

Church News / Notices.

# The Feast of the Epiphany

We will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany and the Visit of the Magi as a Ministry Area with a

**United Sung Eucharist**  
to be held at 7.00pm  
in S. John's Church, Nelson  
tomorrow (Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January).

*This will be the last Ministry Area Service for Fr Stuart and everyone is warmly encouraged to attend as we grow together as a Ministry Area and as we say goodbye and give our best wishes to Fr Stuart as he prepares to take up his new role in Dafen in the Diocese of St. Davids.*

**THE DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL**  
will meet next at 7.00pm  
on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
at S. Margaret's Church

**Church groups and Community groups – what's on!**

<i>Mothers' Union</i>	<i>Mothers' Union</i>
<b>Community Dance Group</b> Meet each Monday at 10.30am at St. Margaret's Church. <b>All are welcome!!</b>	<b>Bargoed Community Choir.</b> We meet each Thursday, during term time, at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach – 10.00 to 11.30 am.. <b>All are welcome!!</b>
<i>Everyone is welcome to join us for any of our groups and social meetings.</i>	



Scan to view our website

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

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

SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025 - THE SECOND SUNDAY of CHRISTMAS



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.

Today we continue to celebrate the miracle of the Incarnation. The Word has been made flesh and lives among us. On Monday this week we enter the season of Epiphany as we celebrate the visit of the Magi to the child Jesus. As the Magi come into the presence of Jesus we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles revealing that he is to be the Saviour of all. Throughout this season, the truth of Jesus the Messiah is gradually revealed to us in the words of scripture as we celebrate the dawning of the Light of the World and the hope he brings.

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell

**Worship Through the Week.**

<b>S. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer:</b> Sunday 11.00am Sung Eucharist Thursday 10.00am Holy Eucharist	<b>S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach:</b> Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist Wednesday 10.00am Holy Eucharist
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*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](mailto: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:** Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; 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 Jeremiah**

**31. 7-14**

For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.' See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock. For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 147. 12-20      Response: It is good to sing praises to our God.**

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!  
Praise your God, O Zion!  
For he strengthens the bars of your gates;  
he blesses your children within you. **(R)**

He grants peace within your borders;  
he fills you with the finest of wheat.  
He sends out his command to the earth;  
his word runs swiftly. **(R)**

He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.  
He hurls down hail like crumbs— who can stand before his cold?  
He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow,  
and the waters flow. **(R)**

He declares his word to Jacob,  
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.  
He has not dealt thus with any other nation;  
they do not know his ordinances. Praise the Lord! **(R)**

#### **A reading from letter of S. Paul to the Ephesians**

**1. 3-14**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **The Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### **Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John**

**1. 10-18**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**