

Church News / Notices.

Christmas Party and Prize Draw 2022

This year's Prize Draw will take place at the Christmas Party in Neuadd St Catwg Hall on Friday 13th December at 7.00pm.
Everyone is welcome!

Family show at Neuadd St. Catwg's

Come along to Neuadd St Catwg Community Hall, Gelligaer on Thursday, 19th December at 6.00pm for a family Christmas show The Christmas Elves. Tickets are £5 adults, £3 Child/over 60's or £10 Family of four, available from Carolyn on 07983 677360. Starts at 6.00pm, would be lovely to see you there.
All are welcome!

Dates for December

A Candle to Remember

3.00pm Sunday 15th December, S. Catwg's Church

6.00pm Wednesday 18th December, S. Margaret's Church

Carols By Candlelight

A service of Nine Lessons and Carols

6.00pm Sunday 22nd December, S. Catwg's Church

Church groups and Community groups – what's on!

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union hold their **Monthly Meeting** at 7.00pm on Tuesday 3rd December in St. Margaret's Church.

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union hold their **Monthly Coffee Morning** at 10.30am on Tuesday 17th December in St. Margaret's Church.

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.



Scan to view our website

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

www.parihofgelligaer.org.uk (scan the QR Code)
Parish of Gelligaer Facebook page
llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk / churchinwales.org.uk

SUNDAY 8th December 2024 - THE SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT



S. Catwg

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 Corbin

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 continue our journey through the season of Advent. Throughout this season we reflect on the growing relationship between God and his people revealed in the scriptures of the Old Testament leading to the time when God came and lived among us in the person of our Saviour Jesus Christ. This week we think of the prophets, those great men and women, who spoke the Word of God to the people of Israel, urging them to remain faithful to the ways of God revealed to Moses, that they might live under his protection and enjoy his good providence. They have much to teach us today.

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.

The Liturgy of the Word.

Collect: Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings, Psalm and Gospel for Today.

A reading from the book of Malachi

3. 1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle: Benedictus (Luke 1. 68-79)

Response: He has raised up for us a mighty saviour.

'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David, (R)

as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant, (R)

the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days. (R)

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins. (R)

By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.' (R)

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

1. 3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke

3. 1-6

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.