



# Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area Magazine



## August 2022

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# Parish Magazine

The Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area comprises the Parishes of: St Bridget's, St Brides; 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

- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Index.                           | 11. Puzzle Page.             |
| 2. From the Editor.                 | 12. Back in Circulation.     |
| 3. Terminal?                        | 13. Back in Circulation. MU. |
| 4. From Father Edwin.               | 14. Poem. Advertisement.     |
| 5. Father Edwin. Registers.         | 15. Saint of the Month.      |
| 6. Surprise, SURPRISE.              | 16. Tommy Flowers.           |
| 7. Advertisement.                   | 17. Tommy Flowers. St Athan. |
| 8. Festival f Celebrations.         | 18. Meaning of the Creed.    |
| 9. Festival. Harps at Llanmihangel. | 19. Directory.               |
| 10. Humour.                         | 20. Services.                |

## This Month's Cover

The picture shows the sort of scene that most of us visualise when we think of going on holiday. We are usually attracted to the seaside and want to be in the sun, sitting out, relaxing in a comfortable chair and, in order to achieve this, think of going abroad. Perhaps the Mediterranean attracts us or maybe we want to go further afield, but whatever the destination, we have to get there. That then involves a long and probably tedious car journey or public transport or, worst of all, air travel which necessitates passing through an airport. Having been deprived of holidays during the covid restrictions, it is natural to want to get away during the summer months but this happens to coincide with the hottest weather ever experienced in the UK. Ironic isn't it?

## Clawr y Mis Hwn:

Mae'r llun yn dangos y ddelwedd sy'n dod i gôf llawer ohonom wrth feddwl am olygfeydd a ddelweddau pan fyddwn ni'n meddwl am fynd ar wyliau. Fel arfer rydyn ni'n cael ein denu at lan y môr ac eisiau bod yn yr haul, yn eistedd allan, yn ymlacio mewn cadair esmwyth ac, er mwyn cyflawni hyn, meddyliwn am fynd dramor. Efallai bod Môr y Canoldir yn ein denu neu efallai ein bod am fynd ymhellach i ffwrdd, ond beth bynnag yw'r gyrchfan, mae'n rhaid i ni gyraedd yno. Mae hynny wedyn yn cynnwys taith hir a diflas mewn car neu drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus neu, waethaf oll, teithio awyr sy'n golygu bod angen mynd drwy faes awyr. Ar ôl cael ein hamddifadu o wyliau yn ystod cyfyngiadau Covid, mae'n naturiol ein bod yn cael ein galw i ddianc yn ystod misoedd yr haf, ond mae hyn yn digwydd cyd-fynd â'r tywydd poethaf a brofwyd erioed yn y DU. Eironig neu beth?

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*No one has ever become poor by giving.*

# From the Editor

Dear Friends,

The first Sunday in July was the Saint Day of Saint Thomas the Apostle, often referred to by the unfortunate title of 'Doubting Thomas'. The sermon that day, preached by Father Edwin, centred on the doubts that are felt by many Christians, including the clergy, which can give rise to a shaking of one's faith. This would be expected to be a considerable worry to most people but can be regarded as a natural reaction to those parts of what we are taught that are difficult to reconcile with our everyday experiences.

This is where Thomas comes in! He is the man who was the 'archetypical doubter'. He is the one who needed and demanded proof that it was, really, Jesus who had risen from the dead. He needed tactile evidence of the holes in His hands and wound to His side before he could accept that it was indeed 'The Risen Christ'. It was Thomas who voiced many of the doubts that assail the rest of us; it was Thomas who did the testing for us.

To me, the Feast of Saint Thomas ranks only just below the major Christian festivals, Christmas, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. This is because of what I said in the previous paragraph, that Thomas is the person whose actions can save us all from our doubts. It is human and natural to have doubts, as Fr Edwin said in his sermon. We need to have a lifeline to cling on to and Thomas provided it.

For some years now I have had the thought that if Thomas had not existed and had those doubts, the Gospel writers would have had to invent him! There was a need for someone to give voice to the fears and reservations that millions of Christians have had through the ages. He says, on our behalf "I have doubts, give me proof." And there, he gets that proof and passes it on to us.

The story of Thomas and his demand for proof of Christ's resurrection appears in only one of the New Testament's four Gospels. John's Gospel, the last to be written, probably around 90-100 AD, identifies the source as the 'disciple whom Jesus loved' and this is most likely to be John. This Gospel sets out its purpose "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name." To this end he sets out seven "I am" discourses finishing with the episode of Thomas where the man is convinced by the proofs and proclaims Jesus as "my Lord and my God". What more do we need?

