



# Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish Magazine



May 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.



#### **Sad News**

As we go to press, the sad news arrived that Bob Smith, one of our most loved and respected parishioners has died. Sheila tells us that his passing was peaceful and that he had his family round him to show him how much he was loved. He was a man who showed us all the true meaning of Christian love in his life in general and towards the Atlantic College students in particular. We offer our deepest sympathy to the whole family

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#### This Month's Cover

This is the period of the Church year when Jesus was resurrected from the dead and continued his ministry with His disciples leading up to Whitsunday on 5<sup>th</sup> June. We do not know what Jesus looked like as the Bible accounts do not include any descriptions of Him. Many artists have painted pictures, usually depicting him as tall, fair skinned and in flowing robes. Contrary to these ideas, researchers are of the opinion that Jesus was not physically out of the ordinary and, almost certainly, was of the Armenian race. In other words, He was about 5 feet 6 inches tall, dark skinned, brown eyed and had nothing better than a knife to keep his hair and beard in order. An impression of what he might have looked like is on

#### From the Editor

Dear Friends,

Various things happen in April; April showers of course, and this year we had Easter on the 17<sup>th</sup>. St George's Day was on the 23<sup>rd</sup> but little is made of the day, even in England in comparison with Wales' St David's and Ireland's St Patrick's days. On Easter Sunday we had the delight of a church service which was very nearly back to normal even if Rector Edwin couldn't be there as he had tested positive for Covid. There are other anniversaries of greater or lesser importance and I am sure that many readers had birthdays to celebrate, but the day I want to talk about is 1<sup>st</sup> April or 'All Fools' Day'.

This is the day when pranksters are given a free rein to play practical jokes on one another provided, of course, that they do it in the morning. According to the 'rules' of the day, a practical joke in the afternoon rebounds on to the perpetrator! When I was a young man, I received a letter which I reproduced on page 6. It is the sort of humour which does not do any actual harm, although some people do take the huff at having their pomposity burst.

One of the most publicised japes came via the BBC in 1957. At this time, Britain was only just emerging from the post war rationing and austerity and the fashion for holidaying abroad had not fully taken off. This meant that knowledge of continental foods and how they were produced was very limited. On 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1957, *Panorama*, a prestigious current affairs programme, broadcast a report on a family in Switzerland who were seen harvesting spaghetti from their spaghetti trees! The report was rendered all the more credible by being voice-overed by the respected Richard Dimbleby. The spoof was highly successful and an estimated eight million people watched the programme. There were hundreds of phone calls the following day asking for more information about spaghetti cultivation and how they could grow their own spaghetti trees; the BBC told them to "place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best".

But when did All Fools Day start? What were its origins? There are various theories, but none are regarded as being the definite truth. There is an allusion in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, written in 1392 with a vain cock, Chanticleer, being tricked by a fox '30 days and 2 since March began.' This indicates 1<sup>st</sup> April. Even this does not tell us how the tricks were perpetrated at that time, and it does not matter anyway. Let us all appreciate the God-given life we are granted and enjoy a good laugh.

Yours sincerely. Eric Sparks

#### Your personal MoT

Many churches have Easter egg hunts at this time of year. A new variation of the game has been devised for those of us who are getting on a bit. Granny doesn't hide them for the children to find. Oh No! Granny hides the eggs; gives herself half an hour to forget where she put them, and then goes to find them herself! Grandpa can't even play the game as he loses his balance on uneven surfaces. Other variations include having the grandchildren asserting that the grandparents made some promises in the past to provide them with treats. The grandparents are completely puzzled having no recollection of this fictitious claim but eventually surrender in the face of a united stance by the grandchildren!

Of course, I am being facetious here, but does any part of what I have written sound in any way familiar? The advancing years bring all sorts of difficulties, some physical, others in our minds, but all of them making what we used to think of as simple tasks, when we were in our youth, into difficult or even impossible ones in our dotage. I had an example recently. I was trying to make connections between two pieces of electric cable which involved threading the wires into narrow tubes. In essence it was like trying to thread a sewing needle on a larger scale. My eyesight was making a nonsense of it and instead of taking five or ten minutes, it took nearly an hour and included four pieces of spoiled connecter! I was cold when I finished!

