



Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish Magazine



June 2021

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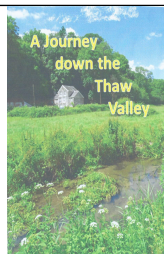
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Parish Magazine

The Rectorial Benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast 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 22nd of the month please.

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Please don't forget to pass on this edition of the magazine to people who would otherwise not receive it.

This Month's Cover

June July and August are the months we call summer and this is the time of year when most people want to take their holidays. Why? Simply, the fact that we want to be out of doors and the weather is usually better in summer than during the other seasons. The other factor that weighs heavily on our minds is where and the answer to that is that so many of us look to the seaside as the preferred locality. The combined lure of sunshine and sandy beaches is too strong to resist! Another 'why?' what is it about the seaside that attracts us? Is the weather better there? Are there more things to do? Or is it just that the sand and sea provide continuous entertainment for the children and we can sit back in our deckchairs and enjoy a bit of peace and quiet? Whatever the reasons, let us hope that the weather lives up to expectations, that you can get to where you want to and return safely now that the Covid restrictions are being eased.

People do not notice whether it's winter or summer if they are happy.

From the Editor

Dear Friends,

I have always tried to be positive about what has been happening during the time of the Covid 19 pandemic. Many events have been wonderfully constructive throughout this period and I have commented more than once about the number of marvellous feats of fund-raising that there have been. Many of them have been well publicised on social media and a significant proportion on the national media. In addition to this, there has been the many changes in our life-styles which we have had to make and may well become permanent changes. Unfortunately, there has been a negative side to it all and that is what I am going to mention.

There has been a great increase in the number of attempted 'scams' where unfortunate people are duped into parting with money, in some extreme cases, their life savings. It is a sad fact of life that there is a large number of unscrupulous characters in this world who will take any opportunity that presents itself, to make money dishonestly. There was the proliferation of the 'black market', of spivs and racketeers who made their fortunes during WW2 with complete disregard for the fact the rest of the population were putting their backs into trying to win the war. It is much the same now and, in a few instances, the person being duped deserves what he gets because he too was activated by greed. However, there are many cases where there is an added degree of nastiness as the 'scamee' parts with money believing that he is helping a fellow human being.

I suppose that there has always been a stratum of society which is prepared to make their living by taking advantage of a person's good nature, but it seems to be worse in 2020 -2021 as the victims are so vulnerable in this time of uncertainty. The only 'glass half full' slant that I can put on the situation is to applaud those people for wanting to be a Samaritan to someone they believe to be in a worse state than they are themselves. If this is the case, may Christian goodwill continue to be in evidence.

Yours sincerely, *Eric Sparks*

PS An extract from the Archbishop of York's Easter address:

God's door is always open. The kettle is always on. There is beer in the refrigerator and champagne is on ice. Someone has been sent out with a large order for curries and God is scanning the horizon for our return.

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

Memories

Memory is a strange thing and I don't think that most of us really understand it. In these days when we are all much more au fait with computers, we might better understand some parallels. It is said that memory does not fail us and it is just the same with a computer. Once an event, fact or other piece of information is in the brain, it is here for ever and it is just the same for a computer. Even if you try to delete the data it just stays there for ever. "Hang on" you might say, "Why can't I remember things?" The answer to that is that you are using the wrong word. You should say, "I can't *recall* things. To use the computer analogy again, the data is there on the hard drive but you can't recall the correct pathway to retrieve it. A psychiatrist would say the same. We may never lose the memory, just the ability to bring it to the front of our mind. Indeed, there are some things we would like to forget, but which keep resurfacing.

However, there are some things which happen in our lives which deserve to be remembered and I am thinking, in particular, of people we have known. Back in my bachelor days, a long time ago, I had a friend called Jack Pinder. We used to spend quite a lot of our leisure time together and he had a particular talent which I will describe to you. We would travel together in the same car, sometimes his and sometimes mine. Perhaps we would be going skating at the Blackpool Rink. If I was the driver, I would start to look for a parking space once I got within 100 yards of the entrance, find one and leave us with a bit of a walk. Jack's technique was the exact opposite, he would drive right up to the entrance before he started to look for a space and, lo and behold, in nine times out of ten he would find one!