Yours sincerely, *Eric Sparks*

*Keith Brown printed the July magazine while Alison was away on leave and the Welsh translation on page 1 has been kindly done by Siân Tesni. Many thanks to both.*

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

# Earworms

I am certain that we have all experienced 'earworms' but just in case you don't recognise the term. It describes the situation where you have a tune buzzing around in your brain and just cannot get rid of it. I am sure that you are all well aware of the condition even if you didn't know its name. For me, it is a hymn tune, as often as not, that keeps on repeating over and over again until I get fed up with the endless repetition and deliberately try to get a different tune to take its place.

Recently, for some motive beyond all reason, it was a tune from the 50s, originally sung by the Beverley Sisters! "It's illegal, it's immoral or it makes you fat," was the title and it made the point that most things that we enjoy fall into one or more of the categories mentioned in the title. Whether or not the person who wrote the lyric was trying to make a moral point is a question which we cannot, now answer, but, intentional or not, it does make a point.

Adrenaline is a hormone which is produced mainly in the adrenal glands and has several effects in the human body. It increases the flow of blood to the muscles, increases the blood sugar levels and dilates the pupils. It has been called the 'flight, fight or frolic' hormone as these are the conditions which lead to an increase in the hormone levels. Nearly all the activities which individuals regard as pleasurable, sky diving, bungee jumping, fairground rides and many others, have the effect of producing this increase and it is from that which we derive the pleasure.

So where does this silly song lyric fit in to it all? Only the middle 'immoral' fits in to the adrenaline picture; the 'illegal' probably referring to drugs and 'it makes you fat' clearly referring to overeaters. And just in case you think that this last does not refer to you, are you perhaps a chocoholic? I know people, who shall be nameless, who have been known to polish off a whole large box of chocolates at a sitting!

Does any of this have a moral meaning? Well, yes, I think it does. There is another song which might well become another earworm. "Money is the root of all evil" dating from the 40s and The Andrews Sisters. This is, of course, a misquotation. The original statement was "For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil" (Timothy) and this, in turn, leads on to the highly moral point, that all sorts of things which give pleasure are perfectly acceptable provided they are not taken to excess but are intolerable when overindulged. Possibly the best example of this is drinking too much alcohol. Something to think about.

ES

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*He can who thinks he can, and he can't who thinks he can't. This is an inexorable indisputable law.*



## From Father Edwin



Dear Friends,

The schools have finally closed their doors, we've had a brief, but intense heatwave and the motorways are choked with traffic... it must be the holiday season!

When I was much younger, the summer holiday was confined to a couple of weeks at the end of July and beginning of August, when businesses and industry shuddered to a halt and everyone seemed to head for Barry Island, Porthcawl or West Wales, depending on your budget.

These days, our options are much wider, although we still pin a lot of hopes on the month of August to provide us with long days, sunshine and a chance to get away from it all, even for a few days. The feeling of being 'on holiday' is perhaps more intense this year, following the last couple of years when the pandemic has stopped so many people from travelling. I know of many local people who have struggled to meet up with family and friends in the last 2 years, let alone get away for a break in the summer sun. Thankfully, the next few weeks will give many families a chance to be together, relax and enjoy some well-earned rest.

However, I'm reminded that our understanding of a holiday derives from the celebration of a Holy Day when a particular saint or religious festival would become the focus of celebration for a whole community. Amongst our Heritage Coast churches, the Feast days of St Mary Magdalene and St James, the pilgrim apostle, were celebrated at the end of July, and 15<sup>th</sup> August is a day of celebration for all Christians, with the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. Yet these Feast Days will be kept quietly in our churches, while the holiday season is in full flow.

Please don't get me wrong; I'm not getting on my pious high horse or being a killjoy at a fabulous time of the year for friends and family. I simply wish we could draw on some wider traditions that are part of everyday life in many parts of Europe and across the world, when 'holidays' and 'holy days' become 'Fiesta'. Sweets!

I was staying in a village on a Spanish island a few years ago, when the local saint's day was being celebrated. There were certainly plenty of services in the local church, but there was far more than that. The locals lined the streets, food was being prepared at the roadside and were given away to all the children. The whole community was gathering

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*Always be yourself, express yourself, have faith in yourself, do not go out and look for a successful personality and duplicate it.*

together to celebrate and be thankful for home, family and for one another. As an outsider I was welcomed into the midst of everything that was good in that place and, years later, I remember the generous welcome and boundless hospitality that I received. It was a holy day to celebrate the feast day of the local saint, but it was also a holiday when the shops and businesses closed because this community celebration was greater than any single family, and more important than just having a day off work. This was a real Fiesta.