I keep comparing myself with a car! Everyone accepts that a car deteriorates as it gets older and starts to cost more to maintain as the years go by. The bill at the garage gets a little steeper each year and I am just talking about the mechanics of making the vehicle go. Then you add in the way that damage might occur, scraping the gatepost or being reversed into by a telegraph pole would add to the repair bill. But we accept that all the expenditure is a necessary part of motoring. We also realise that the car will not continue to perform as well when old as it did when new. Rattles, groans and increased noise from the exhaust are all accepted, eventually leading to the stage when the beloved velocipede has to be pensioned off.

We are just the same in this respect. We do not function as we would like to and that is all that there is to it. In just the same way as with your car we have to remember that there are plenty of things which we can do, perhaps not as well as we used to, but we can do them. It is another aspect of the glass being half full rather than half empty syndrome. Think positively and you will stay young.

ES

#### **Father Edwin's Page**



#### Dear Friends

I've just recovered from Covid. I'm amazed I haven't had the dreaded virus before now, given the nature of my job and the number of people I meet during my work. I tested positive on Good Friday, quite unexpectedly, and it meant that I couldn't take part in the Easter celebrations that mark the high-point of the Christian year. It was a strange experience to step back from those events; but it also reminded me that none of us is indispensable, and the life, work and witness of our churches will carry on in joyous celebration, whether I'm present or not!

This Easter brought a lot of people to our churches for the first time in a couple of years, as our lives become more familiar after the tough times of the pandemic. For some, Easter has been their encouragement to return to church with renewed confidence, while others have taken part in Easter Trails and family activities. There are also many people who haven't attended church services in the last few weeks, but have simply found time to visit our churches and spend time in quiet reflection; that might include a concern about the health of a loved one, or a personal worry that's difficult to share with anyone else. The chance to be at one with God and share that concern quietly can make a real difference.

I also reckon everyone who attends church takes their doubts as well as their faith with them when they go. Faith is a very personal matter, yet it can be strengthened, challenged, and even undermined by the comments and views of others. For many, it helps to face up to the doubts and to wonder about the very existence of God, because faith needs to be tested and, don't forget, God is big enough to cope with our doubts and concerns. Above all, a church is not a place that judges anyone's faith; rather it is a place where we are reminded that we all stand as equals in the sight of God.

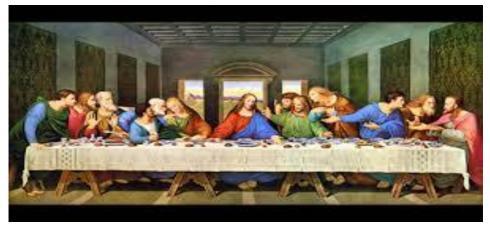
Churches can sometimes be difficult places to enter. The doors are usually big and they creak, especially when you're late for a service and you're trying to sneak into the back row! Yet churches tell us a lot about their local community, because local people are at their core, and the needs of that community inevitably shape the context of any church and, as someone once said, "A church is only as good as the people who worship there". Numbers will vary from place to place and the size and the shape of the building is a matter of history. Yet the one thing that every church shares is a desire to wonder about the mystery of God's love, and the promise of Jesus Christ that God's love is revealed beyond this world in Heaven. That's the promise of Easter and it is God's promise to each one of us.

With every blessing, Edwin

#### The Meaning of the Eucharist

Jesus came to Jerusalem with his twelve Apostles and preached the Gospel or Good News to all the people there. The Jewish authorities saw him as a threat and sought to eliminate Him.

Judas Iscariot accepted a bribe to betray Jesus but the night before this was to happen the twelve met in an upper room to celebrate the Passover. Then, as Saint Matthew tells us: "While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, "Take and eat, this is my body". Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and offered it to them saying "Drink from it all of you. This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."



