



Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish Magazine



January 2022



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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; S 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

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you, better than light and safer than a known way."

The Light of the World (cover) is an allegorical painting by the English Pre-Raphaelite artist William Holman Hunt representing the figure of Jesus preparing to knock on an overgrown and long-unopened door, Revelation 3:20: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me."

It inspired the words (above) written by Minnie Louise Haskins and quoted by King George VI in his Christmas message 1939.

From the Editor

Dear Friends,

Years ago, anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked by a student what she considered to be the first sign of civilisation in a culture. The student expected the professor to talk about fishhooks or clay pots or grinding stones. But no. Mead said that the first sign of civilisation in an ancient culture was a femur (thighbone) that had been broken and then healed. Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break a leg, you die. You cannot run from danger, get to the river for a drink, or hunt for food. You are meat for prowling beasts. No animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal. A broken femur that has healed is evidence that someone has taken the time to stay with the one who fell, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended the person through recovery. Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilisation starts, Mead said.

I had a very heart-warming experience recently and of all unlikely places, it took place in Home Bargains! We needed a trolley but neither of us had the £1 coin necessary to release it, only folding money. I went into the store armed with a £5 note in the hope of getting change, but each of the tills had a half-hour queue waiting so I approached some of the shoppers, proffering the note. After a couple of negatives, the next young lady produced the desired coin and offered it to me but without 4 companions to do an exchange. She indicated that I should just take it without any contribution from me. What a lovely, friendly, gesture. Seeking not to be churlish in the face of such a generous response, I accepted and thanked her profusely.

There have been so many examples of charitable actions during the pandemic restrictions, not all, necessarily, motivated by religious beliefs but definitely in the same spirit as our Christian teachings. The incident affected me profoundly. We are assailed on all sides by gloomy news, that it is comforting to know that people like this, still exist.

The other aspect of what happened to me, was to make me think about kind actions from one human being to another in general. Is it my imagination that there have been more of them since the pandemic struck or is it simply that more of them are being reported? The BBC is a real Jekyll and Hyde entity, on one hand reporting so many disagreeable occurrences and on the other, promoting and publicising many of the wonderful efforts towards money raising for charities. As they say, the jury is out.

All I can say is that whatever the motives behind a kind act, the fact that it has been carried out to the benefit of mankind in general or a few in particular, labels it as something to be applauded.

Yours sincerely, Eric Sparks

Terminal?

I have been waiting a long time to hear the final diagnosis. It has now arrived and there has also been a second opinion to accompany it. There is no known cure, and the prognosis indicates that there is little chance of improvement – the word is that I am quite definitely a Grumpy Old Man!! I cannot dispute the 'old' as the Anno Domini do not lie and I acknowledge the 'grumpy' because more and more incidents give me reason to wonder what the world is coming to.

The latest moan came about when we went to London recently. Part of the treat was a visit to Harrods where the merchandise is top class, and the presentation is also really up-market. So, what was the gripe? We decided to 'go posh' and get a few Christmas Cards which said Harrods on them, just to show off. I went to the racks of cards and found that there were half a dozen of them with at least a hundred different cards on offer. Wonderful cards and wonderful prices! The cheapest were £7. I would have bought a couple, even at those prices except that among those hundred or more different designs, there wasn't a single one that had a religious theme!

An enquiry of an assistant brought the response that that range was what they had and – tough. W H Smith's in the next room managed to produce two, something which might have been an angel blowing a trumpet on one and a camel on the other. Not what I was hoping for but better than nothing. Was I being naive to expect anything different? Was I anticipating more from a store, even a prestigious store like Harrods, in expecting some show of regard for the true meaning of Christmas? The short answer, of course, is a resounding yes. Stores stock what they think that customers want to buy, and it is there that the trouble lies.

The talk at the December meeting of the Llantwit Major Historical Society was about Christmas over the years. It seems that an average Sunday draws about a million people to church but that this number increases to something like two and a half million for Christmas. The UK is 87% white British according to the last census, so that, nominally, 57 million residents would be expected to describe themselves as Christian as that is the 'established' religion of the country. So, a little more than 4% of our country's Christians celebrate Christmas as a religious festival. Put it the other way round, 96% don't bother. I am one who has the opinion that this country would be a better place if that percentage was greater. What can we do about it?