Jack died some 30 years ago but I keep him in the forefront of my memory on a regular basis. Anne and I have adopted the Jack Pinder approach to parking, and I will often say, as we approach the desired spot, "What have you got for us today, Jack?" and he seldom lets me down. In addition, I like to think that I am keeping his memory alive. He did not have any children and I wonder who else remembers Jack.

Do you recall occasions when you were younger and were trying to commit something to memory? Learning a poem perhaps, or your lines in a play. The usual technique was to keep repeating the poem or lines until you were word perfect. What you were doing was practising the recall and establishing pathways to bring the memory to the front of the brain. We all, unfortunately, lose loved ones but, in a manner of speaking, they continue to live in our memories. Keep practising recall!

ES

Happiness comes through doors you didn't know you had left open.

Father Edwin's Page

Dear Friends,

Once again, I find myself writing some words of encouragement and hope that our churches will continue to open up and return to some normality; however, there is still some way to go and we continue to live with much uncertainty, as the Covid-19 pandemic seems remorseless in its attack on humanity.

We have discovered so much about ourselves and one another during the last 15 months, and I know many families across the communities of our Ministry Area have dealt with joy and sadness in equal measure during the pandemic. Lockdown restrictions have made it so hard to deal with everything from the celebration of baptisms and weddings, to the heartbreak and despair of illness and bereavement. In all this, we have had to make difficult decisions and stark choices about our work across the 12 Heritage Coast churches, as we balance the need to need to keep everyone safe with the inevitable frustration of those who want to come to our churches for quiet reflection, or to admire their beauty.

The month of June brings us to the Feast of St Barnabas, who was a travelling companion of St Paul, and who we hear about in scripture in the Acts of the Apostles. He was a critical part of the early conversations that took place in communities of faith around the Mediterranean, as the fledgling Christian church began to be embedded in the lives of many people. Notably, Barnabas is recorded as being present at The Council of Jerusalem, around the year 50AD, which was the earliest of the gatherings of Christians to consider the way the early church should be organised and run, and its discussions are referred to in Chapter 15 of the Acts of the Apostles.

Decision making is never easy, whether the decisions are made by governments or committees in our churches; the questions and their solutions can often seem straightforward, yet any decision that affects a large number or variety of people is rarely an easy one. So, I find myself reflecting on the person of Barnabas, who was at the heart of the conversations that took place amongst the early Christian communities and the far-reaching decisions they made. The name 'Barnabas' means 'son of encouragement', and that is something that has to lie at the heart of any difficult decision in our lives. If our decisions are made following careful preparation, reflection and with clear purpose to bring peace and encouragement to others, then we will be doing the very best we can.

May God bless us all in the decisions we make, and may everything we decide be open to every prompting of God's generous love and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

With every blessing, *Edwin*

Character is what you know you are not what others think you may have.

Church Services in June

Our churches are gradually opening up, with services and events in a number of our church communities on Sunday and during the week. Please look out for local details of services and subscribe to the weekly 'Parish Email', which gives details of all face to face and online services in the week ahead. If you would like to receive this email, please contact us at office@ghcp.church or ring the Parish Office on 01446 792439.

A new colleague joins the GHCP Ministry Team

Bishop June is pleased to announce that the Reverend Emma Street, currently Assistant Curate in the Parishes of the Vale of Neath and the Dulais Valley, has been appointed as Assistant Curate in the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area. Emma will live in the Vicarage in St Brides Major and it is expected that she will move to our Ministry Area during the school holidays, and be licensed some time in August or early September. See page 8.

Landscapes of Faith Festival: June 2021

The Landscapes of Faith project is based in Llantwit Major and led by Richard Parry. Through the month of June, the Landscapes of Faith Festival will be taking place, reaching into many communities across south and mid Wales. Richard describes the Festival in these words:

"The Landscapes of Faith Festival journeys run every day through June 2021 across South Wales. Our hills, valleys and coastal plains are teeming with a rich heritage of faith, yet many of the stories, heritage, sites and legends have been lost or hidden.

The festival this June is a community treasure hunt. Let us know about the stories, people and heritage in your area, and we'll come to discuss, explore and celebrate it with you.

We are launching a new website for international visitors and local communities so that everyone can explore and enjoy the amazing and diverse landscapes of faith in South Wales."