In the Eucharist, also known as Holy Communion or Mass, we reenact this act of supreme sacrifice made by Jesus on our behalf. The priest takes bread and wine and consecrates it using words derived from the account in the Gospel. The priest then gives each person some



bread and some of the wine which they receive in token of what Jesus did for them. In a spiritual sense, we receive the body and blood of Jesus so that we can "feed on him in our hearts with faith and thanksgiving" and be grateful to Him that He shed His blood on our behalf for the remission of our sins.



ES

# Society Campaigning for Alcoholic Moderation

Registered Office: Temperance House 4 – 6, Rechabite Road Waterloo London WC2 1TT

Mr Eric P Sparks 21, Broadway Leyland Lancashire 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1952

Dear Mr Sparks,

Perhaps you have heard of me and my campaign in the cause of Temperance?

Each year, for the past fourteen years, I have made a tour of Lancashire visiting, in particular, the Ormskirk area and the Fylde. On these tours I delivered a series of lectures on the "Evils of Drink". On each tour, I have been accompanied by a young friend and assistant David Powell.

David, a young man of good family background, is a pathetic example of a life ruined by excessive indulgence in drink and women. He would appear with me at lectures and sit on the platform wheezing, and staring at the audience through bleary, bloodshot eyes. He would perspire profusely, pick his nose, pass wind and belch throughout the lecture while continually making obscene gestures at the audience. I would use him as an example to point out just what drink and dissipation can do to a person.

Sadly, last summer, David passed away. A mutual friend has given me your name and I am wondering if you would be prepared to take David's place on my next tour?

Yours in faith,

Gordon Jinn R.S.V.P.

Gordon Jinn

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#### A Selfish Scramble or a Fairer Sharing

The Vicar's leading article for the March 1974 Church Magazine was written a few days before Edward Heath called a General Election. Failure to find any agreement with the miners, he asked the question, "Who runs this country?", and the answer was "Not you!" By the time the magazine was out, Harold Wilson was leading a Labour Government. But most of what the Vicar had written still held true: The alternatives before us are a selfish scramble for what is available, or a new and fairer sharing of resources, skills and rewards. So, we struggled on manfully, while the Vicar reminded us to look to our spiritual resources and our Christian inheritance.

#### Why fewer children?

In a long article about the Sunday School, the Vicar wondered why fewer children were attending now, making the points that *if regular worship is part of the lifestyle of the family it makes all the difference; children should want to come because they find it interesting; learning by doing rather than by listening,* and the Church was doing all it could to fulfil this under difficult circumstances, at the same time having to face so many distractions and counter attractions.

#### More seats for the churchyard

The Vicar thanked Mr. and Mrs Chambers, of Bath and Mr, Bennet for the seat in memory of Mary Bennet, and thanked Mr. and Mrs, Dean for a seat in memory of Jane Jackson. The number was added to by his thanks in the April issue to Mrs. Jean Williams for a further seat in memory of her husband Donald.

#### A record

In the inset, The Welsh Churchman, it was reported that Mrs. Iris Thomas, Eleri's mother, and Miss Anne Fawkes, were the first two women in the Diocese and the Province to become Readers.

#### More records

The Vicar reported that Mark Taylor was absent from his Confirmation class in March, because he was in Scotland, taking part in the Schools' International Swimming Competition. He wrote that Mark gained second placement in the free-style race, was placed third twice in the individual medley and relay races, and also gained some fourth places. *Mark is becoming known as a very good swimmer indeed.* Does any reader know whether his skills continued?

#### Long and distinguished service

This was the heading recording the end of the old County of Glamorgan on 1<sup>st</sup> April: We shall soon know what difference this will make. More sadly, we shall no longer be represented at County Hall by Councillor Percy Smith,

whose 40 years' service also comes to an end at the same time. At a dinner given in his honour, the Lord Lieut. Sir Cenydd Traherne, spoke movingly of his many qualities and his exceptional service to the community and presented him with a tape recorder, with the earnest hope that he would record his many memories. I'm glad he did, as I used them for one of the local history books.