ES



From Father Edwin



Dear Friends,

New Year's Day 2022 marks the culmination of a long process that has brought our 12 churches together in a shared partnership over more than 2 decades: we have now formally become the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area. We will see no difference in the work we do each day, other than a small tweak to the name of our parish. The same cannot be said for many other churches in our Diocese, who are experiencing the challenge of working together in a Ministry Area for the first time. We have been supporting and encouraging a number of these churches, sharing with them the experience of collaborative working that has marked out the Heritage Coast churches over a long time. I pray often for God to bless and uphold the work that we do, and I am rarely disappointed; we have a wealth of gifts and talents that are shared between our churches in generous measure, and I hope the same is true for the other Ministry Areas across the Llandaff diocese.

The New Year also opened on a much sadder note as New Year's Day marked the funeral thanksgiving of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. His legacy is immense, as the whole world remembers his faith and perseverance through the difficult years of racial segregation in South Africa. This culminated in his generous wisdom to begin the process of healing in that country, once people were recognised for their humanity, rather than the colour of their skin.

I was struck by the words of 2 people amongst the global tributes to Archbishop Tutu. First, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who described himself as feeling "like a mouse, paying tribute to an elephant!" as he acknowledged the enormity of Archbishop Tutu's legacy. The other was his daughter, herself an Anglican priest, who spoke with sincere love for her Dad, and how she had been so proud to share him with the world; yet my memory will be not of her words, but of her fabulous laugh that seemed to take over her face and her whole body, just like her father.

Whether our task is to bring together local churches or whole nations, we can take a leaf out of the playbook of Archbishop Tutu. When South Africa went through the turmoil of a seismic political change in the 1990s, he rejected calls for justice and retribution against those who had committed despicable acts against others because of their skin colour.

Instead, Tutu spoke of truth and reconciliation, simply because without these two most difficult attributes, there will be no peace for the future. As Christians, we speak often of forgiveness, yet this is only possible when we face up to the deepest personal truths, whether that is of ourselves or our nations. From such truth, we can begin the long, slow healing that we call reconciliation.

Jesus spoke of such radical hospitality and generosity in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel (chapter 5). Archbishop Desmond Tutu showed what it means to live out such things in human life each day, even in the most difficult and inhospitable circumstances. May he rest in peace, and may his work for peace and reconciliation be our inspiration in the year ahead.

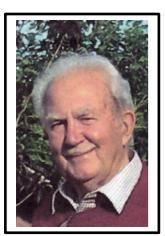
With every blessing for 2022. Edwin

Thank you!

The Ministry Team would like to extend generous thanks for the many cards, gifts and messages of good will and encouragement over Christmas.

Few could have imagined that we would still be living with the effects of the pandemic as we begin 2022, but we have found creative and imaginative ways of doing God's work in these extraordinary times. As the magazine goes to publication, we are still uncertain about the restrictions that will be in place in the coming weeks, although it looks as though we will have to manage with reduced congregation numbers for a while longer. Most importantly, we have worked hard to ensure that our churches are safe places for all who are visiting as worshippers or visitors, and for those conducting services. We will also ensure that our churches feel like the safest of places for us all. Our prayer and worship will continue to the praise and glory of God.

We all mourn the passing of that stalwart supporter of St Illtud's Church and community life in Llantwit Major in general, Jim Morgan. His obituary is on the next page.



Obituary

On 30th December we said 'goodbye' to a much-loved Llantwit character. Unfortunately, the current Covid restrictions prevented many of those who would have liked to have come to St Illtud's Church for the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Arthur James Morgan, who we all knew affectionately as Jim. We celebrated his long life of 98 years, his marriage of 63 years to Margaret, his time as a signaller in the 8th Army (Indian Division) during World War 2, his work with the British Legion, and his career as a buyer for Poplar Plastics of Bridgend. We heard about his activities in in Llantwit Major, for example with the Local

History Society and the Bowls Club, and of course as a committed worshipper at St Illtud's Church. So many reminiscences, so many amusing stories - may Jim rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Meaning of Epiphany

In common with many of the words used in the Christian Church, Epiphany derives from the Greek. Epiphaneia meaning "appearance" or "manifestation". On 6th January, we celebrate the visitation of the Magi, or Wise Men, to the Baby Jesus, and so Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles (non-Jews). This story is well known to Junior School Nativity plays with the Magi having travelled a long distance to reach Bethlehem. They brought expensive gifts, Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, which they gave to the Baby to the astonishment of Mary, his mother.

At this time the Eastern Churches celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan by John the Baptist and His first miracle at the Wedding at Cana. The Western Churches reverse this emphasis. The celebration is also known as Twelfth Night and was a traditional time for mumming and the wassail. The Christmas decorations are taken down as well.

The Feast of the Epiphany has long been an important celebration in Wales, known as *Ystwyll*. In Glamorganshire, a huge loaf or cake was made and divided up into three parts to represent Christ, the Virgin Mary and the three Wise Men.