Please look out for updates as the Landscapes of Faith Festival continues through June, with many events focussed in our Ministry Area...
<https://www.landscapesoffaith.org/landscapes-of-faith-festival/>

Please note, especially, the Landscapes of Faith exhibition of photographs from award winning Paris-based photographer, Kiran Ridley; this exhibition, hosted at St Illtud's Church in Llantwit Major, will be opened on 30th June and will run through the month of July.

EC

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A word of welcome from the Reverend Emma Street...

Hello everyone.

I am Rev Emma, and I will soon be living among you in the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area. God willing, I will be licensed to serve in the Ministry Area towards the end of the Summer, by which time I will have moved to the Vicarage in St Brides Major.

I am married to Anthony, and we have two children – Christian is 16, and Heather is 11. They will both be starting at Cowbridge Comprehensive in September. Moving schools is a big change for them, but they are looking forward to what the future brings.

Since being Ordained in 2019, I have worked as a Curate in the Benefice of Neath and the Parishes of the Vale of Neath and the Dulais Valley. I grew up in Neath, and having served the community in a clerical capacity has been an absolute privilege.

As a family, we are very excited about the move, and we look forward to getting to know you all. We are forever shooting off somewhere in our campervan, and have spent the last few months familiarising ourselves with your beautiful towns and villages. So if you see a white campervan driving very slowly along the streets of the Heritage Coast with four faces peering nosily at the surrounding area, it's probably us!

I look forward to meeting you all soon, Rev Emma

Mission Impossible

In ancient times there were discussions about whether or not it was possible to make something out of nothing. Well, our grandson Sam has managed it! He was on an estate in Leicestershire next to a college where the homes are arranged on an oval road which is about half a mile in circumference. On this May Bank Holiday weekend at the age of five he was sponsored by his many relatives and friends to go around the Oval over a period of four days running walking or on his bike. That was 55 miles! From nothing, came over £3,000. He did it as part of Captain Tom's 100 challenge with part going to the National Health Service part to the British Legion and part to Mental Health Charities.

Hilary and Eleri

Peace is a journey of 1000 miles to be taken one step at a time.

A Code for Life

Courage: I will always strive to be courageous: to take one step forward as I face my fears.

Humility: I will work to recognise the limits of my intellect, my understanding and my power.

Service: I will learn to give a little of my time, my talent and my treasure to those in need every day. Without fail.

Integrity: I will be a person of integrity; every decision I make and every action I take will be moral, legal and ethical.

Compassion: I will be kind and compassionate to at least one person every single day and expect nothing in return.

Perseverance: I will never give up on matters that are important to me, my family, my country or my faith. I will persevere.

Duty: Whatever duty I am given, whatever duty I am bound by, I will do it to the best of my ability.

Hope: I will use my unique talents to inspire others and give hope that tomorrow will be a better day.

Humour: will use humour to comfort others and never be afraid to laugh at myself.

Forgiveness: No matter how great or small the offence against me, I will try to forgive. I will be the victor not the victim.

The 'Code' appeared in a national newspaper recently and it is reproduced as

Llantwit Major Mother's Union

Welcome back - Service and meeting on Tuesday 1st June.

In what we hope will be a significant move to resuming and extending our activities, we will be meeting for worship, refreshments and business on Tuesday June 1st at 2.00pm in St Illtud's. All the precautions in place for other services will be in place and we are looking forward to being able to meet again (in a masked and distanced way).

Walking with Members.

The MU You tube channel at MothersUnion - YouTube has all sorts of interesting short videos including a number of "Walks with Members". I have particularly enjoyed two of them lately, one on Bidston Hill on the Wirral which was a childhood favourite when my father was at Theological College at St Aidan's in Birkenhead and the other around Cork Harbour which we visited 6 years ago when we sailed right round Ireland. Lovely reminders of two different places from different times of my life.

Sue Beetlestone – Branch Leader for Llantwit Major

I have 206 bones, 650 muscles and 50 billion cells in my body. It takes time to wake them all up in the morning.

Humour

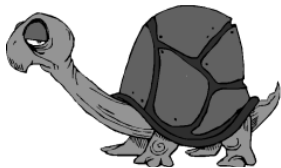
When my doctor told me that I was over-weight. I told him that I couldn't understand it as I do plenty of exercise every day. I jump to conclusions, climb the walls, drag my heels, push my luck, make mountains out of molehills, bend over backward, run round in circles, put my foot in my mouth, and beat around the bush.