David G. Brunning

#### From the Registers

Baptisms
3 Apr. William Oscar Kelly
3 Apr. Elliott Rupert Lawson
3 Apr. James Jack Baker
10 Apr. Leo Francis Jones

10 Apr. William David John James

Marriages

7 Apr. Jack Neil Caunt & Samantha Victoria Reynolds

**Burials** 

24 Mch. Rhys Evans, aged 93 years, Llantwit Major

1 Apr. Andrew Richard Thomas, aged 66 years, St. Donat's 12 Apr. Brian John Caston, aged 91 years, Llantwit Major

#### **Ewenny Festival**

#### Jubilee Celebration with Ewenny Festival on Saturday 4th June

On Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, Ewenny Arts Festival will be holding an afternoon tea in the gardens of Ewenny Priory House. This will be an outdoor celebration of the Platinum Jubilee. Members of the Rhondda Sinfonietta will be providing live music on the lawn. Scones and tea or coffee will be available; some seating will be provided. It is envisaged that visitors might like to bring along picnics to add to the occasion and relaxing atmosphere.

The Festival event itself will be from 2 pm until 4pm; the Priory Gardens, however, will be open to the public over the weekend. There is no entry charge though donations will be accepted for refreshments.

This will be the first of our Ewenny Festival events after the pandemic. We are hoping for a sunny afternoon, however, should the weather be inclement the musicians will be happy to perform some of their pieces in the Priory Church. We realise that there may be other events that people have committed to, but should you be free do consider coming over to join us: it would be lovely to see friends from across the Parish.

For more information, please get in touch with one of us: Helen 01656 667047; Allison 07483 289 289; Jayne 01656 653020

It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.

#### Humour

Gareth died and went to heaven. He stood in front of Saint Peter at the pearly gates and saw an enormous wall of clocks behind him. He asked, "What are those clocks there for?" Saint Peter replied, "Those are lie clocks. Everybody on earth has a lie clock and every time they tell a lie, the hands of the clock will move forward." "Oh!" said the man, "Whose clock is that?" "That's Mother Teresa, and the hands have never moved as she has never lied." "Incredible," said the man. "That one is Abraham Lincoln's clock. The hands have moved twice as Abraham told only two lies in his entire life." Where is Putin's clock?" "Oh, that is in the office being used as a fan."

The world's leading authority on Wasps passed a record shop and happened to see, in the window, a record called "Wasps of the World and the Sounds that they Make. "The expert went in and said to the shopkeeper "I know all about Wasps and can identify each of the thousands of species by just listening to them. I will buy that record." He paid for the record, took it home and put it on the record player. "Bzzz. Bzzz. Bzzz." Came the sound. He waited for the next track. "Bzzz. Bzzz. Bzzz." Was the sound again, and again through to the end of the record. The expert is baffled as he can't identify a single wasp. So, he took the record back to the shop and. complained to the shopkeeper that the record was wrongly labelled. The shopkeeper examined the record and said, "It's very simple sir. You played the B side."

Two armed men went into the bank and demanded that the manager opened the safe saying, "you just do as you are told or you're fiction." The manager looked confused and said, "Don't you mean history?" The robber replied, "don't change the subject."

One day Daffyd said to Gwladys, "I've finally just got to say it, your mother has been living with us for 10 years; don't you think it's about time that she got a place of her own?" Gwladys replied, "My mother? I thought she was your mother."



Where are you going for your holiday this year?

Replacement staff on the P & O Ferries



#### Puzzle Page Crossword No 115

	1	2	3		4	5	6	
7				8				9
10				- 11				
10				11				
12						13		
	14		15		16		17	
18				19				20
21		22		23		24		
25						26		
	278				28			

Acro	SS	Dow	/n
1	Leftover	2	Shorten
4	Straighten	3	Garment
10	Pinny'	5	Rest
11	Quickly	6	Restricted
12	Cocktail	7	Midriff
13	Beyond	8	Seize
14	Сар	9	Harps
16	Retains	15	Show
20	Chew	17	Fearful
23	Stem	18	Little
25	Genial	19	Resource
26	Sustain	20	Brief
27	Veracity	22	Not ever
28	Plastic	24	Defence

#### **Answers**

Never, 24 Alibi,

mcur, 27 mun, 26. vmy.