You might wonder where New Year's Eve fits into all this? The answer, as far as the Church is concerned, is nowhere! That is a strictly secular celebration even though, the "Kirk" in Scotland regarded Christmas as more of a Roman Catholic celebration which is why the Scots go for "Hogmanay".



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Humour

An incompetent counterfeiter spent all dav making his funny money. At the end of the day he realises he spent all his time making \$15 bills. He figures that the only way he's going to get anything from this batch of money, is to find a place where the people aren't too bright and change his phoney money for real cash. He travels to a small town and walks into a small Mom and Pop grocery store. He goes to the old man behind the counter and asks him, "Do you have change for a \$15 bill?" The old man replies, "I sure do...How would you like that? An eight and seven or two sixes and a three?"

A Texas farmer was touring England. He happened to meet an English farmer and asked him, "What size farm do you have?" The Englishman proudly announced, "Thirty-five acres!" "Thirty-five acres?" the Texan scoffed. "Why, I can get in my truck at 8 o'clock in the morning and start driving and at noon, I am still on my farm. I can eat lunch and start driving again and at 5:0'clock I am still on my farm. "Ah, yes," the Englishman nodded in understanding. "I had a tractor like that once."

In the year 10BC (Before Covid) Dai and Gwyn were avid supporters of Cardiff City and had season tickets for seats next to the directors' box. They could not help noticing that there was always a spare seat next to them and they had a friend who would love to buy a season ticket, especially if all three could sit together.

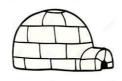
One half-time Dai went to the ticket office and asked if they could buy the season ticket for the empty seat which was going to waste. The official said that unfortunately the ticket had been sold before the beginning of the season. Nevertheless, week after week the seat remained empty.

Then on Boxing Day, much to Dai and Gwyn's, surprise the seat was taken for the first time that season. John could not resist asking the newcomer, "Where have you been all season?".

"Don't ask" he said. "My wife bought the season ticket back last summer and kept it for a surprise Christmas present!"



I watched the chess championship on TV but it was too fast for me.



What does "self-isolate" mean?



No! I don't want to risk it down at the disco.

Puzzle Page Crossword No

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8					9		
10			11				
	12			13	14		
15		16	17		18	19	
20			21				
22				23			

Acros	SS	Dow	n
1	Natter	2	Fruit
5	Scribble	3	Fruit
8	Master	4	Extend
9	Hum	5	Push
10	Food list	6	Android
11	Harmonic	7	Wrinkly
12	Overstated	12	Equalled
15	Glasses	13	Begin
13	Glasses	13	again
18	Unit	14	Glittery
20	Astonish	16	Lotto
21	Grateful	17	Consumed
22	Abut	19	Agitate
23	Attempting		

Answers

Thankful, ZZ Adjoin, Z3 Trying.

Down: 2 Olive, 3 Satsuma, 4 Prolong, 5 Shove, 6 Robot, 7 Wizened, 12 Equated, 13 Restart, 14 Twinkly, 16 Bingo, 17 Eaten,

Across: 1 Gossip, 5 Scrawl, 8 Virtuoso, 9 Buzz, 10 Menu, 11 Overtone, 12 Exaggerated. 15 Tumblers, 18 Inch, 20 Stun, 21

Mini Ouiz

Children's Word Ladder

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

LEADER

MONEY

BOSS

CASH

	IVIIIII QUIZ		
1.	Palermo is the capital of which autonomous	BASS	SINGER
ว	region of Italy? Which Danish brewery was founded in	BASE	BOTTOM
۷.	1847 by J C Jacobson who named it after his		BAG
2	son? What is unusual about Iquitos, a city in		THROW
	Pweru?		PRICE
4.	The site of the 1890 Wounded Knee Massacre is on which Native American		MAIL
	reservation in South Dakota?		AGO
5.	Sebastiano Carezo is credited with inventing which dance in 1780?		FINAL
	inventing which dance in 1700.		WHIP

Answers

1 Sicily,2 Carlsberg, his son was named Carl, 3 World's largest city which cannot be reached by road, 4 Pine Ridge Reservation, 5 Spanish Boss, Bass, Case, Cash, Cost, Post, Past, Lash, Cash.

F&P\&Very complex problem there is an answer that is clear simple and wrong.

From the Registers

Baptisms

28th Nov. Dylan Robert Willis

Marriages

22nd Dec. Carl David Heard & Emma Jane Moore

24th Dec. Wayne Ronald Morris & Nia Margaret Griffiths

Burials

3rd Dec. David Thomas, aged 92 years, St. Mary Church

16th Dec. Clifford Organ, aged 98 years, St. Athan

Advertising

To advertise in this magazine, contact the Parish Office or Editor, details on page 15. We reach 500 outlets every month and charge £66 per annum for a block this size.



