

Church News / Notices.

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!

"A CANDLE TO REMEMBER"

We offer the opportunity to remember our departed loved ones at Christmas with a special service of prayer and reflection and the invitation to light a candle in remembrance of loved ones.

St. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer: Sunday, 15th December. 3.00pm
St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach: Wednesday, 18th December 6.00pm

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Our annual carol service takes place in St. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer on Sunday 22nd December at 6.00pm

CHRISTMAS HOLY EUCHARIST

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eucharist 'Early Midnight Mass' – St. Catwg's - 7.00pm
Christmas Eucharist – St. Margaret's - 10.00pm

Christmas Day

St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach: 25th December 9.00am
St. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer: 25th December 10.00am

Church groups and Community groups – what's on!

Mothers' Union

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

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.



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 15th December 2024 - THE THIRD 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.

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell

I hope that I find you well. This week has been busy with school concerts, carol services and recording the children playing their Christmas music for the families to see and hear via the schools media platform. To see the smiles on the children's faces as they prepare to perform is priceless. As our lead up to Christmas continues, this week we have our Candle to Remember Services which allow us to remember all who have died in the past year and also allows everyone the opportunity to light in candle in memory of a family member, friend or neighbour.

I hope everyone has a peaceful and blessed week.

Carolyn

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: O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings, Psalm and Gospel for Today.

A reading from the book of Zephaniah 3. 14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146. 5-10

Response: I will praise the Lord, I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea,
and all that is in them;
who keeps faith for ever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry. **(R)**

The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous. **(R)**

The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. **(R)**

The Lord will reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
O, praise the Lord! **(R)**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

4. 4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

.This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke

3. 7-18

Glory to you, O Lord.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' 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.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.