Down: 2 Abridge, 3 Tunic,5 Leisure, 6 Gated, 7 Waist, 8 Usurp. 9

Lyres, 15 Exhibit 17 Panicky 18 Small, 19 Asset, 20 Short, 22

Children's Word Ladder
Go from one word to the

Go from one word to the next by changing only one letter. The first three words are there to help you.

Indue, 14 Beret, 16 Keeps, 20 Munch, 23 Staunch, 25 Lovable, 26 ncur. 27 Truth. 28. Vinyl.	DDEEN	GROOM
cross 1 Waste, 4 Align, 10 Apron, 11 Swiftly, 12 Sidecar, 13	GREEN	COLOUR
	GREED	AVARICE
Mini Quiz		RACE
1 Box, girder, pontoon and trestle are all types of what kind of structure?		LOAF?
2 Which Stuart Queen, married to a Danish husband		WIDE
had 17 pregnancies?  3 Made from eggs, sugar and brandy, which drink is		MEDITATE
named after the Dutch word for 'lawyer'?		BRUSH
4 Which greeting is known, in French, as 'les bises'? 5 Which type of eclipse occurs when the moon		NEATEN
passes between the earth and the sun?		DARKNESS
Answers	BLOOM	

1 Bridge, 2 Queen Anne, married to George of Denmark, 3 Advocaat, 4 A kiss on each cheek. 5 Solar.

., Preen, Green, Greed, Breed, Broad, Broad, Broad, Brood, Broom, Groom, Gloom, Bloom.

## The Return of the Three-piece Suit? And the Ladies' Hat.

Every year the Chancellor of the Exchequer needs to know how prices rise or fall - the rate of inflation. One of the ways of doing this is to put together a basket of foodstuffs and objects including clothes, most commonly used. The compilers have to decide what to put in and the contents reflect our changing habits, particularly in entertainment and clothes.

This March, the compilers made one significant omission, dispensing with a man's suit. Why did they remove this most elegant of costumes, beloved of lawyers, MPs and headmasters? We see good reason in Prime Minister's Question Time, the only occasion when our lawmakers, and sometimes lawbreakers, look enthusiastic.

In my early worshipping days, virtually every adult male wore a dark two - or three-piece suit beneath a trilby. Old wedding photographs, particularly from the thirties and immediately post war, in demob suits, show this clearly, and they were celebratory. Gradually, changes came in. First, a lighter suit arrived, especially in the summer, or a sports coat or especially for ex-servicemen or bowls players, a blazer. The old long 'Mac' gave way to a 'car coat' or anorak.

For ladies, especially those of a 'certain age', Sunday was a special occasion especially from Easter into early summer. Frocks, or should it be dresses, with de rigour, and etiquette reigned. And naturally a hat, the more colourful of the better. Weddings were ultra-special, funeral special in a different way, and more traditional.

When I started to write this memoir, Spring seemed to be on its way. We were more relaxed about COVID. Then we heard about a Russian who thought he was Peter the Great but seemed more like Ivan the Terrible. Then we heard more about this country, Ukraine, which had a Welsh connection that nobody in the Senedd seems to know about it. The first iron industry in Ukraine was set up by John Hughes of Merthyr at Hughesovka, later Smolensk. Worship has been difficult during the pandemic but a new and more familiar pattern is emerging. The buildings are becoming more open and people gradually returning. Attendance may become less formal but the liturgy cannot change.

And we shall sing...

Viv Kelly

#### Saint of the Month 20 May: Chad, Bishop and Missionary (7<sup>th</sup> century)

We are all familiar with the Book of Kells, but in the Chapter House of Lichfield Cathedral is an earlier Gospel Book, beautifully illustrated and dated to around 730AD. It is known as the St Chad Gospels, but also the St Teilo Gospels, for some notes, scribbled in Welsh in the margins, show that it was in the possession of St Teilo's Church, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, up until the 9<sup>th</sup> century, and could also have been housed at Llandaff Cathedral. Where was it written and illustrated? We don't know, but if we had evidence of a scriptorium at Llanilltud Fawr we could say that there is a possibility of it being a product of its monastic school.