Saint of the Month

24 January: St Cadoc, Abbot of Llancarfan

Fr Edwin, in his homily at the Eucharist in St Illtud's for St Andrew's Day, posed the question 'Why is St Andrew the patron saint of Scotland?' Well, you will have to wait until next November for the answer to that, unless you look it up on Google (other seach engines are available). But I have always wondered why St Columba, who is credited with bringing Christianity to Scotland in 597, isn't the patron saint; or indeed why not St Ninian, who established a monastic school in Galloway two hundred years earlier.

If his biographer, Lifris, had his way, St Cadoc (or Cattwg) would be the patron saint of Scotland. How could Lifris, the *magister* of St Cadoc's school at Llancarfan, writing in the 12th century, justify that? Well, he tells us that Cadoc and three fellow monks from Llancarfan sailed in a "stout skiff, stopped with pitch" up the west coast to the Firth of Clyde, then travelled to the "middle of Scotland". There Cadoc had a dream in which an angel told him to remain there for seven years "for the purpose of converting the people of the place to the faith of the Lord". So Cadoc based himself at Kilmadock, a few miles from Stirling. *Kil* is the same as the Welsh *llan*; ma means saint – so who was *Dock?*



Etymologists say it is an abbrevation of *Cadoc*! Kilmadock is now part of the town of Doune, where still survives the tradition of St Cadoc having a monastic school there. In fact a common surname in the Doune and Stirling region is Doig, which is said to have derived from *Gille Doig*, 'the Servant of St Cadoc', and in the graveyard of the ruined Kilmadock Church can still be seen tombstones with the inscription' Dog' or 'Doig'.

Kilmadock is not the only place in Scotland to lay claim to Cadoc. The kirk of Cambusland, Lanarkshire, is supposed to have been founded by St Cadoc, and pilgrims would come to Cambusland to venerate the 'ashes of St Cadoc'. The present Catholic church and school there are dedicated to St Cadoc.

Philip Morris

The photo of the Cattwg window in Llanmaes Church was taken by Stan Gilbert and is from his book Glass Rainbows — Stained Glass within the churches of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish.

The Universe

Recently BBC Two produced a very interesting programme entitled universe and the Big Bang before the dawn. Why are we here? Professor Brian Cox explains. Jeremiah states that God says, "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart". In days of old we used to have a piece of functional kit called the space shuttle, and before it was mothballed due to costs, it did deliver into space the most powerful spyglass possible known as the Hubble telescope to search God out or at least, find out if indeed that there is such a thing! Many say there isn't, many still say there is.

Our down to earth telescopes come in 10×50, 10×100and 10×150. This is known as the focal length. An ex-U-boat night vision of any of the above strengths will still command a very good price on the market according to the Antiques Roadshow and a lot more if you have the provenance giving the number of the U-boat. I have looked but unfortunately there is no such item hidden in my loft! The Hubble is entirely different. Very, very much larger indeed than the 10 x 150 one.



How about 2.4m x 57.6m! Hence the need, in 1990 for the space shuttle. 1990, was it as long ago as that? The Hubble captures even the faintest light in space and where weight does not matter it can, in theory, look back to the very beginning of our observable universe 13 .8 billion years away. It takes light eight minutes to reach us from the Sun, so it might have blown up, but it will take us eight minutes before we find out! Put the kettle on and do a soft-boiled egg and you might just be quick enough to have a quick, very quick, breakfast!

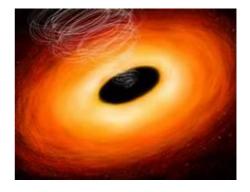
Having got this massive thing into space will it come up with the answer? Well initially no, it didn't work properly. The images everyone gathered excitedly around to see, were blurred and almost useless. It took another mission to send a pair of glasses from the local optician. Once installed they got around the screens again in Houston Texas Space Shuttle Centre USA, and were delighted to find that now, indeed, it did and in really great detail. Wonder how much the opticians Bill was? The best quotation, on that event, was when a spokeswoman declared "The trouble with Hubble is over". Poetry to everyone's ears indeed!

Where to point it was not a problem because it was in the centre of the universe because the universe is so big there is nowhere that can be called its centre. So the church was right after all, when it claimed that Rome was the centre but then so was Canterbury or anywhere else for that instance my front room or even yours!

