

Glamorgan
Heritage Coast
Ministry Area
Magazine



April 2023

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Parish Magazine

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

This magazine serves them all.

Contributions to be in by 22nd of the month please

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This Month's Cover

Here we have what may well be the most famous painting ever; Leonardo da Vinci's depiction of the Last Supper. Each of the first three Gospels tells us, in virtually the same words, how Jesus blessed bread and then wine and gave them to the disciples saying that they represented his body and his blood. He told them to do the same in the future "in remembrance of me." This action and these words form the basis of our Eucharist Service in which we commune with Jesus. This is especially relevant at Easter when we remember the Crucifixion.

Clawr y Mis:

Yma mae gennym beth gallau cael ei alw y darlun enwocaf erioed; Darlun Leonardo da Vinci o'r Swper Olaf. Mae pob un o'r tair Efengyl cyntaf yn dweud wrthym, bron yn yr un geiriau, sut y bendithiodd Iesu'r bara a'r gwin a'u rannu ymysg y disgyblion gan ddweud eu bod yn cynrychioli ei gorff a'i waed. Gorchmynnodd wrthynt i wneud yr un peth yn y dyfodol "wrth gofio amdana i". Mae'r weithred hon a'r geiriau hyn yn sail i Wasanaeth yr Ewcharist lle rydym mewn cymundeb gyda Iesu. Mae hyn yn arbennig o berthnasol adeg y Pasg pan fyddwn yn cofio am y Croeshoeliad.

Siân Tesni

Accomplishing the impossible only means that the boss will add it to your regular duties.

Diary

2nd

Regular Events

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

April

2 nd Sun	4.30pm St Illtud's	Mediaeval Passion.
3 rd Mon	12.00pm St Cattwg's	Eucharist.
4 th Tue	11.00am Milsom Hse St Athan	Communion
	6.30pm Holy Trinity	Eucharist
6 th Thur	10.00am Llandaff Cathedral	Chrim Mass
	7.00pm Eweny	Eucharist
	8.00pm St Illtud's	Eucharist, Foot Washing, Watch
	8.00pm St Illtud's	Good Friday Worship
7 th Fri	10.00am St Illtud's	Stations of the Cross
	10.00am St James	Stations of the Cross
	11.00am St Michael's	Stations of the Cross
	12.00pm St Bridget's	An Hour at the Cross
	12.15pm St Illtud's	Good Friday Liturgy
	2.00pm St Tathan	Walk of Witness
8 th Sat	8.00pm St Illtud's	The Easter Vigil
21 st Fri	7.00pm St Illtud's	Beetle Drive
23 rd Sun	12.00pm St Bridget's	Annual Vestry Meeting
24 th Mon	7.00pm St Illtud's	Healing Service
26 th Wed	6.30pm St Illtud's	Ministry Area Annual Vestry Meeting
28 th Fri	10.30am All Saints	MU Corporate Communion
29 th Sat	9.00am St Illtud's	Churchyard Task Force.

Details of services for Easter Week are on page 18 & 19.

Connection codes for Zoom Streamings are in the weekly newsletter.

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

Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

From the Editor

Dear Friends,

For one of the Lenten discussion meetings, we were shown a video of a clergyman who, in turn, selected a video of the Spice Girls. This was the take of “Wannabe” which has the question “What do you really, really want?” as part of the lyric. This was the theme that we were asked to consider. Thinking about the question, if it had just been “What do you want?” or perhaps, “What do you really want?” it would have produced very different answers on a much more trivial level. It was the “really, really” that made all the difference and led us towards considering what we want to have, fundamentally, in our lives.

Discussion ranged over various responses and left me pondering for some time. In the end, I came to the conclusion that what I wanted was for my life to have made some positive impact on other people’s lives. For me to be able to feel that I have managed to make things better in some way for someone else. I tried to express this to the rest of the group, but I don’t think I managed to get it across clearly. So, let’s have another try!

In my working life, I was a teacher, becoming, after some years, a Headteacher. Clearly, this gave me the opportunity of helping young person’s towards a better life, but did I do it as well as I could have done or some other teacher might have done? I will never know. All I do know is that I tried and that I hope that what I did has improved the future for a number of people.

As I wrote in the March magazine, I have been editor for eleven years and have derived great satisfaction from what has appeared in our little publication. My guiding principle, from the start, has been to produce something that people want to read. To make them want to turn the pages in the hope and expectation that, in doing so, they will pick up the Christian message and that this will have a positive effect on their lives. I modelled the style on the old Readers Digest, which I always regarded as a very attractive and readable periodical. You can judge for yourself how successful I have been!

How does all this relate to us as Christians? Jesus taught us that to love one another was of fundamental importance in life. Loving other people is to improve their lives.