I hope we all get a chance of some holiday over the coming weeks; but I hope it will be more than just a few days away from the daily grind. I hope it will be real celebration, for you and for your loved ones, remembering everything that is joyous and good in your lives. May your August be a time of Fiesta!

With every blessing,

Edwin

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

26 June. Afon John Bullock  
26 June. Arian Rosalina Bullock  
26 June. Eira Rose Sian Evans  
26 June. Ieuan Lloyd Rosslyn Evans  
26 June. Abigail Rose Evans  
10 July. Aurelia Seren Collins  
10 July. Penelope Margaret Thomas  
10 July. Florence Katie Thomas  
17 July Brody Blake Jackson Tucker

### Marriages

24 June. Richard Lewis Robert Butcher & Anne-Marie Louise Adamson  
9 July. Liam Robert Jones & Lucy Page  
23 July. Joshua Thomas Curtis & Katherine Elizabeth Williams

### Burials

4 July. Adrian John May aged 57 years, St. Athan  
5 July. Margaret Gardiner aged 85 years, Llanmaes  
21 July. Allen Wyndham Powell, aged 80 years, Llantwit Major

Canon David Brunning was delighted to learn that Katherine Williams, the 23rd July bride, was one of the many babies he had christened when he had been Rector of Panteg, Pontypool.

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*The Perthshire village of Dull has been twinned with the US town Boring.*

## Surprise, SURPRISE!

I was very surprised and indeed delighted to see that the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish appeared not once but twice on primetime television in the beginning of February 2022. Did we get any royalties? Did we even know it was on?? I didn't and came across it purely by chance!

On February 4<sup>th</sup> at 4pm we tuned in to see what was on to watch with our afternoon tea. Fern Britton introduced an hour-long Channel 5 Watercolour Challenge. Four plucky painters were visiting one of the 'wonders of the natural world' the Glamorgan Heritage Coast in South Wales. I know that place!

The judge is well known to us, Peter Cronin, a talented musician, guitar, and singer who majors at the Open Mic Night in St Illtud's West Church. He has been a professional artist for over 18 years, well known for his evocative watercolour paintings depicting the Welsh natural landscape. During the Llantwit Major Festival, he held an art class on the mezzanine, St Illtud's church.

It seems the series was taking these painters to various places in the UK of interest for a painting challenge to paint what they see and how they would put it on paper to win that day's challenge.

This particulate day they were at St Donats to paint the church and the castle above and behind it. While they were painting there was also a commentary on the history of the castle and how Randolph Hearst had bought it and added to it. Something he would not be allowed to do today like knocking a great hole in the outer curtain wall to enclose his Bradenstoke Hall. Many of the great and glorious of Hollywood and also presidential families visited the castle including Charlie Chaplin, Clark Gable and the Kennedy's.

A week later, much to my second surprise, the TV crew were there again only this time outside the walls of the castle grounds and on the shoreline to paint the beautiful heritage coast from St Donats eastwards towards the lighthouse at Nash Point empathising the importance of our wonderful 'Jurassic Coast' where many a fossil and dinosaur footprints have been found, the last notable one back in 2015 near Penarth.

Our bedrock is known as Blue Lias stone, and it stretches from much further inland and out across the Bristol Channel into Devon and Somerset. It outcrops on the world-famous Jurassic Coast at, among other places, Charmouth and Lyme Regis where we have spent many a happy holiday visiting our old fossils friends from around the Welsh coast!! A dinosaur foot found by chance on Lavernock Beach could be from the earliest known ancestor of the fearsome Tyrannosaurus Rex whose skeleton had been uncovered after a cliff fall the previous year. This mini version was only 50cm, 19.6in tall! Ha love it!! If you have missed these two wonderful gems of our 'parish' then may I suggest you try getting them on My5 catch up.

Bill Henderson

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*With great power comes an even greater electricity bill.*



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# Festival of Celebrations at Llanmihangel Church

For the first time, the Diocese of Llandaff has held a Churches Festival 'Churches Unlocked, organised from 18<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June. Ten churches were nominated to participate, including, from our Ministry Area, St Michael & All Angels Church, Llanmihangel. Overall, the Festival was very successful in fulfilling the Diocesan aim of having "gorgeous buildings open to visitors for tours, family events, flower festivals, bell-ringing, music, concerts, family history and themed exhibitions - plus tea and Welsh cakes".