So how did the St Teilo Gospels end up in Lichfield? Well, once a year it was carried around the eastern boundaries of the Diocese of Llandaff, which in pre-Norman days included part of Herefordshire. On one such occasion, a Mercian raiding party attacked the procession and stole the ornate Gospel book which then ended up in Lichfield Cathedral, the cathedral of the Diocese of Mercia, whose first bishop was St Chad. The Gospel book was renamed the St Chad Gospels though there have been attempts over the centuries for it to be called by its original name and even returned to Llandeilo. Now the book can be seen in Llandeilo Church by means of sophisticated digital technology.



But what about St Chad, our saint of the month? He was born in Northumbria, and became a monk on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne. He undertook missionary work in Ireland where he was ordained priest, and then in 664 returned to England to become abbot of Lastingham, North Yorkshire. Soon afterwards Chad became Bishop of Northumbria, where the Venerable Bede tells us he visited continually the towns, countryside, cottages, villages and houses to preach the Gospel. In 669 Chad was appointed bishop of Mercia, covering central England, and established the cathedral at Lichfield. He died from the plague in 672, being credited by Bede in those three years as Christianising the Mercians.

Philip Morris

#### Mothers' Union

Instead of the May meeting we will be holding a Quiet Day entitled "Voices of the Living Light" at All Saints Church Southerndown. This will be led for us by the Venerable Philip Morris and will be on Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May from 10.30am until 3.30pm. There will be a small charge to cover tea, coffee and the hire of the building and we will also need to take a packed lunch. We are hoping for good weather so that we can picnic outside. There will be no meeting at St Illtud's that day.

#### **AFIA Fund Raising**

Our Easter Craft & Gift stall was well supported with many lovely crafts and small gifts. Altogether £234.00 was raised for the Caravan at Porthcawl. We also were able to talk to many people who were coming to church to add flowers to the cross, or to bring back their Easter Trail answers and collect their Easter Egg rewards. It was lovely to be able to spread the message about the work of AFIA and the Porthcawl caravan in particular. Special thanks to Tyann's grandson Sam who helped us by selling some of his 3D printed Easter Tree ornaments. Well done, Sam!

All the Smarties tubes are now out and some are already back! Thanks to Anne Sparks for supplying the Smarties.

Sue Beetlestone

#### **Vestry Meeting**

The annual Vestry Meeting was held in St Illtud's Church on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April. This meeting is, in effect, the Annual General Meeting of the 12 churches which comprise the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish and the usual business of receiving reports and accounts and electing officers was carried out. Mr E Williams will be our representative at the Deanery meetings.



#### **Unwillingly to School**

For the schoolboy, Shakespeare's second age of man, and some of the local farmers, in 1877 the most unpopular person in Llantwit Major was William George. For after being paid ten shillings for enquiring into continual absenteeism, he was appointed as Attendance Officer at 3/6d per week. Boys were kept home or were employed by other farmers especially at harvest time, and other reasons for absences were "following the hounds" and "attending ploughing matches". On May 20<sup>th</sup> six boys played truant to see the wreck at Colhugh harbour, and it seems that anything and everything was used to provide an excuse for non-

This was just one of the problems facing the headmasters of the "Old" school at Llantwit Major which had opened on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1874, as described in Joe Hughes' excellent 40-page centenary book, THE "OLD" SCHOOL LLANTWIT MAJOR A HISTORY, written for the 1974 centenary.

Joe was appointed to the school in November 1941, after his teacher training, and this was to be his only school, as he became headmaster at the end



Victorian Class Scene (Centenary Day)

When I returned to Llantwit Major in 1998, he had already retired, and was a familiar figure in the town, known to so many former pupils. Although nearly blind, he had an acute sense of hearing, and would recognise people by their voice. Thus, we would often chat on the road, and on one occasion I went to his home to interview him for my articles about the Second World War in the Local History Society books.