Yours sincerely, *Eric*

From the Ministry

Dear Friends,

There was a picture of my bare feet in last month's Magazine; I was recording a radio programme on a beach in Brittany, and it was important to leave my footprints in the sand, as I wondered who else might have trod a similar journey over the centuries.

As we draw near to Holy Week and Easter, feet are once again in my mind. For me, the Foot Washing that we do in church on the evening of Maundy Thursday, is one of the most meaningful and spiritually significant events of the whole Christian year. In a short symbolic ritual, we remember that Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, showing them the meaning of service of one another. If Jesus would wash the disciples' feet, then they should wash the feet of the whole world.

The word 'Maundy' comes from a Latin word, *mandatum*; from which we get the word 'commandment', and we find this in our scriptures when Jesus says to his disciples, "I give you a new commandment, love one another, just as I have loved you" (John's Gospel chapter 13, verse 34). It would be simplistic to say that we all ought to carry a bowl of water and a towel and offer to wash one another's feet, because that is just an illustration of what it means to live out the commandment...to love one another selflessly and completely, just as God loves us.

The days around Easter are filled with flowers, chocolate eggs and, perhaps, some warmer weather, and with many people taking a few days of rest over the Easter weekend there's a sense of wider celebration in the air. Yet I wonder if Easter becomes even more significant, if we pause for a moment and remember the significant and sobering events that the Christian story lays before us. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are sobering, because they give us an insight into the less desirable aspects of human nature, as we are reminded of the consequences of betrayal and false accusation that led untimely to the death of Jesus Christ. Despite all that, Christian faith proclaims that God is able to make sense of situations of apparent despair and find something that is worthy of celebration.

Easter is about victory over all that is sad and bad. That might be in the despair of the conflict in Ukraine, or the helplessness of a family watching a loved-one suffer. God doesn't promise a magical solution to every situation; rather, God's offer is to stand alongside with a powerful and transforming love. Maundy Thursday, with its foot washing and its example of humble service, gives meaning to Good Friday, which in turn helps us to understand the importance of selfless, liberating love for God and one another. To know that is to understand Easter.

May you and your loved ones keep a blessed Holy Week, and celebrate an Easter filled with joy.

With every blessing, Edwin

Life, is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It is the transition that is troublesome.

Lessons

In a previous edition of this magazine, I wrote about whom you might admire and the reasons why. I write today about a man whose actions many years ago caused my regard for him to rise well up towards the top of the scale. This is what happened.

I was at school over 75 years ago, the lesson was “French” and the teacher was Mr Lever. This man was a good teacher and my abilities in the language had improved considerably under his tutelage. However, there was a snag! Mr Lever had a most unfortunate and attention diverting habit that was to say the word “right” an inordinate and unnecessary number of times “right, right, right, right, right” would come out. His record was to say the word 9 times without any other word intervening and his record for a 40-minute lesson was to use it 145 times. I know because I kept score each lesson, that is until the day he spotted what I was doing. Oh dear!

“What are you doing, Sparks,” he enquired. “It’s a game we are playing, sir” I replied. Explain the rules to me,” he said. “it’s a bit complicated,” I replied. “Never mind that, explain.” Well, that was it, caught in the act. I couldn’t see any way out and had to tell him what I was doing. He didn’t say another word. No remonstrations, no rebuke, no punishment, he didn’t refer to the incident again until the next French lesson. Mr Lever came to me at the end of the lesson and asked me, “Did I do better this time, Sparks?” I responded, “Yes Sir, much better.” His score being down to 100 and the matter was never referred to again.

What do you think? That man went right to the top in my estimation. The situation could easily have led to a dangerous exchange of words resulting in resentment and animosity on both sides. Instead, it was handled with complete control and tact, and I felt really ashamed of my actions. It taught me lessons which I have never forgotten, but not always been able to follow. In the first place, not to fly off the handle when justifiably criticised, and secondly to examine my own behaviour for traits which would lead to similar distraction to those to whom I was speaking.

Overall, I felt humbled and still do when I think of the incident. It is a salutary lesson to be learned when someone shows you how to behave and we do well to think of Jesus’ example to us all.

ES

Wine makes a man more pleased with himself but not necessarily more pleasing to others.