The organisers from the ten churches subsequently met in July for a lunch together in the Diocesan offices. We thank Graham Bray, with wife Wendy, and Siân Evans for leading, and thank all who helped and supported the Llanmihangel participation.

All the Llanmihangel events were well attended and, as ever, there was good community spirit and fellowship. There were refreshments across the week, including tea and coffee, strawberry treats, wine, and scones. The events were:

- A local history walk around the church to what remains of the mill and fish ponds. It was led by David Harris who told a medieval tale of monks, fish pools and the Mill.
- A re-enactment of a 17C service of Evening Prayer from the Welsh Prayer Book published in 1621 with metrical psalms, as would have been conducted by Archdeacon Edmwnd Prys, the 'Psalmist of Wales'
- An Historical Evening when we found out more about the fascinating history of Llanmihangel church and community from Siân Evans.
- A Midsummer Day Harp Recital led by Sue Banks with harpists and violin, re-arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> July due to covid. They gave us an enjoyable musical tour of the British Isles.
- An art exhibition by David Ellis: 'A Pilgrimage through the 12 churches of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast'.



Llanmihangel Church with special Festival Banner

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*Time may be a great healer, but it is also a lousy beautician.*



Walkers outside the church



Dedication of the gates

On the Sunday of the Festival week, there was, in addition, a special service to dedicate the new gates provided by the four daughters in memory of their parents David and Lydia. They had been the last tenant farmers at Plas Llanmihangel, before the house was sold.

Keith Brown

## Harps in Llanmihangel

The harp concert finally took place in St Michael and all Angels on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July in front of a highly appreciative audience. The group of four Welsh harps and a violin was led by Sue Banks and gave us a most entertaining evening. The programme consisted of tunes from the four countries comprising the United Kingdom. They started off with the Skye Boat Song and Loch Lomond from Scotland followed by a couple of tunes representing England. After a break for refreshments, we were then diverted by offerings from Ireland and Wales with the final tune being 'Calon Lan', what else?

Sue claimed that the little group, each with a lovely instrument, were only amateurs and probably corresponded, in some way, to the ukulele band of Bob Smith. Whatever the case, they gave us a most enjoyable evening and helped to raise a significant sum of money which will probably be spent on the church. Well done!

### Afternoon Tea

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July. 2.45 – 4.00 pm

Fundraising for CureGRIN by Sue Banks

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## Humour

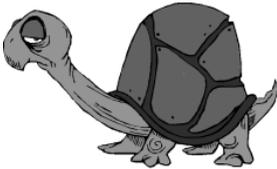
The Lord said to Noah, "Where is the Ark I commanded you to build?" Noah said, "Verily I have had three carpenters off sick. The gopherwood supplier has let me down, yea, even though the gopherwood has been on order for nigh on 12 months. The damp course specialist has not turned up." And God said to Noah, "I want that Ark finished before seven days and seven nights." Noah said, "It will be so." And it was not so.

The Lord said to Noah, "What seems to be the trouble this time?" Noah said "My subcontractor has gone bankrupt. The pitch for the outside of the Ark has not arrived. The plumber has gone on strike. The glazier has departed to Majorca for a holiday. Yea, even though I offered him double time. Shem has formed a pop group with his brothers Ham and Japheth. Lord, I am undone."

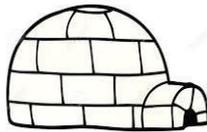
The Lord grew angry and said, "What about the animals? Two of every sort I have ordered to come to thee to be kept alive. Where, for example, are the giraffes?" Noah said, "They have been delivered to the wrong address, but should arrive on Friday." And the Lord said, "Where are the monkeys and the bears and the elephants and the zebras?" Noah replied, "They are expected today."

The Lord said to Noah, "How about the unicorns?" Noah wrung his hands and wept. "Oh Lord, Lord, they are a discontinued line. Thou canst not get unicorns for love nor money. Thou knowest how it is." The Lord said, "Noah, my son, I know. Why else dost thou think I have caused a flood?"

A church decided to produce a Passion play one year. The cast was selected and rehearsed regularly and tirelessly. In due course the day of the dress rehearsal came but the man playing Pontius Pilate had to be at work so a substitute stepped in. At one stage, the director said to Pilate, "You'll have to speak up, I can't hear you." Back came the reply, "Pilate isn't here, you've got the co-Pilate."



If you think that YOU'RE hot, you should feel the temperature inside this shell.



