the Opera, 5 Cargoes.*

Across		Down	
1	Fear	2	Country
4	Lakes	3	Vestment
10	Go astray	5	Bird
11	Scrap	6	Dye
12	Sister	7	Vagrant
13	Chilled	8	Fete
15	Tap	9	Natural
17	Bearing	14	Soiled
18	Plant	15	Tower
19	Bird	16	Warm
20	Singe	17	Remorse
21	Metal	25	Cut
22	Also	27	Burden
23	Unwell	29	Weird
24	Lots	31	Knight
26	Agree	32	Pair
28	Message		
30	Animal		
31	Team		
33	Vicar?		
34	Quay		
35	Jested		

### Word Ladder

Go from one word to the next by changing only one letter.

SHIRT	GARMENT
SHIRE	COUNTY
	GLEAM
	YOURS
	PONDER
	APPRECIATE
	LEG
	SLAP
	FLASH
	FISH
SHARE	PORTION

SHIRT, SHIRE, SHINE, THINE, THINK, THANK, SHANK, SPANK, SPARK, SHARE.

*Laziness may appear attractive, but work gives satisfaction.*

# The story of two contrasting Llantwit Major Clergy

In the December 1974 issue of the Parish Magazine the Vicar, the Revd. J. D. Llewelyn Jones, was inviting parishioners to join him at a service to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of his ordination as a priest, and wrote a brief summary of that ministry.

For six years during the time of the Great Depression I was in parishes in Merthyr Tydfil, working especially with men who were out of work; harsh times but happy ones among people of great qualities. Then, having got married in the meantime, I was at St. Agnus, Port Talbot, where during the War years there was a flourishing youth club in which my wife and I took a lively part. Then followed 16 years at Baglan with its charming Victorian church, a gem of its kind. When we went there in 1946 Baglan was a pretty village community with a squire as churchwarden. When we left in 1961 it had become a great industrialised area, cut in two by a motorway.

When we came to Llantwit Major we were told “Why bury yourselves in the Vale?” However remote the Vale may have once been, that is long ago. Now with the R.A.F. on one side and Atlantic College on the other, it is more like the hub of the world. So here we have spent the last 14 years in the parish which the late Archbishop Glyndwr Simon used to say was the one he would have first chosen if he had to be an incumbent. And I say Amen to that. We could not have found nicer people to work among, or lovelier churches to worship in.

The second Llantwit cleric was only here for a very short time. We heard about him in the November issue when the Vicar wrote: *We are fortunate in having the help of the Rev. Max Eggert, who has recently come to live at Orchard Lodge, Boverton, a young man married to Sian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Evans. He has been commended to us by Bishop Trevor Huddleston and will be licensed to help in the parish. He will be available for Christmas and has already made contact with our Youth Group.*

Next we hear of him in the March 1975 issue, when the Vicar, writing about work among young people, describes the over 15s meeting at the Eggert's home every Saturday. Then nothing more is heard of him, except his name under those of the other clergy up to April. So, what happened to him, and why did he leave? Friends on the internet have given me his story.

It seems that he only worked as a part-time non stipendiary priest in the Church of England from then on, pursuing a successful career as a

---

*My idea of Christmas, whether old fashioned or modern, is very simple; loving others. Come to think of it why do we have to wait for Christmas?*

psychologist, businessman, publishing more than 20 books and setting up a company helping people between careers.

He and Sian had two children, but sadly the marriage broke up and he moved to Australia; (or this may have been the other way around). The rest of the story comes from the Australian New South Wales Hawkesbury Gazette.

He married a Mrs Jane Robinson, who also had two children, and unable to continue as an Anglican priest, helped set up his own church with another priest, called the Communities of our Lady of Advent in 2011, extending his ministry to nursing homes and aged care centres in other parts of Sydney. Two years later he bought a farm at Putty, a small community in the Wollemi National Park and set up a church there, soon becoming part of the community as a firefighter, a passionate advocated on local issues and unpaid counsellor, as well as taking services there and in Sydney, a three hour drive away.

In the Monday afternoon of May 3rd 2016 Max was moving a water tank with his car when he was charged by a bull and gored to death. The village's volunteer-run critical response team said "Fr, Max never stood a chance" after the bull became territorial and aggressive. So ended the life of this rather strange former Llantwit Major cleric, and what a contrast to the first.