St Illtud's Church Quinquennial Revue

Every five years each Church is obliged to undertake a thorough review of its buildings, works and curtilage. Parishioners will be interested to know that the latest Quinquennial Review for St. Illtud's Church has now been completed. Unfortunately, due to Covid, little has been achievable since the previous survey over seven years ago, but we now are able to draw up a plan of action to proceed with the many works that urgently need attention. To move forward, we are undertaking the following actions:

- A Churchyard Task Force has been formed to keep the churchyard mown and tidy. It will address some of the minor actions in the Quinquennial Review e.g. clearing out weeds to let water drain properly.
- Initially, the architect, Michael Davies, is organising an engineer to survey the structural items in his report that need immediate attention.
- The tower project is the main priority. We are accessing the original 'faculty' application for this, and we will then update it to submit to the Diocesan office for approval. Once this is achieved, we will work with the Diocesan office to try to secure grants for the work.
- We can now proceed with the porch project, probably in stages, starting with raising the floor and then installing the new glass doors. There is also an original faculty application for this, so we are accessing and updating this for submission. Funds have been saved to pay for this.
- The second major project will probably be the windows. There are 35 windows that need attention to the stonework, lead and glass, but obviously this work will have to wait until we get the tower done. A new faculty will have to be drawn up for this work when we are ready to proceed.
- Once this is all done, we can finally address the other issues in the Review relating to repointing the stonework etc. The whole process may take up to 10 years!!
- The architect has agreed to look into reconfiguring the chancel area. A new faculty will be needed for this.
- We are going to draw up a regular maintenance schedule for servicing utilities and other equipment e.g. pumps and clearing of gutters. N.B. all the gutters and downpipes were thoroughly cleaned last month.
- We are setting up a records system, preferably digital, so we can keep all the documentation about the upkeep of the Church in one place.

We are arranging a thorough industrial clean of all areas of the Church which will also address some of the minor items in the Quinquennial Review. We have been given a small donation for this work.

Dr. David Ellis

Traidcraft

Firstly, thank you to Tyann and Sue for running the Traidcraft stall at St Illtud's over the last few years. Thanks to all of you who have bought Fairtrade goods from the stall, you have made a significant difference to the lives of many people in disadvantaged communities, allowing them the dignity of being treated fairly. Sadly, the last Traidcraft stalls will most likely be in April.

At the end of January Traidcraft went into administration and has ceased trading. The directors wrote "The business has been in a weak financial position for some years and the Covid pandemic presented a significant new set of challenges. Just as we were emerging from the pandemic, like many other retailers, we faced the combined effects of the war in Ukraine, rising energy prices, and increased transport costs." Our thoughts and prayers must go out to vulnerable communities who through no fault of their own find themselves facing a return to poverty.

It is worth reflecting on what Traidcraft has achieved and the lives transformed as a result of their commitment to justice in trade. In 1979 when Traidcraft was founded there were no Fairtrade goods in supermarkets, no Fairtrade coffee, almost nothing, the concept of Fairtrade was for most of us a new one. A truly visionary organisation Traidcraft pioneered Fairtrade and changed the way we think about meeting the needs of poor communities, enabling people to lift themselves out of poverty and help others. The magnitude of Traidcraft's impact is huge.

We can either be dispirited by the loss of such a force for good in the world or inspired by what can be achieved when we "act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with our God."

What happens now? Please continue to buy Fairtrade whenever you can. Look out for opportunities to persuade government to enact legislation protecting the rights and dignity of those who produce our food and other goods. The campaigning and charitable arm of Traidcraft – Traidcraft Exchange – continues under the name of Transform Trade <https://www.transform-trade.org> They continue to try to support producer groups and campaign for systemic change in how we trade. The terms of trade for so many are still highly exploitative of the workers and our planet, there is still much to do.

Chris Westoby

The life of Everyman is a diary in which he means to write some story but then writes another.

St Donat's Church

A Service to Inaugurate a new Organ.

On Sunday 5th March, a service of inauguration was held at St Donat's Church. The new organ was secured through the hard work of Sam Mazzarella, Head of Music at UWC. He, supported by colleague Sharon Richards, successfully applied for funding the purchase of a new organ through the Mousetrap Foundation. We are all grateful to Sam for securing the funding and for playing the organ so gracefully. The sounds coming from the new organ are melodic and sonorous. They resonate melodically in the church.

The service was led by Fr Edwin Counsel. His service was aptly based on the theme of St Cecilia and Music. He and Stan Gilbert prepared a very uplifting service for this joyous occasion. Stan also designed the service pamphlet and organised inputs from AC students. An *Ode to Cecilia* (Alexander Pope) was read by Given (from Zambia), a group of students sang a song led by Christiana (from Sierra Leone). Altogether we were 17 adults, 8 students and 1 child. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the service. The festivities and energetic discussion continued as we shared some light refreshments together. We really appreciate the close relationship we have with Atlantic College, staff and students.



Sân Tesni

Eglwys Sain Dunwyd

Gwasanaeth i Urddo organ Newydd

Ar ddydd Sul 5ed Mawrth, cynhaliwyd gwasanaeth o fendith gogyfer organ newydd yn Eglwys Sain Dunwyd. Sicrhawyd yr organ newydd drwy waith ag ymdrech Sam Mazzarella, Pennaeth Cerddoriaeth, Coleg yr Iwerydd. Fe wnaeth e, gyda chefnogaeth ei gydweithiwr Sharon Richards, gais llwyddiannus am gyllid drwy Sefydliad Mousetrap. Rydym i gyd yn ddiolchgar tu hwnt i Sam am sicrhau'r arian ac am chwarae'r organ mor soniarus. Roedd sain yr organ newydd yn felodig a sonoraidd. Mae'r sain yn atseinio'n felodig yn yr eglwys.

Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome.

Arweiniwyd y wasanaeth yn abl iawn gan y Tad Edwin Counsel. Seiliwyd ei wasanaeth ar thema Sain Cecilia a Cherddoraiaeth. Paratôdd Edwin a Stan Gilbert wasanaeth galonogol iawn ar gyfer yr achlysur llawen hwn. Dyluniodd Stan bamffled gogyfer y wasanaeth ac fe drefnodd gyfraniadau gan fyfyrwyr y coleg. Darllenwyd 'Ode i Cecilia' (Alexander Pope) gan Given (o Sambia) ac fe ganodd grŵp o fyfyrwyr gân dan arweiniad Christiana (o Sierra Leone). Yn gyfan gwbl 'roedd yno 17 oedolyn, 8 myfyriwr ac 1 plentyn yn bresenol. Roedd pawb wedi mwynhau'r wasanaeth yn fawr iawn. Parhaodd y dathliadau a'r egni wrth i ni rannu lluniaeth ysgafn a sgwrs gyda'n gilydd. Rydym wir yn gwerthfawrogi'r berthynas agos sydd gennym ni â'r coleg, y staff a'r myfyrrwyr.

Sŵan Tesni

Mothers' Union

April meeting Monday April 3rd - NB Change of Date

We will be meeting for **Music for Holy Week** led by Philip Morris at 2.00pm the West Church, St Illtud's. This has been changed because of the funeral Service in church on the 4th.

Make a Mother's Day Report

Mothers' Union CEO Bev Jullien was interviewed on numerous local BBC radio stations on Mothering Sunday about our Make A Mother's Day campaign. You can listen to one interview with BBC Radio Cambridgeshire on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0f5nrst>, starting at 2.45 pm.

The interview begins at 2:45:50

Quiet day in Llandaff Cathedral

There will be a Quiet day in for the Diocesan MU in Llandaff Cathedral on Friday 24th March 10.30 am until 3.00pm. Tea and coffee will be provided but you will need to take a packed lunch if you are going.

Craft & Gift Stall Saturday April 8th 10.00am until 2.00pm

Reminder - We will be holding a fund raising Craft and Gift stall on the church path (in the West Church if wet) to raise funds for MU projects in the UK and around the world. If you have items you could contribute to this please can you get them to Diane, Tyann or me. -

beetle.sue@gmail.com is the best email address to reach me.

Sue Beetleston

*A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity
freshen into smiles.*

Humour

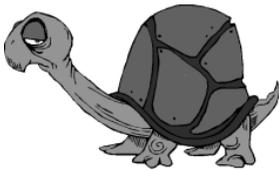
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An elderly gentleman had been fitted with hearing aids and was on his return visit to the Audiology Department. "How are you getting on with them?" asked the nurse. "Just fine," replied the gentleman, "I can hear everything now but I haven't told the family yet, I just listen in to what they are saying. I have changed my will three times."

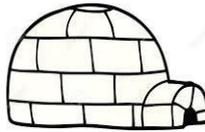
My wife came into the bathroom when I was weighing myself. "You are funny," she scoffed, "Sucking in your tummy isn't going to make you any lighter." I replied, "I know that, but it does mean that I can see the scales."

Grandad was going on about the old days again! "When I was a lad," he said, "I could go into a shop with five bob in my pocket and come out with a pint of milk, a loaf of bread and half a dozen eggs. You can't do that these days can you? There are too many closed-circuit TV cameras about"

The new boss had a reputation as a hard man and wanted to make a point on his first day. He walked into the office and saw a young man, sloppily dressed, leaning against the wall and counting some money. The new boss decided to make an example of him. "How dare you lounge around like that looking so scruffy." He got out his wallet and gave the young man some money. "There's a week's wage. You're sacked!" The young man left the room and the boss turned to a typist whose desk was nearby and said, "What was his job?" The typist replied, "I don't know what his full-time job was, but he had just delivered the pizzas for our lunch."



Sorry. I can't stop to talk; I am in a rush to get down to the shops.