Up until recently the best answer the 'ologists came up with for the beginning of everything was a "singularity". The point where everything appeared from the tiniest of tiny, to the biggest of the big. The big bang in which everything needed to make a universe was released on the split to split o\in the first second of created time.

Now that takes some doing so who did it? Maybe they have the answer already without realising it, maybe they have diligently sought after and found and even named it "a singularity". There is only one God a singular known to many different people by many different things but still one God. Do the maths, get it published in Nature and wait for the call from Sweden for the Nobel Physics prize!

Not as easy as that. Hubble could only see the observable universe, what is there more to find? Indeed that was and it is called dark matter. Why? Well for one good reason you cannot see it, makes sense, but they now know it exists. There is also dark and lovely dark energy chocolate! More research was needed, another rocket to be built to send another probe this time to a dark place. Many people have been in a very dark place recently and let us hope light is beginning to lighten that gloom as well.



Professor Cox says we used to look into the universe with many questions; we are now looking at answers. The rocket was built and launched to check out what they had already predicted, and the great excitement was and is, that the predictions were correct! Will we ever be able to say for certain, that at last we know all the ins to know? Who knows? God does, and we will, when we are ready to receive the final parts of the big, big jigsaw or maybe just look at the picture on the box of a baby born in a manger.

Bill Henderson

Mothers' Union

How much do you know about the work of the Mother's Union?

Mothers' Union provides a network through which we can serve Christ in our own community. This is done through prayer, financial support and actively working at the grassroots level in programmes that meet local needs.

Our Vision. Our vision is a world where everyone prospers. We pursue this vision through prayer and action, helping to build confident people and resilient communities. Our movement seeks to bring about justice, challenge prejudice and advocate change.

Our Mission. We aim to show our Christian faith by helping the sustainable transformation of communities worldwide. We do this by helping to nurture strong relationships at all levels, promoting peace and reconciliation locally, nationally and globally.

Our Aims are to

- •encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
- promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children
- help those whose family life has met with adversity
- promote and support married life.

We are a Global Movement Present in 84 countries; our members are not all mothers, or even all women. They are single, married, parents, grandparents, or young adults just beginning to express their social conscience.

Come and join us!

Leisure

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long at sheep or cows.
No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
And watch her feet, how they can dance.
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.
A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES 1871-1940

Benefice Directory

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Mon – Fri Llantwit Major. CF61 1SB. office@ghcp.church

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Wick & Marcross Church in Wales

Primary School

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School Mr Duncan Mottram 01656 880477

St Brides Major, Church in Wales Primary

Heol yr Ysgol

St Brides Major, Bridgend, CF32 0TB

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Contributions to be received by 22nd of the month.

January Sunday 2022 2 nd Final		Sunday 9 th	Sunday 16 th	Sunday 23 rd	Sunday 30 th	
St Illtud 8.00am		Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
Wick 8.15am		Online	Online	Online	Online	
St Tathan 9.00am		Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Illtud MA 9.30am recorded service		Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	Online & in person	
Ewenny 9.30am		Epiphany Service	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	
Gileston 9.30am			Eucharist		Morning Prayer	
Llanmihan gel 9.30am			Eucharist		Morning Prayer	
Llanmaes 11.00am		Eucharist		Morning Prayer		
St Brides 11.00am		Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	
Wick 11.00am		Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	
St Donat 11.15am		Prayer & Praise	Eucharist	Prayer & Praise	Fellowship	
Marcross	Friday 7 th 9.30am Fellowship					
Monknash	1		Friday 21 st 9.30am Fellowship			
Wick 8.30am	Thurs 6 th Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 13 th Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 20 th Morning Prayer on Zoom	Thurs 27 th Morning Prayer on Zoom		
St Illtud 10am	Wed 5 th Eucharist	Wed 12 th Morning Prayer	Wed 19th Eucharist	Wed 26 th Eucharist		
St Illtud 12.15pm		Fri 14 th Eucharist & soup lunch	Fri 21 st Eucharist & soup lunch	Fri 28 th Eucharist & soup lunch		
St Tathan 11am	Wed 5 th Morning Prayer Wed 5 th	Wed 12 th Eucharist	Wed 19 th Eucharist	Wed 26th Eucharist		
Southern- down 3pm	Wed 5 th Epiphany Service	Wed 12th Evening Prayer	Wed 19th Eucharist	Wed 26 th Evening Prayer		



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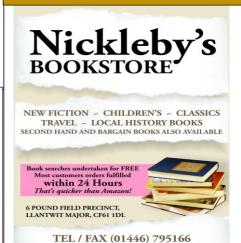


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Jane Hutt

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



janehutt.wales

janehutt_vog

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