This isn't the weather for ice cream.



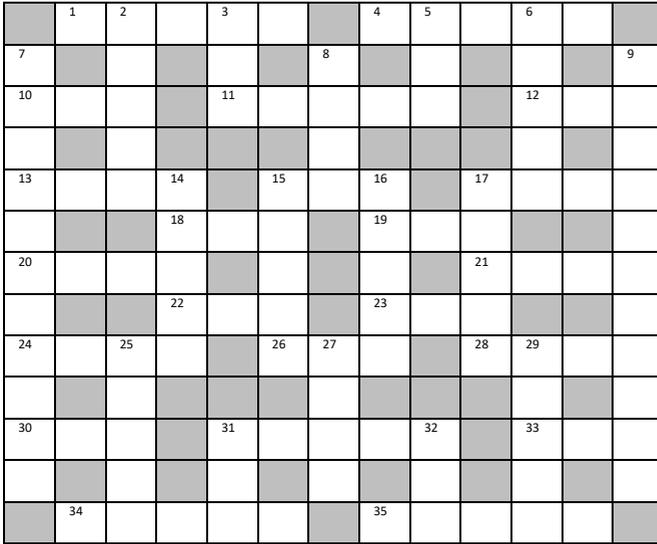
Where are you going for your spa weekend?

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*The cinema is a very truthful medium because the camera doesn't let you get away with anything. On stage you can even loaf a little if you are so inclined.*

# Puzzle Page

## Crossword No 118



- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Across</p> <p>1 State</p> <p>4 Old</p> <p>10 Cover</p> <p>11 Put out</p> <p>12 Also</p> <p>13 Burn</p> <p>15 Taxi</p> <p>17 Typeface</p> <p>18 Every</p> <p>19 Transgress</p> <p>20 Hum</p> <p>21 Area</p> <p>22 Choose</p> <p>23 Possess</p> <p>24 Urge</p> <p>26 Berry</p> <p>28 Monarch</p> <p>30 Fairy</p> <p>31 Neckwear</p> <p>33 Pleasure</p> <p>34 Guide</p> <p>35 Habit</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>2 Spirit</p> <p>3 Grain</p> <p>5 Obtained</p> <p>6 Same</p> <p>7 Bomb</p> <p>8 Letter</p> <p>9 Rum</p> <p>running?</p> <p>14 Shaver</p> <p>15 Fabric</p> <p>16 Under</p> <p>17 Open</p> <p>25 Inapt</p> <p>27 Jelly</p> <p>29 Deduce</p> <p>31 Female</p> <p>32 Infection</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### Answers

Across: 1 Aver, 4 Aged, 10 Lid, 11 Exert, 12 Too, 13 Char, 15 Cab, 17 Font, 18 All, 19 Err, 20 Buzz, 21 Ace, 22 Opt, 23 Own, 24 Spur, 26 Haw, 28 King, 30 Elf, Scarf, 33 Fun, 34 Steer, 35 Habit.

Down: 2 Vodka, 3 Rye, 5 Got, 6 Ditto, 7 Blockbuster, 8 Beta, 9 Bootlegging, 14 Razor, 15 Cloth, 16 Below, 17 Frank 25 Unfit, 27 Aear, 29 Infer, 31 She, 32 Flu.

- 1 Who wrote the children's novels, *The Midnight Folk* and *The Box of Delights*?
- 2 Which brother of Martha and Mary was resurrected by Jesus?
- 3 Which royal residence is on Deeside?  
Sometimes called 'Cardice', which cooling agent was first produced in 1835?
- 5 Concerned with etymology, onomastics is the study of what?

### Answers

*1 John Masefield, 2 Lazarus, 3 Balmoral, 4 Dry Ice or Solid carbon dioxide, 5 Proper names especially personalnames.*

### Word Ladder

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

CLING	HOLD
CLINK	JAIL
BLINK	FLICKER
	UNSEEING
	TASTELESS
	MARK
	LARGE
	GIVE
	NOISE
	FORCE
BLUNT	DULL

Cling, Clink, Blink, Blind, Bland, Brand, Grand, Grant, Grunt, Brunt, Blunt.