David G. Brunning

## Coronation Commerce

Who will do well out of the celebrations all over the country? The coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1952 set a trend; in the 1950's, there was very little television coverage outside the Home Counties, and it was of very poor quality black and white. My mother had a sister who lived in Poplar in London (after being bombed out twice,) so my parents went up to visit and to view the spectacle on TV. When they returned, they could not wait to buy a set, but the demand was enormous. Evans Bevan Neath Brewery did well out of Coronation Ale. Margaret and I had to wait until about 1961-2 to buy a set – black and white (really dark grey and white grey), small screen, second hand.

Who will benefit this time? Apparently, Paddington Bear is popular. Beneficiaries - perhaps manufacturers of Union Flags, inscribed t-shirts, holidays in Scotland?

Viv Kelly

### Christmas Greetings

Do you want to send out Christmas Greetings to friends and relatives through the pages of this magazine? All you have to do is send me an email, telling me what you want to say **BY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER**, and it will be printed. Cost is 10p per word payable to the church office. As in previous years, it will be dressed up nicely!

---

*If you don't know what you're doing, do it with a flourish.*

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. Bryn Evans  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct. Tomas David Wells  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct. Henry Ellis Wells  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct. Alys Erin Wells

### Marriages

25<sup>th</sup> Aug. Jacob Marc Osborne and Ella Ann Hughes

### Burials

27<sup>th</sup> Sept. Brian James, aged 90 years, Llantwit Major  
29<sup>th</sup> Sept. Ian Jeremy Turner, aged 80 years, Boverton  
7<sup>th</sup> Oct. Patricia Ann New, aged 72 years, Llantwit Major  
13<sup>th</sup> Oct. Anthony George Pearce, aged 79 years, Llantwit Major  
17<sup>th</sup> Oct. Clifford Edward Edge, aged 91 years, Llantwit Major



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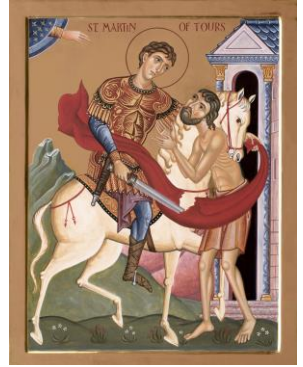


## Saint of the Month

### 11<sup>th</sup> November, St Martin of Tours (316-397)

For our Saint of the Month, I generally choose someone who has a connection with our Ministry Area or wider Wales. So you may be wondering what a French soldier, living a century before our Celtic saints, has to do with Llanilltud or the Glamorgan Heritage Coast?

Quite simply, that St Martin's monastery at Tours was the model for St Illtud's at Llanilltud Fawr, and that the life of St Martin was the inspiration for the 12th century writer of the Life of St Illtud.



St Martin is well-known for cutting his military cloak in half to clothe a beggar when he was a Roman soldier. In a dream that night, Martin saw Jesus wearing the cloak-half. As a result, Martin became a Christian, was baptised, and announced his allegiance to his new commanding officer, Christ, rather than the emperor. Just before a battle, Martin volunteered to go unarmed in front of the Roman troops; however, the invaders negotiated for peace, the battle did not take place, and Martin was discharged from the army. He became a monk and founded the first monastery in Gaul in the year 360.

The story of Martin changing from soldier to monk influenced the 12<sup>th</sup> century Life of St Illtud, which tells of Illtud similarly changing career, giving rise to the tradition of *Illtud Farchog*, Illtud the Knight.

Martin's monastery was situated in the countryside and was a training school for missionaries who went out into the surrounding areas. This was an innovation, a pattern that Whithorn in south-west Scotland, who had visited Martin's monastic school, and then later by St Illtud at Llanilltud Fawr, the first such missionary training school in Wales.

In 372 Martin was elected Bishop of Tours. As bishop he continued living the monastic life, founding a monastery at Marmoutier, just across the river Loire from Tours. He inaugurated the parish system, visiting his parishes and founding new monastic communities until his death in 397.