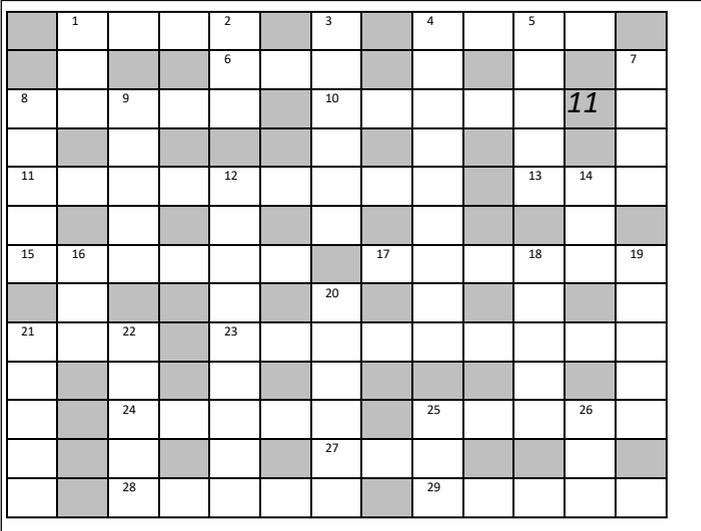
I don't really empathise with programmes like 'Emmerdale'.



No! I don't feel like contributing to the dog rescue.

Don't tell me the skies the limit when there are footprints on the moon.

Crossword No 124



Across

Down

- | | | | |
|----|----------|----|------------|
| 1 | Fog | 1 | Spoil |
| 4 | Obtain | 2 | Tilt |
| 6 | Name | 3 | Bracelet |
| 8 | Pain | 4 | Frightener |
| 10 | Name | 5 | Compound |
| 11 | Animal | 7 | Melt |
| 13 | Rule | 8 | Seat |
| 15 | Seaman | 9 | Allow |
| 17 | Forsaken | 12 | Flower |
| 21 | Coy | 14 | Chopper |
| 23 | Polling | 16 | Tree |
| 24 | Link | 18 | Short |
| 25 | Each | 19 | Pause |
| 27 | Unwell | 20 | Game |
| 28 | Group | 21 | Fabric |
| 29 | Renowned | 22 | Immature |
| | | 25 | Imp |
| | | 26 | Grain |

Answers

Word Ladder

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

CHESS	GAME
CHEST	BOX
CREST	SUMMIT
	PLANT
	STUPID
	METAL
	BOLD
	ACCIDENT
	CONFLICT
	RANK
CLASP	FASTENER

Across: 1 Mist, 4 Take, 6 Tra, 8 Cramp, 10 Norma, 11 Armadillo, 13 Law, 5 rating, 17 Jilted, 21 Shy, 23 Electoral, 24 Union, 25 Every, 27 Ill, 28 Genius, 29 Famed.
 Down: 1 Mar, 2 Tip, 3 Bangle, 4 Terrorist, 5 Kraal, 7 Thaw, 8 Chair, 9 Admit, 12 Dandelion, 14 Axe, 16 Ash, 18 Terse, 19 Delay, 20 Tennis, 21 Satin, 22 Young, 25 Elf, 26 Rye.

Miniquiz

- 1 Which is the largest of the Great Lakes in the USA?
- 2 Which Monty Python character went around the world in 80 days?
- 3 Which 1775 hymn is said to have been inspired by an incident in the gorge of Burrington Combe,
- 4 Which 1878 comic opera features the sailor, Ralph Rackstraw.
- 5 'Omerta' is the final novel in the author's mafia trilogy?

Answers

1 Lake Superior, 2 Michael Palin, 3 Rock of Ages, 4 HMS Pinafore, 5 Mario Puzo.

Chess, Chest, Crest, Brass, Crash, Clasp, Clash, Class, Brass, Crash, Crest, Class, Clasp.

First things first, but not necessarily in that order.

From the Registers

Baptisms

12th March. Imogen Rose Davies

Burials

16th Feb Jeffrey Frederick Baker, aged 80 years, Monknash
23rd Feb David John Reinthal, aged 78years, Wick
1st March Rachel Leah David, aged 50 years, Barry
1st March Audrey Rees, aged 92years, Wick
3rd March Shirley Hanks, aged 84 years, St. Athan
5th March Kathryn Louise Winter, aged 60 years, Walsall
6th March Enid Tipples, aged 87 years, Hove
7th Marc Ian Richard Evans, aged 62 years, Llanmaes
13th Marc David John Crowley, aged 81 years, Llantwit Major



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Passing the Baton

So, Eric moves on, with our sincere thanks and commendations from near and far; only a geographer could trace them all. I would describe him as the Harold Evans of church magazines; I hope he recognises the plaudit. Anne Robinson laid the foundation of a successful journal, even using a computer. Eric recognised its potential, but hoped for assistance, to the extent that he was prepared to accept my contributions to help fill the gaps.

Harold Evans became the editor of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* in 1981, and his first innovation, quickly copied, was the colour magazines. His style of investigative journalism soon became the norm. He defied a government D notice to name Kim Philby as a Cambridge spy, then took the British government into the European Court of Justice to sue the Distillers Company for compensation for children who suffered hideous deformities from Thalidomide. Evans also saved the British print industry by defying the print unions by transferring his print works from Fleet Street to Wapping.