## BACK IN CIRCULATION

The September 1974 Magazine began with **The Vicar's Letter**, saying that he was back in circulation after nearly four months of being in and out of hospital. After saying once again how grateful he had been for their prayers and support, he added: *Now I have to learn to adjust to circumstances, and to discover what I can do and what I cannot do. I have discovered that the sheer familiarity of the services of the church helps me along. They carry me rather than I conduct them, which seems to me a kind of parable. We talk about 'supporting the Church,' but in reality, the Church supports us.*

He expressed concern about being unable to undertake any serious visiting, and with the Curate bearing the brunt of parish duties, little visiting had been done. *This is a pity because there has been a great influx of people into the parish recently. In this you can all help by introducing newcomers to the church, and the church to newcomers.*

While praising the hospital staff, particularly those he had had plenty of time to get to know from his bed, he commented on the great strain the National Health Service was undergoing. *It is not only a matter of pay and conditions, which certainly need improving, there is also a change in attitude towards work and service, a restlessness and discontent which reflects the mood of society in general. It is hypocritical to praise our wonderful nurses and hospital staff if we are not prepared to pay the cost of such an excellent service.*

The Vicar then reminded his readers, under the heading of **Paying our Way**, that the controversial Stewardship Campaign held twelve years before, had enabled them to pay their way and give a proportion of their income to needs outside the parish right up to the present; but since then, he added, that costs had gone up enormously and the value of giving had dropped. So he urged church members to use the new boxes of weekly envelopes, reminding them that, *we have the privilege of being responsible for the care and maintenance of a church of surpassing beauty and of historic interest, a sermon in stone and a centre of peace and holiness.*

As we struggle with the July heat, at St Donat's in the September issue, they were worrying whether it would be a late **Harvest Thanksgiving**, because of bad weather, saying that it was always very real at St. Donat's, because the congregation were largely involved in its gathering.

The Vicar continued this theme in the October Magazine, saying that a bumper harvest had turned out to be a difficult one because of 'winter storms'. *On top of this, the price of a loaf, the shortage of sugar, and the sight of tractors holding up the traffic in our big cities, all remind us of the importance of farming. With all the threats of disaster the marvel is that*

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*Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently.*

*there is any harvest at all. The specially religious quality of the harvest is the spirit of thankfulness, without which life becomes sour and mean.*

## **Clerical capers**

There are clergy movements in both issues of the Magazine. In September the Vicar wrote about attending the induction of the Revd. John Thomas, our former curate, to the living of Dinas and Penygraig; the priesting of the Revds. Richard Evans and Philip Morris were reported in the Welsh Churchman inset.

In the October issue the Vicar announced the leaving of the Revd. Richard Evans, to be assistant curate in the parish of St. Saviour's, Splott, Cardiff in November. After thanking him for all he had done, he added that the Bishop had assured him of a replacement when the time came, but he had no idea what a surprise that was going to be!

At the same time he said farewell to Father Francis Murphy, of St Mary and St. Illtyd's Roman Catholic Church on his departure for Cwmbran, and gave a welcome to the Revd. J. Huw Edwards, the new young minister of Bethel Baptist Church. Fr Murphy and I worked well together in Cwmbran, but he used to pull my leg when I was in my cold damp old Vicarage, saying "You Anglicans have better halves, but we have better quarters!"

In the final **St. Donat's Notes** the death of Miss Jane Wilde on 18th September was recorded, *although strictly speaking recently she has been a parishioner of Wick, and we offer Miss Gertrude Wilde, for many years our Parochial Secretary, and all her family our deep sympathy.*

David G. Brunning.

## **Mothers' Union**

Recently, four members of the Mothers' Union went to visit their caravan which is sited in Porthcawl. Funding for this thoroughly worthwhile facility, which provides a holiday for those who otherwise could not afford one, was recently given a welcome boost by the Smartie challenge which raised over £400. The ladies saw the caravan in its lovely position and thoroughly enjoyed their trip.

Diane Gullett



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*Cats have 32 muscles in each ear, to help them ignore you.*

## A POEM

There will come soft rains and the smell of the ground,  
and swallows circling with their shimmering sound.

And frogs in the pools singing at night,  
and wild plum trees in tremendous white.

Robins will wear their leathery fire  
whistling their whims on a low fence wire.

And not one will know of the war, not one  
will care at last when it is done.

Not one would mind, neither bird nor tree  
if mankind perished utterly.

And spring herself when she woke at dawn,  
would scarcely know that we were gone.