*Philip Morris*

## Canon Llewellyn Jones

*An interview with Canon J.D. Llewellyn Jones, vicar of Llantwit Major 1961-1978, conducted by Jeff Robinson Part 1*

Llantwit Major Local History Society has, in its archive, a collection of discs on which are recorded the reminiscences of many Llantwit citizens who have recorded memories dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. The following excerpt was transcribed from a recording made in February 1985 at Llandaff, where Jeff Robinson met up with Canon Llewellyn Jones. He had been the Vicar of Llantwit Major from 1961-1978 and lived in retirement at Llandaff with his wife, Win. Many of the present congregation will no doubt remember him.

Canon Llewellyn Jones was born in 1910, at Kenfig Hill, in the parsonage, where his father was the Vicar. His family moved to Cardiff in 1918. He was educated at Cardiff High School, Cardiff University, studying Classics, and at St Catherine's, Oxford, until 1933. It was the time of the Depression and a Quaker friend in Merthyr asked for his help among the unemployed. One enterprise was to set up holiday camps and Llewellyn Jones became the secretary. The first in Wales was at Monknash where the Bruce sisters offered a site for about 80 men. Later they were set up in the Gower and in many other places all over Wales. One was run at Ham House, for women only, in 1935/6.

After his ordination in 1933, by Bishop Timothy Rees, he was asked to go to Dowlais/Penydarren, again working with the unemployed. Here he set up community self-help groups, with canteens and clubs such as drama and sports, with crafts like bookbinding, printing, carpentry and so on available. These were supported by all the Merthyr Churches – inter-denominational, except the Roman Catholics, who were supporting the Irish element in the Merthyr industries.

Here he met his wife, Win, who ran the first nursery school in Wales, at Dowlais, in a large wooden hut. She was paid a salary by Lady Aster who installed such nurseries.

In the War years he was at St Agnes, Port Talbot, where they set up youth clubs to engage the young people. After the War, in 1946, he went to Baglan, then a small village, where he stayed for 15 years. Baglan experienced huge expansion with the arrival of the Abbey steel works, and some of his congregation were those he had met in his Merthyr days. The vicarage was a lovely Georgian building but needed attention. His son's bed actually fell through the floor!

---

*I don't believe one grows older. I think that what happens early on in life is that at a certain age one stands still and stagnates.*

The family endured 6-8 months of re-building and it had just finished when there was a phone call from Bishop Glyn Simon, would they like to go to Llantwit Major? Mrs Llewelyn Jones thought he meant for the day and was quite excited to have a day out, not realising it was an offer to go there to live.

The Llantwit vicarage was in a lovely spot – on the high land above the church. It was convenient for the church, but it was cold and inconvenient to reach from the town. It had been built in the late 1870s when the Vicar was Rev. E. Vaughan, who had sung in the choir at the coronation of King George IV. In winter, the family could be snowed in, as in 1962/3 when they had no water for several days until Chick Thompson, of Llantwit Major Life Guards, got 40 students from Atlantic College to dig them out.

Eventually a decision was made for a new vicarage in 1967, when Jim Matthews, of West House, West Street, was chairman of the 'Patronage Board'. It was built within the grounds of the Andrews' House, High Street, which had been left to St Illtud's church by Mary Andrews. The old vicarage was sold for £13,000 and the new vicarage was built by Ken Davies for £11,000. Canon and Mrs Llewelyn Jones viewed the vicarage at St. Hilary for ideas relating to the plans for the layout of the Llantwit vicarage.

Whilst clearing the Andrews House, Canon Llewellyn Jones had found many old papers once belonging to Hugh Andrews, the Llantwit Major postmaster from the 1920s to 1941 who was also a church warden. As a historian he was interested in what the papers represented. He gathered them up and put together 5 volumes of photos and cuttings, so preserving valuable information relating to Llantwit Major.

Christine Young

## **MU meetings for November and December**

### **All Saints Day**

Our November meeting will be at 2.00pm on Tuesday November 1<sup>st</sup>, All Saints Day in St Illtud's, when Father Craig will celebrate the Eucharist for us. Afterwards we hope you will be ready to share something about your own favourite saint.