A little boy was taken to see Santa Claus in the grotto of the local superstore. "What do you want for Christmas?" asked the Santa. "A train set," replied the boy. "That's a good choice but won't daddy want to play with it as well?" said Santa. The little boy looked very thoughtful and a bit downcast. Wanting to change the subject and cheer him up, Santa went on, "Can you think of something else you would you like for Christmas?" Quick as a flash, the boy said, "Yes, another train set."

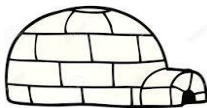
After a long and tedious sermon, the congregation were filing out past the priest but not saying much to him. Towards the end of the line came a man who always had something to say. "Well Vicar, your sermon today reminded me of what the scriptures say about the peace and love of God." The Vicar was thrilled, "Nobody has ever said something like that to me ever before. Do tell me why." The man replied, "Because it endureth for ever."

The young mother was at the end of her tether. Her baby was screaming her two sons fighting, her daughter crying, the dog whining and wanting a walk and the washing machine was leaking. She said to herself, "Sometimes, I wish that I had loved and lost."

Our church stages an Easter Pageant each year, but one year the man playing Pontius Pilate could not attend the dress rehearsal so a chorus member substituted for him. As we began rehearsing Pilate's solo, the conductor stopped the orchestra. "Pilate, I can't hear you," he called out. "You're not loud enough." "Pilate is at work," a voice on the stage shouted back. "We've got our co-Pilate tonight."



I can't fathom this traffic light system for holidays.



I don't fancy sitting outside at the pub.

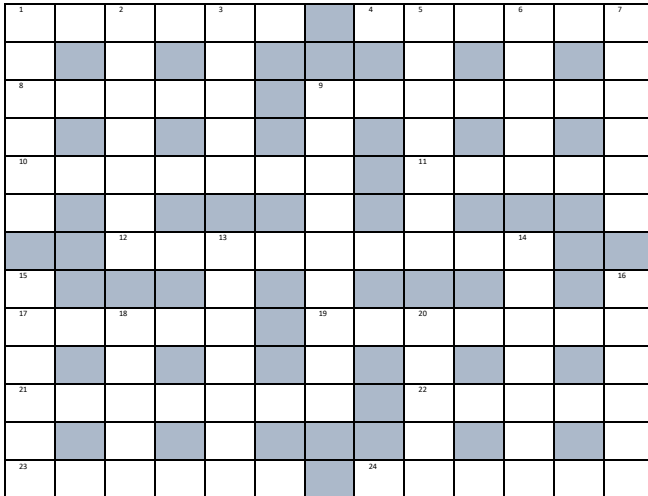


No! I'm not going to give you a hug

Laugh at life and it will smile back.

Puzzle Page

Crossword No 104



Across

- 1 Result
- 4 Desserts
- 8 Spell
- 9 Young Goose
- 10 Vigour
- 11 Teacher
- 12 Fair
- 17 Measure
- 19 Improve
- 21 Regain
- 22 Stroll
- 23 Insect
- 24 Affirm

Down

- 1 Elude
- 2 Exhaust
- 3 Punctuation
- 5 Bath
- 6 Be
- 7 Sweet
- 9 Atlas Index
- 13 Rude
- 14 Confer Title
- 15 Persecution
- 16 Ruler
- 18 Sticky
- 20 Organ

Answers

Across: 1 Effect, 4 Sweets, 8 Charm, 9 Gosling, 10 Pizzazz, 11 Tutor, 12 Equitable, 17 Optic, 19 Enhance, 21 Recover, 22 Ambler, 23 Mayfly, 24 Attest.
Down: 1 Escape, 2 Frazzle, 3 Comma, 5 Wash tub, 6 Exist, 7 Sugary, 9 Gazetteer, 13 Uncivil, 14 Ennoble, 15 Pogrom, 16 Regent, 18 Tacky, 20 Heart.

Mini Quiz

- 1 On a map, an isotherm joins areas of equal what?
- 2 During swallowing, which projection moves with the soft palate to close off the pharynx?
- 3 Which Wild West outlaw was also known as Henry McCarty and William H Bonney?
- 4 Which 1978 film starred Clint Eastwood alongside an orangutang?
- 5 Which term for an open-air swimming pool comes from an island off Venice?