Bob Jameson



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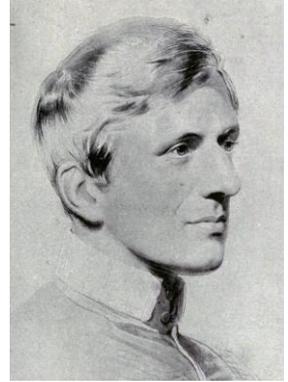
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# Saint of the Month

## 11 August: John Henry Newman, priest (1801-1890)

At every Evening Prayer in All Saints' Church, Southerndown, is said this prayer:

*O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life,  
until the shades lengthen and the evening comes,  
the busy world is hushed,  
the fever of life is over and our work is done.  
Then, Lord, in your mercy, grant us safe lodging,  
a holy rest, and peace at the last;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



It was written by this month's 'saint' – Cardinal John Henry Newman. Read it again – it's a beautiful prayer of comfort and hope in these difficult days.

John Henry Newman also wrote three hymns which we often sing: *Lead kindly light*, *Firmly I believe and truly* and *Praise to the Holiest in the height*. The second two are from Newman's poem *The Dream of Gerontius*, written in 1865, and set to music by Sir Edward Elgar in 1900.

So who was John Henry Newman? In brief, he was an Anglican priest who became a Roman Catholic priest and cardinal. After graduating from the University of Oxford he was ordained and became curate of St Clement's Church, Oxford, which was in the Evangelical tradition. However, Newman gradually took a more Catholic view of the Church, and after a time as tutor in the University, became vicar of St Mary's University Church, Oxford, during which he came involved in the high church Oxford Movement. He particularly saw Anglicanism as a middle way between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism, and called for the reform of the Church of England so that it followed the pattern of the original "catholic," or universal, church of the first five centuries.

However, in 1843 Newman resigned as vicar of St Mary's Oxford, and became a Roman Catholic, was ordained a priest, and founded the Oratory in Birmingham. He continued to write theological works as well as poetry and hymns and in 1879 was made a Cardinal. He died at Birmingham on 11 August 1890. On 13 October 2019 Newman was canonised by Pope Francis.

*Philip Morris*

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*Every person takes the limits of their own field of vision for the limits of the world.*

## Tommy Flowers

Our service in St Illtuds on 3<sup>rd</sup> July centred around St. Thomas sometimes referred to as Doubting Thomas because he would not believe in the risen Christ unless he could touch the wounds of the Stigmata. The proof of the pudding as they say today is in the eating! As I listened to the sermon, I could not help but think of a WWII event and not St. Thomas but Thomas Flowers who is not very well remembered, if at all today, although his legacy is part of the most important bit of kit we have today the first programable computer no less.

It has been written that he did not have the same high profile as Guy Gibson and Douglas Bader, however he played a very important part during his time at Bletchley Park. This was so significant that, along with the work of William 'Bill' Tutte, historians have argued that their combined work shortened the war by two years, thus saving tens of thousands of lives. An obituary in the 'Daily Telegraph' stated: "Tommy Flowers contribution to code breaking in World War Two was immense".

Flowers and the whole of the GPO's Dollis Hill research team was brought into Bletchley Park as it was believed their skills would be useful to Alan Turing. The centre had a decoding machine, the Bombe machine, but it was slow and unreliable, and it was nicknamed 'Heath Robinson' as it kept breaking down. Flowers was brought in to try to fix it. However, he believed that he was capable of building a different and a better machine. He started work on it in February 1943 and finished it in December of the same year.

The people who made funding available very much doubted it could be done because it used very many radio valves, and they would often break down rendering the machine useless until it was fixed again and yet again. Tommy Flowers believed differently. His experience as a telephone engineer differed and his end product has been described as one of the greatest inventions of the C20th.

His machine was called 'Colossus' – the world's first programmable computer. A full five years before the Americans believed they did it!! It worked off 1,800 radio valves and many believed that this was its weakness as valves were notoriously unreliable and prone to breaking down. Flowers believed from his work with the GPO, that they mainly broke down only when a machine was being switched on and off. He doubted that this would be the case if were left on all the time in a 'stable environment'. He was proved right as 'Colossus' proved to be highly reliable. To give some idea of his achievement, the previous largest number of valves used in a single machine was 150! However, such was the scepticism of the managers of Bletchley Park that they refused to fund the project. He had no such doubts; he was not a doubting Thomas, and funded a great deal of the project with his own money.

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*The pessimist is a realist who isn't afraid to admit it.*

'Colossus' also proved to be a powerful machine. The 'Heath Robinson' read 1000 characters when it was working properly, Colossus read 5000 with excellent reliability.

Colossus 1 and 2, which used 2,400 valves, were ready for D-Day. This meant that Allied Supreme Commanders had almost instant access to information and the Nazis had no idea that this was happening, such was their faith in their system. Hitler continued to believe the invasion would take part near Pays de Calais and he refused to release or move these troops to Normandy, and no one argued with Hitler!

