#### Church News / Notices.

The next meeting of the MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL

Takes place at 7.00pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in Pontlottyn in S. Tyfaelog's Church Hall.

Church groups and Community groups – what's on!	
Mothers' Union	Mothers' Union

Community Dance Group

Meet each Monday at 10.30am at St. Margaret's Church. *All are welcome!!* 

Bargoed Community Choir.

We meet each Thursday, during term time, at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach – 10.00 to 11.30 am.. All are welcome!!

Everyone is welcome to join us for any of our groups and social meetings.



# DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

www.parishofgelligaer.org.uk (scan the QR Code)
Parish of Gelligaer Facebook page

llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk / churchinwales.org.uk

SUNDAY 12th JANUARY 2025 - THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST - EPIPHANY 1



S. Catwq

## District of Gelligaer

S. Margaret

We are a welcoming Christian community serving the people of the District of Gelligaer.

Priest: Fr Gary Powell

Reader: Carolyn Corbín

Dear friends,

I hope that you are all well and that you have all had a good week. We extend a warm welcome to everyone. Please join us for worship. Please keep this newsletter and see our parish website and parish Facebook page which for information of our weekly services and forthcoming events and devotional aids.

This week we entered the season of Epiphany and today we celebrate the Baptism of Christ. Throughout this season, the season of the Revelation of Christ Jesus, whose birth we celebrated two weeks ago, is revealed to the world as the Messiah, the Son of God. Today we see Jesus begin his public ministry as God proclaims him, "My Son!" We are called to join Jesus in his ministry and continue his work in our own community today so that God may proclaim of us, "These are my children!"

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell

### Worship Through the Week.

S. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer:

Sunday 11.00am Sung Eucharist Thursday 10.00am Holy Eucharist S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach:

Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist Wednesday 10.00am Holy Eucharist

Everyone is welcome to join us for worship during the week and our social groups and meetings. Further details on the back of this newsletter.

Priest: Fr Gary Powell, The Rectory, Church Road, Gelligaer, CF82 8FW
Telephone: 01443 832119 / Email: GaryPowell@cinw.org.uk
Please do not hesitate to contact Fr Gary in the event of sickness or other need.
For enquires regarding Baptisms and weddings or spiritual guidance please contact Fr Gary.
We are here to help.

'Taff Rhymney Ministry Area registered as charitable incorporated organisation in England & Wales.
Registered Charity No. 1208522

Principal Office: The Vicarage, Cedar Way, Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7DR.

## The Liturgy of the Word.

**Collect:** Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant that we who are born again by water and the Spirit may rejoice to be called your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

### Readings, Psalm and Gospel for Today.

#### A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

43. 1-7

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 29

Response: May the Lord bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendour. **(R)** 

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful;

the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. (R)

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. **(R)** 

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. (R)

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, 'Glory!' (R)

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.

May the Lord give strength to his people!

May the Lord bless his people with peace

#### A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

8. 14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## The Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke 3. 15-17, 21-22 Glory to you, O Lord.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.