Answers

1 Temperature, 2 The Uvula, 3 Billy the Kid, 4 Every Which Way But Loose, 5 Lido.

Children's Word Ladder

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

POOL

COOL

.....

.....

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.....

.....

TELL

POND

ICY

FUEL

GARMENT

SHIP

DEFEAT

WARMTH

CURE

BIRD

Pool, Cool, Coat, Boat, Beat, Heat, Heal, Teal, Tell.

Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice.

Followed by Rain.

Why are we always talking about the weather? We do know, because it is always changing and seems unpredictable. And it always rains at the wrong time. Should we go back to old adages like "red sky at night, shepherds' / sailors' delight? This is often correct because it is based on centuries of observations. Can a wet thumb held up in the wind tell us more than the super computers which process more than forty million weather readings a day? The problem is that they work on a global scale and will not provide rain when our lawn needs it. On a British. or United Kingdom, scale. our situation between oceanic weather in the west and land mass weather in the east causes problems that will not go away, so let us make what we can of the weather forecast, with its hot and cold fronts, jet stream, isobars, high and low pressure, and ten different forms of cloud.

How many people take a daily paper now? Fewer and fewer, so most families take their weather information from TV. The forecasters become personalities, like Derek. formerly of Barry Boys; Grammar Technical School. Why do the lady forecasters regularly have new frocks while the men keep to the usual suits?

The progenitor of weather forecasting was Captain Robert Fitzroy (1805-65), who sailed with Charles Darwin on the voyage of the "Beagle" to the southern hemisphere. His purpose was to accumulate as much as he could on all the elements of climate — temperature, in Fahrenheit, rainfall, in inches, winds, etc, so that he could plot the safest routes for shipping.

Fitzroy did not always see eye to eye with Darwin; he believed that the dinosaurs died out because they were too big to get into Noah's ark, He became a statistician with the Board of Trade, so he could collect information from shipping all over the world, and, thanks to the new invention of the telegraph. make this widely available.

He instigated the Meteorological Office and in time sent out his first message:

London 61 F, light south west wind, cloudy.

Liverpool, 61F south west wind.

Detâils were listed for smaller coastal towns.

In the 1850s, more than a thousand people a year died around our coast. Thanks to his warnings, the figure dropped to a third. In time he was able to issue storm warnings. This was encouraged by the worst ever

The pigment that makes leaves appear green it chlorophyll. The pigment that makes them appear red in autumn is erythrophyl.

sea tragedy in British waters in October, 1859 when the "Royal Charter" was returning to Liverpool from Australia. Rounding the north of Anglesey, hurricane-force westerly winds drove it ashore and more than 400 perished.

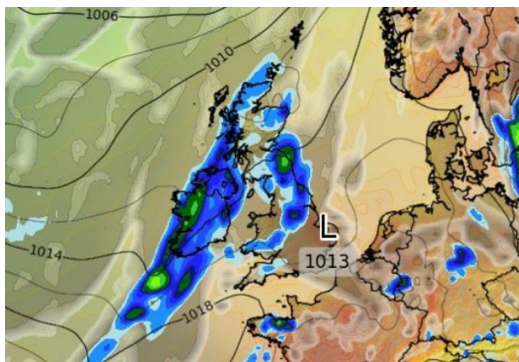
"Man cannot still the raging of the wind, but he can predict it, He cannot appease the storm, but he can escape its violence."

On August 1st 1861, The Times became the first newspaper to print a weather forecast. It was for two days and was rather short:

North- moderate westerly wind. Fine.
West — moderate south westerly fine,
South —fresh westerly fine.

Weather forecasting has always been criticised although it is a better guide than a flock of larks or cows sitting or standing in a field. One critic claimed that Fitzroy was trying to read the mind of God and this prolonged attitude struck hard. At the age of 59, in his Sunday best suit, Fitzroy cut his throat. Our first meteorological martyr.

What would 19th century top people have made of the torrent of information placed before us now? Can we, untrained but interested viewers, absorb hot and cold fronts, high and low pressure changes, isobars, which only reflect the weather, ten different types of cloud and this mysterious jet stream? With all this, can we explain why the wind changes direction just after lunch in Llantwit? Can we tell the difference between weather and climate?