All our Ministry Area churches have something special to offer, in locations (Llanmihangel, Llanmaes) or interiors. Some contain box tombs which suggest early Norman origins, but, out of interest, a view of the Basset tomb at Llantrithyd is rewarding in a church with an Illtud connection in a romantic setting, complete with ruins.

Why does St Illtud's not contain a box tomb? Our Norman founder Robert Fitzhamon was succeeded by Earls of Gloucester. Our one striking memorial is that of Roger Seys of Boverton Place, who "entered eternal Easter with the Lord" in 1599, near the evidence of his less than Christian ways.

How familiar are you with your own regular place of worship? What is the connection between Llanmihangel and Dunraven Castle and the Lord Mayor of London? What is special about the door at Gileston? Where is the All Saints' bell? Who was buried in the Lady Chapel at St Illtud's by permission of Mrs Nicholl of the Ham? Which church has a memorial to the soldiers who came home from WW1? If you can answer any or all of these questions, does it affect your worship? As you bow your head to say "Our Father" do you think that you are the last in an immense continuum of thousands of worshippers? As you look up at the St Christopher or Mary Magdalene, do you think "this is the place to be." If this is true, then all our churches are important, and need to be cared for. Every church is a hallowed gem, but they don't all shine the same.

Viv Kelly

There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man. True nobility lies in being superior to your former self.

Lost Heritage

Whatever happened to Good Friday?

In the April 1975 Magazine, the Vicar, the Revd. J.D. Llewellyn Jones wrote how Easter suffers from being the first Bank Holiday of the year; *people are eager to get away, events are arranged regardless of any duty to keep the Feast in honour of the arisen Lord; Good Friday is squeezed out by last minute shopping or by sporting fixtures or by travelling. Of course, it is a time for a holiday, but a holiday is all the better for knowing why we are so glad to be alive.*

On my first Good Friday as a young curate at Llantwit Major in 1956, thankfully the Vicar didn't ask me to attend the 8.15am Matins, Litany and Ante-Communion, but I went to the 10am Children's Service before taking a service at St Donat's. After slipping in for the final part of the Three Hours Devotion in St Illtyd's, I went with some of the Sunday School teachers and children to pick primroses to decorate the Easter Garden in the West Church, before preaching at the 7.15 pm.

On my return to Llantwit Major in retirement, my first Good Friday was in 1999, and I said Matins at 8.30am with the Curate, the Revd. Catherine Haynes. Later I took and preached at the 1.45pm Liturgy and read the Passion with Catherine and Daphne Townsend. In my diary I commented that I was disappointed with the number present - only forty! How times have changed.

Whatever happened to the Friary?

One of my jobs as Llantwit's curate was to go to the Church Shop in The Friary, Cardiff to buy the communion wafers and candles. At the end of this little road, and around the corner in Greyfriars Road stood an old, ruined tower. Chrystal Tilney wrote about it in the May inset, describing how the Greyfriars house and church had been twice desecrated, to be covered by a mass of concrete and glass, completing what Henry VIII had begun.

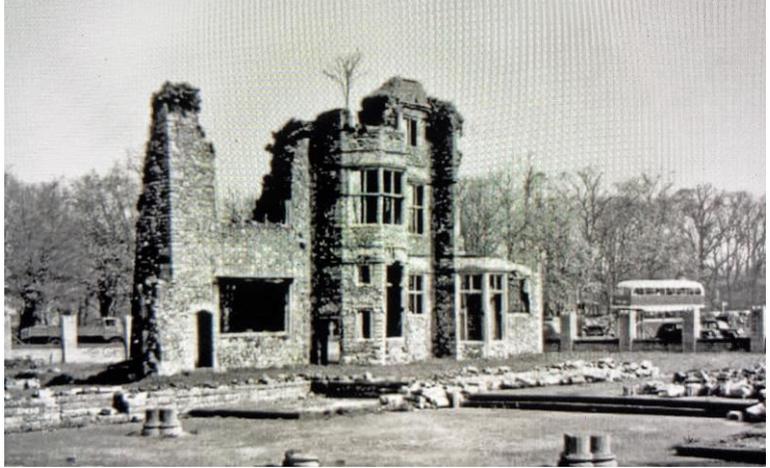
The Franciscan Friars settled in Cardiff in the thirteenth century, when the De Clare's were Lords of Glamorgan, and built a large church with a tower and their monastery beside it, soon becoming a centre of charity and mercy. Lady Eleanor was buried there and beside her in a pewter container the heart of her son, killed at Bannockburn. Owain Glyndwr spared their home when he sacked much of Cardiff in 1401, but the Warden, Thomas Gwyn and his eight colleagues had to sign away

Just because a person smiles all the time, it does not mean that their life is perfect. That smile is a symbol of hope and strength.

their property in Henry VIII's time or forfeit the tiny pension offered in return.

