

**Church News / Notices.**

***Palm Crosses***

Ash Wednesday this year falls on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. If you have any palm crosses at home could you please return them to Church by **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**, so that they can be burnt to produce the ash with which we will be anointed on Ash Wednesday.

***Social Committee AGM***

Social club AGM meeting on **February 19<sup>th</sup>** at St. Margaret's at 11.30am.

***Cawl Evening***

Our Cawl evening will be held on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** at Neuadd St. Catwg's at 7pm. Tickets are £7.00 and will be available in both churches!

*All are welcome to both events. Thank you.*

**The next meeting of the  
AREA DEANERY CONFERENCE**

takes place at 7.00pm on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025** at St. Luke's Church, Rhydyfelin.

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

<i>Mothers' Union</i>	<i>Mothers' Union</i>
<i>Community Dance Group</i> Meet each Monday at 10.30am at St. Margaret's Church. <b>All are welcome!!</b>	<i>Bargoed Community Choir.</i> 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)

**St. Catwg**

**District of Gelligaer**

**St. Margaret**

**SUNDAY 16th February 2025 -  
THE THIRD SUNDAY  
before LENT**



*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 everyone is well and had a pleasant week. In this week's Gospel, Jesus presented the objective facts about the Kingdom of God. But those facts, like a good newspaper, can have the affect of comforting the afflicted, and afflicting the comfortable. As we move forward through the week, let us think of our journey of faith.

Take care

**Carolyn**

**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:** O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ your Son 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 the prophet Jeremiah 17. 5-10**

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

'This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 1.**

#### **Response: The Lord watches over the way of the righteous**

Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law they meditate day and night. (R)

They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.  
The wicked are not so. (R)

They are like chaff  
that the wind drives away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish. (R)

#### **A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 15. 12-20**

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. 19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### **Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke 6. 17-26.**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

'This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**