Viv Kelly

From the Registers

Marriages

07 May Nathan Anthony George Davies/Samantha Margaret Dawn Gordon

Burials

20 Apr. Michael Wix, aged 93, Llantwit Major

27 Apr. Nancy May Burnett, aged 87 years, Llantwit Major

28 Apr. Grenville Mollart, aged 92 years, Llantwit Major

07 May Margaret Millington Hampson, aged 91 years, Llantwit Major.

14 May John Francis Morris, aged 86 years, Llantwit Major

My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there.



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Lateral Thinking

Q1 A tourist, not wanting to be late to catch the ferry, rushes from his hotel and runs to the quayside where he sees the boat a couple of feet from the quayside. He pushes his way through the crowds, and precariously leaps onto the ferry with his suitcase. Miraculously he lands on the deck unharmed. He sighs with relief and begins to make himself comfortable on the ferry. A moment later he glances back at the quayside and his heart sinks. Why?



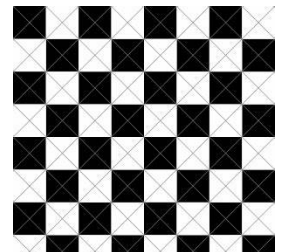
Q2. Who played for both Italy and France in the 2010 World Cup?



Q3. The old farmer is a little unsteady on his feet and had difficulty in lifting and carrying a one hundredweight sack of apples and loading it on to the tractor's trailer. His young assistant had no trouble lifting two sacks and putting them on the trailer. Who is stronger and why?



Q4. The squares on a standard chess or draughts board are numbered consecutively from one to sixty-four. How many times do the digits 4 and 6 appear on the board?



Answers

Q1. Far from being late, he was early! The ferry was just coming in to dock not setting off.
Q2. The musicians in the band who played the national anthems, and of other countries as well.
Q3. The farmer carried a sack of apples, the farmand carries sacks (empty). Therefore, the farmer.
Q4. 28 (Don't forget 44)

Life always offers you a second chance, it's called tomorrow.

Saint of the Month

3rd June: Kevin of Glendalough

Ten years ago, the then parish of Ewenny and St Brides Major went on pilgrimage to Ireland. This was part of the 120th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the St Brides Major branch of the Mothers' Union, and we were privileged to spend a day with the St Brigid sisters at Kildare, where the patron saint of St Brides Major had her convent at the same time as St Illtud had his monastery at Llanilltud Fawr. But we also visited the beautiful Glendalough Valley in the Wicklow where St Kevin had his community in the 6th century.



Kevin was born in the first half of the 6th century; we don't know the actual date. At a young age his parents took him to a monastery near Dublin where he was educated. When he left the monastic school, Kevin spent time in solitude in Glendalough before being ordained priest, and founded a monastery at Cluainduaich. However he soon returned to Glendalough in search of solitude, and lived in a cave by the lake, which can still be seen today and called St Kevin's Bed.

A community soon gathered around this man of prayer, and so Kevin set up a monastic settlement, which became a monastic city, with seven churches; the later 12th century churches and round towers can still be seen. There are many parallels in the organisation and work of Kevin's community with that of St Illtud's – Kevin remained as abbot, but members of his community would go out as missionaries, some to Wales. He only left Glendalough for retreat, but his fame spread throughout Ireland, and he is the patron saint of Dublin.

The Church of Ireland has a lovely prayer for St Kevin's festival day:

God of the quiet hills and the busy city;
We thank you for places of beauty which draw people close to you
and for those like Kevin of Glendalough who inspire us
as they communicate their love of you in music and poetry;
May we respond with deeper devotion to our Lord
and in loving service of our neighbours; in Jesus' name, Amen.

Philip Morris

It is one of the blessings of having old friends that, with them, you can be stupid.

The Meaning of Prayer



Prayer is a wonderfully powerful tool in our lives if we allow it to be and use it properly. There are people who only turn to God in times of extreme distress or danger. Pity! For a Christian it is the way of communicating with Him and we should pray on a daily basis at the least. We share our lives and thoughts with Him and He reveals, in His own way, what He expects us to do.

Do you talk to your father? Of course you do (or did). We might feel a bit diffident

in asking him for advice or help but most of us do communicate at some level or other. Why not talk to God the Father? The Bible uses the word 'Abba' which is Aramaic for 'father' and translates best as the familiar 'daddy' and this is the way that prayer should – talking to God on familiar terms as a friend and mentor and have a conversation with Him. Not to forget that in a proper conversation, you should listen as much as you speak!