The ruined house and church were soon plundered for stone and the Herberts built a mansion on the site. Little was left when the Marquis of Bute excavated the site to outline the foundations in modern stone and planted chestnut trees around the ruins. In 1961 Cardiff City Council

bought the site, and in spite of protests the twenty-four storeys Pearl House took its place, with one concession to the past. In



the foyer was a simple mural showing a plan of the Friary Church, John Speed's sketch of the Herbert home and a stone tablet with the date 1588.

Since Chrystal's article was written more developments including a large car park have taken place, and the skyscraper is now called Capital Tower. Whether the mural and memorial tablet remains, I do not know.

And finally?

Officials from the Church in Wales have been helping me to find out more about our Magazine inset. It seems The Sign ended in December 2021 after combining with Home Words (Had that from the Church Times), and The Welsh Churchman changed its name to Welsh Church Life in 1994, but is believed to have ceased publication soon after. So, let's hope our Church Magazine continues under a new editor, or that will be another lost heritage.

David G. Brunning.

I take a simple view of life: keep your eyes open and get on with it.

Saint of the Month

7 April: St Brynach (6th century)



I wonder how many driving along the new road to the west of Clare Garden Village, Cowbridge, realise that almost hidden by trees is a rather fine medieval church with a sturdy saddle-backed tower. This is St Brynach's Church, Llanfrynach, now only used in the summer occasionally for services.

All that we know of St Brynach comes from a 12th century manuscript and we cannot be sure how much of what is said about him in it is historically correct. It tells us that Brynach was Irish, travelled to Rome and Brittany and then landed at Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire. He lived the austere life of a hermit, setting up various oratories in west Wales before settling at Nevern near Newport, Pembrokeshire in about 540 AD.

Brynach is said to have spent hours in prayer communing with angels on Carn Ingli, the 'mountain of angels' that rises above Nevern, and having a close relationship with nature, even being able to speak with the birds.

Did he visit our area, establishing a hermitage just outside Cowbridge? We don't know; Llanfrynach is certainly an early Celtic Christian foundation, but it could have been established by a follower of St Brynach.

If you watched *Songs of Praise* on the Sunday before St David's Day you will have seen Luke Evans singing *You raise me up* on the cliff top at Nash Point, but also St Brynach's Church, Nevern, recently restored and now its peal of six bells ringing again after being silent for nearly 100 years. In the churchyard is a 600 year old 'bleeding' yew, from which oozes red sap, the tree said to be weeping for the crucifixion of Christ. Older is a fine high 10th century cross with intricate Celtic knotwork, one of the finest in Wales. Two other simpler stones date back to the time of Brynach's oratory, on one of which is Irish ogham lettering.

Philip Morris

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

The meaning of Easter

The facts of Easter are easily told. Jesus, with his followers, the disciples, came to Jerusalem and started to preach. The Jewish authorities saw him as a threat to their power and sought to eliminate him. They bribed Judas Iscariot to betray him, and this he did. The Roman governor, Pontius Pilate recognised that whatever he did would be wrong and took the easy way out by allowing the Jews to deal with him. Jesus was first humiliated, tortured,



and then nailed to a cross and crucified - the Roman, barbaric and agonising method of execution.



Many criminals received the same fate, indeed two were crucified at the same time as Jesus, but this occasion was significantly different. Jesus died and was buried. The disciples thought that their mission had failed but were astonished when Jesus appeared among them three days later, alive and well. He continued to teach them and prepare them for their ministry, which was to spread the word to all peoples, Jews and Gentiles alike. This

then is the great significance of Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar. Jesus knew from the outset that he was going to die. He also knew what the manner of his death was going to be and did not shrink from doing what God, His Father, wanted Him to do. He could easily have voided all the pain suffering. This was his sacrifice. That he his only Son to die that we, mankind, come to him. It world, that we We celebrate His resurrection.



He had and God's allowed in order might was his gift to us, the might come to eternal life. Jesus' life, His death, and



Holy Week 2023

Sunday 2nd April PALM SUNDAY

- 8.00am Holy Eucharist @ St Illtud's, Llantwit Major
8.00am On-line service from St James', Wick
9.00am Communion @ St Tathan, St Athan
9.30am Holy Eucharist @ Ewenny Priory Church
11.00am Holy Eucharist @ St Michael's, Llanmihangel
9.30am Holy Eucharist @ St Illtud's (in person & online)
11.00am Holy Eucharist @ St Bridget's, St Brides Major
11.00am Holy Eucharist @ St James', Wick
11.00am Communion @ St Cattwg's, Llanmaes
11.15am Holy Eucharist @ St Donat's Church
6.00pm Holy Eucharist @ Holy Trinity, Marcross

The blessing of Palms reminds us of Jesus entering Jerusalem, when people waved palm branches and spread their coats on the road to welcome the King...just a few days later, the same people shouted for the 'king' to be crucified!