### **December Meeting**

On Tuesday Dec 6<sup>th</sup> we will meet in St Illtud's where Keith and Lynn Brown will lead us in worship and music for Advent. There will be festive treats afterwards.

Sue Beetlestone

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*The cat could very well be man's best friend but would never stoop to admit it.*

# From Father Edwin

## The 'Reverse' Advent Calendar

We are encouraging our Heritage Coast Churches to take a fresh look at Advent this year. Rather than choosing Advent calendars, with cheap chocolate, there is a fabulous scheme called the "Reverse Advent Calendar", when we are all encouraged to put an item aside each day of Advent that can be donated to the work of our local Trussell Trust Food Banks.

The Food Banks are under increasing pressure at this time of year, and the current economic crisis and spiralling food prices will add even more pressure this winter. You can find details of specific items that are needed in all of our churches.

Advent begins on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Do you fancy doing Advent 'in reverse' this year, and making a difference to others in the process?

## Bishop June Osborne's retirement

The Bishop of Llandaff will retire at the end of November. Bishop June came to our diocese in 2017 and has brought a fresh vision to Llandaff, not to mention steering us through the difficult years of the pandemic. Her final service will be at Llandaff Cathedral on 30<sup>th</sup> November when the diocese will send her on her way with much love and prayers.

A new Bishop will be elected in January and parishioners are being asked for their thoughts and reflections about this appointment. A profile of the role is being prepared and each Ministry Area is being asked to respond to 4 questions:

- 1. As the diocese of Llandaff enters the next phase of its life and mission, what priorities should the new Bishop have?**
- 2. What leadership style and qualities are needed by the new Bishop?**
- 3. What spiritual gifts do you hope would underpin the new Bishop's ministry?**
- 4. Is there anything else you wish to add? (for example: church tradition, familiarity with Welsh language and culture, etc.)**

Responses must be succinct, bullet points are ideal, and will be collated into a single response from the Heritage Coast churches. Please give your response to any of the clergy or Ministry Team as soon as possible. The Heritage Coast response must be submitted by 11<sup>th</sup> November.

Yours in faith, Edwin

---

*Do not wait; the time will never be just right. Start where you stand, and work with whatever tools you may have at your command.*

# Benefice Directory

## **Parish Clergy**

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Contributions to be received by 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month.

<b>November 2022 Final</b>	<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	
St Illtud 8.00am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
Wick 8.15am	Online	Online	Online	Online	
St Tathan 9.00am	Morning Prayer	Remembrance Service @ 10am	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Illtud 9.30am	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	<b>5.00pm</b> Christingle	Online & in person
Ewenny 9.30am	Morning Prayer	Remembrance Service	Eucharist	Eucharist	
Gileston 9.30am	Eucharist		Morning Prayer		
Llanmihangel 9.30am	Eucharist	Remembrance Service @10.45am	Morning Prayer		
Llanmaes 11.00am	Eucharist	Remembrance Service @10.45am	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	
St Brides 11.00am	Eucharist	Remembrance Service @10.45am	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	
Wick 11.00am	Eucharist	Remembrance Service @10.45am	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	
St Donat 11.15am	Eucharist	Remembrance Service @10.50am	Eucharist		
Marcross	<b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup> 9.30am</b> Friday Fellowship				
Monknash			<b>Fri 18<sup>th</sup> 9.30am</b> Friday Fellowship		
Wick 8.30am	<b>Thurs 3<sup>th</sup></b> Morning Prayer on Zoom	<b>Thurs 10<sup>th</sup></b> Morning Prayer on Zoom	<b>Thurs 17<sup>th</sup></b> Morning Prayer on Zoom	<b>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup></b> Morning Prayer on Zoom	
St Illtud 10am	<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 23<sup>rd</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup></b> Morning Prayer
St Illtud 12.15pm	<b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist & soup lunch	<b>Fri 12<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist & soup lunch	<b>Fri 18<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist & soup lunch	<b>Fri 26<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist & soup lunch	
St Tathan 11am	<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 23<sup>rd</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup></b> Morning Prayer
Southerndown 3pm	<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 23<sup>rd</sup></b> Eucharist	<b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup></b> Evening Prayer
St Illtud's 7.00pm					<b>Mon 28<sup>th</sup></b> Healing Service



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