In his book he mentions the teachers having to do overnight fire watching, armed only with some stirrup pumps and a few bags of sand, saying he shuddered to think how they would have coped with a serious fire, but face to face he admitted, in more colourful language, that they would have just got out as soon as possible!

Joe was proud of some of the famous names of former pupils, including Professor Will Davies, of Aberystwyth University and Professor Glyn Daniel, remembered as question master on the "Animal, Vegetable and Mineral" TV show. He died on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2014, aged 93, and is buried with Lorna, his wife, in the Roman Catholic section of Boverton cemetery.

**Obituary**Ruth Bidgood 20<sup>th</sup> July 1922 – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

It is with great sadness that I have to report the death of Ruth Bidgood, one of the leading Anglo-Welsh poets of her generation. In her ten collections of poems, she expressed a passionate concern for the landscape, people and spirituality of Wales.

Ruth was born at Seven Sisters but soon moved to Aberafon when her father the Reverend William Jones was appointed Vicar of St. Mary's. She attended Port Talbot Grammar School going on to read English at St. Hugh's, Oxford. World War 2 saw her in the WRNS working as a coder in Alexandria. Post war she married David Bidgood, settled in Surrey with their three children but by the 1960's had moved back to Wales to a bungalow at Abergwesvn near Llanwrtvd Wells.

Much of her work reflects upon the place of humanity within the great scheme of God's creation. Her poem sequence Encounters with angels expresses the dichotomy of difference and unity held together by the bonds of belief. In the poem 'Iconoclast' a Puritan extremist reflects in a dream on the destruction he has caused:

> 'The great Angels he had left for dead still cried aloud God's message in the forbidden language of beauty.

Hymn to Sant Ffraid (St Brigid) is a symphonic hymn of praise for three voices celebrating the myths and legends of this sixth century saint in an articulate statement of Celtic faith. It was commissioned and broadcast by BBC Wales on 5<sup>th</sup> April 1979. I understand it was performed at our St. Bride's Church several years ago. Perhaps we should repeat the experience as a fitting tribute

> Saint of learning, send your uncompromising light to aid all scholars, bent over curly manuscripts or seeking through innumerable bookspoint them the truth.

> > Stan Gilbert

We cannot choose the music that life plays for us, but we can choose how we dance to it.

From Bill Henderson

#### St Illtud's, Easter Saturday

We heard that Rector Edwin had tested positive for Covid 19 which was going to make life more difficult over the Easter celebration. However, this did not subtract from the excellent day at St Illtud's where a Shop, Treasure Trail and Easter Egg Hunt took place in glorious sunshine. A good crowd of youngsters and parents came along having followed the trail and, after placing flowers on the Easter Cross, then patronised the shop which managed to raise over £234 in addition to the Sweetie Tube challenge whose results are yet to be revealed. It was great to raise some money for the MU Caravan fund, but the main positive outcome was the delightful good will and Christian fellowship which was displayed.







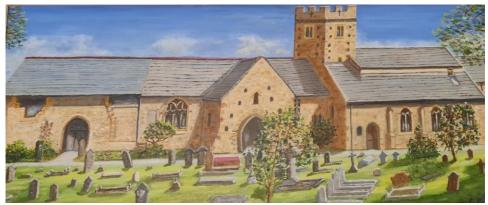


#### **Epitaph for a Housewife**

Here lies a poor woman, who always was tired She lived in a house where help wasn't hired. Her last words on earth were "Dear friends, I am going To where there is no cooking or washing or sewing, For everything there is exact to my wishes, For where they don't eat, there's no washing of dishes. I'll be where loud anthems will always be ringing But, having no voice I'll be quiet in the singing Don't mourn for me now, don't mourn for me ever, I'm going to do nothing for ever and ever."