What do we get out of prayer? He may not give us precisely what we were expecting or asking for, but we must admit that He is able to see the bigger picture and gives us what is best for us.



Many churches have a rack where people can light a candle and offer up a prayer for another person who might be living or dead. The candle stays alight and the prayer carries on.

Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.

So, What Happened Next? (part 2)

“The mindless vandalism and litter pollution of our streets”

Those were the strong words of the Vicar in the September Magazine, 1971, after the County Council had set up a pilot scheme and chosen Llantwit Major as one of the areas to improve their appearance; and it worked, for soon a local group was set up, under his chairmanship, and by the end of the year Llantwit Major did look a cleaner and more attractive place in which to live or to visit.

February 1972

Although too early in the year to do much, the Vicar wanted to keep up the momentum, and wrote under the title KEEP LLANTWIT TIDY, acknowledging that there were many problems, for people do not respond readily to this kind of thing, adding that surely it must be the wish of everybody to see our streets and lanes free from the appalling litter that covers them.

We were very conscious when the project of clearing Ham Lane was undertaken in November that this was a small effort — and we are disappointed to see again old mattresses dumped in the lane. This pollution of our towns and countryside is not just a matter of taste; from time to time we learn with panic what we are doing to our environment, and the appalling risks to health and well-being we are taking by our inability to cope with our unwanted rubbish.

He added that the committee were continuing with their efforts, which included asking for volunteers to help clean up the beach on the Saturday after Easter, and inviting all school children to enter a competition on the subject, and ended with this parody of some verses from Mrs Alexander's famous hymn:

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
For the things we do to them,
Have mercy on us all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
We spray them all with poison,
With oil we coat their wings.

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer breeze,
Are full of fumes and gases,
To make us cough and sneeze.

The purple headed mountain,
The ocean's flowing tide,
We cover them with litter,
And cans of cyanide.

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows for our play,
Are just the place for dumping
The things we throw away

Man can touch much more than he can grasp.

, In the March Magazine the Vicar wrote that the R.D.C. had placed a large container close to the site of the old booking office, so there was no excuse for dumping further mattresses, adding that there should be an ample supply of suitable litter bins around the town before the Spring.

There was no further news of the children's competition, but in the April edition of the Welsh Churchman inset, the full version of the parody of the hymn was repeated, with the note that it had been sung in St. Illtud's Llantwit Major after the original version, at a service with the theme "God the Creator, and Man the Pollutor."

St. Donat's Notes

The Vicar describes how the three of four faldstools, or kneelers for the church had been made by Mrs. C.H. March, of Llanmaes (Heather's mother-in-law) and were then in place. *Skilfully worked in "petit point" they are of exquisite design to match the colours in the building, and add greatly to the appearance of the interior. We are most grateful to Mrs. March for the time and skill she has given, while she in turn says that it was a joy and a privilege to have been able to make them for such a lovely old church.*

David G Brunning

Church Cleaning

St Illtud's

The cleaning team is getting smaller! Several members have either moved away or retired and it is time that I formed a definitive list of active cleaners in order to make some effort at putting together a cleaning rota again.

Since the two periods of lockdown little has been done, to the best of my knowledge, to clean the church. A very small group of us went in before Good Friday and gave a good dust, sweep and vacuum following a quite late call from me for volunteers. But since then I am not aware of any cleaning having been done.

What I would like to do is draw up a new cleaning rota that truly reflects the number of us who are able to continue doing it and any people who feel they can volunteer to join the team.

The job is not difficult and only requires about an hour once a month, on average. So, if there are any church members out there who feel they can spare the time and are fit enough to wield a duster or push a sweeping brush please will you get in touch with me ASAP.

Peta Shields

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Benefice Directory

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Team Vicar	Rev'd Rhian Prime 1, Rectory Drive, St Athan CF62 4PD rhianprime@ghcp.church	01446-750273
Reader	Sue Moll sue.moll@llanilltud.org.uk	01446-719445
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Reader	Hazel Norfolk norfolk.1@hotmail.com	01656 880532
Reader	Penny Snowden pennysnowden@gmail.com	01446-775402
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School	Mr Duncan Mottram St Brides Major, Church in Wales Primary Heol yr Ysgol St Brides Major, Bridgend. CF32 0TB	01656 880477
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