Monday in Holy Week (3rd April)

- 12.00pm Holy Eucharist @ St Cattwg's, Llanmaes

Tuesday in Holy Week (4th April)

- 6.30pm Holy Eucharist @ St Mary's, Monknash

Wednesday in Holy Week (5th April)

- 10.00am Holy Eucharist @ St Illtud's, Llantwit Major
11.00am Holy Eucharist @ St Tathan, St Athan
3.00pm Holy Eucharist @ All Saint's, Southerndown

Maundy Thursday (6th April)

- 10.00am Chrism Mass @ Llandaff Cathedral
7.00pm Holy Eucharist @ Ewenny Priory
8.00pm Holy Eucharist & Foot Washing @ St Illtud's,
followed by The Watch of the Passion
(until 10.00pm)

The worship on Maundy Thursday remembers Jesus celebrating the Last Supper with his disciples, before he washed their feet, reminding them to serve one another. We spend some time at the end of the formal worship, remembering that Jesus asked his disciples to wait, watch and pray, the night before he was crucified.

Easter Services

Good Friday (7th April)

- 10.00am** Good Friday Worship for Families @ St Illtud's
- 10.00am** Stations of the Cross @ St James', Wick
- 11.00am** Stations of the Cross @ St Michael's, Llanmihangel
- 12.00pm** An Hour at the Cross @ St Bridget's
- 12.15pm** Good Friday Liturgy @ St Illtud's
- 2.00pm** 'Walk of Witness' starting at St Tathan Church

On Good Friday, the drama begins in earnest! The various services remember The Way of the Cross – the journey of Jesus from his trial to his death on the Cross. As we stop along the way at 'stations', we pause for a moment to remember the different people and events that took place. The worship on Good Friday is stark, with little of the music and ceremony that we're used to... but the message is stark. Jesus Christ gave his life on the Cross, opening his arms in an embrace of love for the world.

Holy Saturday (8th April)

- 8.00pm** The Easter Vigil @ St Illtud's

Holy Saturday sees the lighting of the Easter Candle, representing the Light of Christ bringing light to the whole world. Our worship moves from darkness to light, with music and celebration that Jesus Christ has risen from the dead!

Sunday 9th April – EASTER DAY

- 8.00am** Holy Eucharist @ St Illtud's, Llantwit Major
- 8.00am** On-line service from St James', Wick
- 9.00am** Holy Eucharist @ St Tathan, St Athan
- 9.30am** Holy Eucharist @ Ewenny Priory Church
- 9.30am** Holy Eucharist @ Gileston
- 9.30am** Morning Prayer @ St Mary's, Monknash
- 9.30am** Holy Eucharist @ St Illtud's (in person & online)
- 11.00am** Holy Eucharist @ Llanmaes
- 11.00am** Holy Eucharist @ St Bridget's, St Brides Major
- 11.00am** Holy Eucharist @ St James', Wick
- 11.15am** Eucharist @ St Donat's

Easter is a celebration of God's love for the world. Our churches are filled with flowers and our worship reflects a message of hope and good news to the whole world: Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Mother Does Know Best!!

The Post Office conducted a poll specially for Mothering Sunday, otherwise known as Mothers' Day. They found that while children up to the age of 16 thought that they knew better than their parents and acted accordingly, the position was reversed when they had reached 26. By this time, possibly being parents themselves, over 60% had come to realise that the advice they had been given by their mothers was not only sensible, but that they gave the same advice themselves. Here are 20 Mothers' sayings which they quoted, plus one which I think ought to be there.

- Treat other people as you would like to be treated yourself.
- Family comes first.
- Sometimes, life isn't fair.
- If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all.
- A little kindness goes a long way.
- Work hard.
- Know when to say sorry.
- Look after the pence and the pounds will look after themselves.
- Don't mix whites and darks in the wash.
- Never go to bed on an argument.
- Don't wash your dirty linen in public.
- A tidy house is a tidy mind.
- Watch your P's and Q's.
- Everything in moderation.
- Always eat your greens.
- Don't live in the past.
- Don't put your coat on 'til you get outside, or you won't feel the benefit.
- Don't burn your bridges.
- Always make your bed.
- Always send a 'thank-you note after receiving a present.
- As you make your bed so you must lie in it.

Listen to your Mum!

ES

Life has its own hidden forces, which you can only discover by living.



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Jane Hutt

Member 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
byderon neu os oes angen help arnoch.

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