## **ART EXHIBITION**

'A PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE 12 CHURCHES OF THE GLAMORGAN HERITAGE COAST PARISH'



An exhibition of oil paintings by David Ellis of the 12 Churches of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish, along with details of their history St. Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 27th June 2022 Ewenny Priory from 4<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022



All are very welcome
The exhibition is being held in aid of Church funds

#### **Benefice Directory**

**Parish Clergy** 

Rev'd Canon Edwin Counsell 01446-794503

The Rectory, High Street Llantwit Major, CF61 1SS edwin.counsell@ghcp.church

Fr Craig Vaughan 01656-890468

The Vicarage, Trepit Road

Wick, CF71 7QL

fr.craig@ghcp.church

Rev'd Emma Street 01656-880506

The Vicarage, Southerndown Road,

St Brides Major Bridgend, CF32 OSD

streetmorgan@hotmail.com

Readers Keith Brown 01446-793804

keith.brown@llantilltud.org.uk

Penny Snowden 01446-775402

pennysnowden@gmail.com

Hazel Norfolk 01656 880532

norfolk.1@hotmail.com

Parish Office Alison Weston 01446-792439

9am -2.30pm St Illtud's Church, Church Street,

Mon – Fri Llantwit Major. CF61 1SB.

office@ghcp.church

Website <a href="http://www.llanilltud.org.uk/">http://www.llanilltud.org.uk/</a>

School Mrs Ceri Thomas 01656 890253

Wick & Marcross Church in Wales

**Primary School** 

Church Street, Wick, CF71 7QE

School Mr Duncan Mottram 01656 880477

St Brides Major, Church in Wales Primary

Heol yr Ysgol

St Brides Major, Bridgend, CF32 0TB

Magazine Eric Sparks, 01446-795443

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Llantwit Major, CF61 1AP

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

May 2022 Final	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	
St Illtud's 8.00am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St James', Wick 8.15am	Online	Online	Online	Online	Online	
St Tathan, 9.00am	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	
St Illtud's 9.30am	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	
Ewenny Priory 9.30am	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Giles, Gileston 9.30am	Eucharist		Morning Prayer			
St Michaels, Llanmihangel 9.30am	Eucharist		Morning Prayer			
St Cattwg's, Llanmaes 11.00am		Eucharist		Morning Prayer		
St Bridget's 11.00am	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St James', Wick 11.00am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Donats 11.15am	Prayer & Praise	Eucharist	Student Farewell Service	Prayer & Praise	Meet, Greet & Ea	
Holy Trinity, Marcross	Friday 6** 9.30am Friday Fellowship					
St Mary's, Monknash			Friday 20" 9.30am Friday Fellowship			
St James', Wick 8.30am	Thurs 5" Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 12" Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 19"  Morning  Prayer on  Zoom	Thurs 26" Morning Prayer on Zoom		
St Illtud's 10am	Wed 4" Eucharist	Wed 11" Eucharist	Wed 18" Eucharist	Wed 25" Morning Prayer		
St Illtud's 12.15pm	Fri 6" Eucharist & Soup lunch	Fri 13" Eucharist & Soup lunch	Fri 20''' Eucharist & Soup lunch	Fri 27" Eucharist & Soup lunch		
St Tathan 11am	Wed 4" Eucharist	Wed 11" Eucharist	Wed 18" Eucharist	Wed 25" Morning Prayer		
All Saint's, Southerndown 3pm	Wed 4" No Service	Wed 11" Eucharist	Wed 18" Eucharist	Wed 25" Evening Prayer		
St Illtud's 7.00pm					Mon 30" Healing Service	



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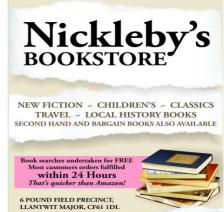


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#### **Jane Hutt**

Memeber of the Senedd for the Vale of Glamorgan Aelod o'r Senedd dros Fro Morgannwg

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or need help.

Peidiwch ag oedi cyn cysylltu â mi os oes gennych unrhyw bryderon neu os oes angen help arnoch.

#### Contact / Cysylltu

jane.hutt@senedd.wales



03002007110



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The costs of this publication have been met by the Senedd Commission from public funds Talwyd costau'r cyhoeddiad hwn gan Gomisiwn y Senedd, o gronfeydd cyhoeddus



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