When WW2 ended, Flowers was given a reward of £1000 for his invention. It is the mark of Tommy Flowers that he divided the money up among his team that had helped him. He gave himself £350-a good sum of money in those days but hardly enough for the man credited with inventing the modern computer!

His very secret work continued well after the war because, in the Cold War, we were equally well reading the Russian codes! In 2011 some of his work still remained highly classified which is why, maybe, he is not as well-known as he deserves to be.

He died in 1998 aged 92.

Bill Henderson

## St Athan

We at St Tathan are, at last, waking up after our long break for 'you all know what'. We are opening our doors every day for at least 10-2pm. In reality the Church is open much longer on most days.

The Clothes Bank is open every Thursday from 9 till 11am. A new member of our congregation Paul Carr and his son Callum with a team of volunteers have been working VERY hard to make this the success it is. We are planning ahead as we are anticipating a greater need for warm articles of clothing etc. in the autumn with more people finding it difficult to keep warm with the rising cost of fuel. So if you can donate such items of warm clothing, scarves, woolly hats, gloves, socks we'd be very grateful. We are hoping to set up a box of such items in each of the 12 Churches in the Parish. Contributions for these boxes will be accepted at St Tathan Church on Wednesday 12-2pm. Thank you, in anticipation of your response.

**CRAFT FAYRE - SATURDAY, AUGUST 27th** on St Tathan Church Path. 10 (at least) local crafters will be displaying their works of art for sale. Coffee, Tea, and cakes will be on sale.

Eleanor Macnamara

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*The ostriches' eyes are the size of billiard balls. They take up so much room in the skull that the ostrich brain is smaller than either one of the eyeballs.*

# The Meaning of the Creed

When a Christian recites the Creed, he, or she, is telling God and the world exactly what they believe in. The original Nicene Creed, was decided upon by the first Ecumenical Council which met in Nicaea in the year 325 AD. It was amended at the First Council of Constantinople in 381 AD but remains much the same up to the present day. The wording of the Creed is as follows:



*I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate and suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of the Father; from thence He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe in one Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen*

There are several different versions of the Creed, but they all convey the same degree of belief in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit otherwise described as the Holy Trinity. When you read or hear the Creed, you are made aware of exactly what it is to be a Christian. Churchgoers say these words, or others which are very similar, at each service they attend: Eucharist, Morning Prayer and Evensong.

ES

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*Psychiatry enables us to correct our faults by confessing our parents' shortcomings.*

# Benefice Directory

## Parish Clergy

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

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*I grew up with six brothers. That's how I learned to dance, waiting for the bathroom.*

August 2022 Final	Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	
St Illtud's 8.00am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St James', Wick 8.00am	Online	Online	Online	Online	
St Tathan, 9.00am	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Illtud's 9.30am	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	
Ewenney Priory 9.30am	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Giles, Gileston 9.30am	Eucharist		Morning Prayer		
St Michaels, Llanmhangell 9.30am	Eucharist		Morning Prayer		
St Cattwg's, Llanmaes 11.00am		Eucharist		Morning Prayer	
St Bridget's 11.00am	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	
St James', Wick 11.00am	Combined service at Monknash	Combined service at Marcross	Combined service at St Donats	Combined Eucharist @ 11am	
St Donats 11.15am	Combined service at Monknash	Combined service at Marcross	Combined Eucharist @ 11am	Combined service at St James'	
Holy Trinity, Marcross	Combined service at Monknash	Combined Eucharist @ 11am	Combined service at St Donats	Combined service at St James'	
St Mary's, Monknash	Combined Eucharist @ 11am	Combined service at Marcross	Combined service at St Donats	Combined service at St James'	
Holy Trinity, Marcross	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am Friday Fellowship				
St Mary's, Monknash			Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am Friday Fellowship		
St James', Wick 8.30am	Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer on Zoom	
St Illtud's 10am	Wed 3rd Eucharist	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> Morning Prayer
St Illtud's 12.15pm	Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist & Soup lunch	Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist & Soup lunch	Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist & Soup lunch	Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist & Soup lunch	
St Tathan 11am	Wed 3rd Eucharist	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> Morning Prayer
All Saint's, Southerndown 3pm	Wed 3rd Evening Prayer	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Eucharist	Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist
St Illtud's 7.00pm					No Service



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Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any  
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Peidiwch ag oedi cyn cysylltu â mi os oes gennych unrhyw  
bryderon neu os oes angen help arnoch.

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