

# St. Peter's - Machynlleth

## Parish Magazine

February 2012



St. Peter's Church - Machynlleth  
St. Cadfrach Church - Penegoes  
St. Ust & Dyfrig Church - Llanwrin

**MACHYNLLETH, LLANWRIN & PENEGOES  
GWASANAETHU'R SUL/SUNDAY SERVICES**

**Chwefror 5 February      Cyflwyno Crist/The Presentation of  
Christ**

- 8.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**9.30 a.m.**      **Y Cymun Bendigaid/ Holy Eucharist (Llanwrin)**  
**11.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**3.00 p.m.**      Y Cymun Bendigaid

**Chwefror 12 February      Ail Sul cyn y Garawys  
Second Sunday before Lent**

- 8.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**9.30 a.m.**      Y Cymun Bendigaid/ Holy Eucharist (Penegoes)  
**11.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist

**Chwefror 19 February      Sul o flaen y Garawys  
The Sunday before Lent**

- 8.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**9.30 a.m.**      Y Cymun Bendigaid/ Holy Eucharist (Llanwrin)  
**9.30 a.m.**      Trefniant Lleol (Penegoes)  
**11.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**3.00 p.m.**      Gosber

**Chwefror 26 February      Garawys 1 Lent**

- 8.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**9.30 a.m.**      **Y Cymun Bendigaid**  
**11.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**11.00 a.m.**      Y Cymun Bendigaid/ Holy Eucharist (Penegoes)

**Mawrth 4 March      Garawys 2 Lent**

- 8.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**9.30 a.m.**      **Y Cymun Bendigaid/ Holy Eucharist (Llanwrin)**  
**11.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**3.00 p.m.**      Y Cymun Bendigaid

**Chwefror 22 February: Dydd Mercher y Lludw/Ash  
Wednesday**

- 10 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**7 p.m.**      Gosber/Evening Prayer

## *ST PETER'S LADIES FELLOWSHIP*



The first meeting of 2012 was the annual dinner held at Maengwyn Cafe when 18 members and friends sat down to a delicious meal. Mrs Muriel Evans welcomed every one and the Rev'd Kathleen said the grace. Following the meal the "little grey cells" were put to the test with a quiz devised by Mrs Helen Blayney followed by games of Bingo arranged by Will and Bronwen Jones. Raffle prizes were distributed bringing a very enjoyable evening to a close. Mrs Muriel Evans thanked those who arranged the evening and Mrs Shirley Humphreys and her staff for their warm welcome and good food.

The next meeting will be on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 1.30 p.m. at the Parish Office when the speaker will be Sam Saville from the Centre for Alternative Technology. Also at this meeting a cheque will be presented to Beacon of Hope Charity following our service of Carols by Candle-light. All are very warmly welcome.

## *UNDEB Y MAMAU / MOTHERS' UNION*



The first meeting of 2012 was held at the Parish Office on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. The service was conducted by the enrolling member - Mrs. Joyce Price. The reader was Mrs. Gwenda Price and the organist was Mrs. Margaret Hughes. Apologies were received from Rev.d Kathleen, Mrs. Anne Armstrong and Mrs. Angela Jones. The enrolling member thanked everyone who had taken part in the Christmas services and wished everyone a Happy New Year. She then gave us the following important dates for our diaries:-

- 1 - Wave of Prayer service - Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> 10am in church
- 2 - Women's World Day of Prayer - Fri. 2<sup>nd</sup> March at St.Mair's Catholic Church  
2pm
- 3 - M.U. Retreat - Loretto Retreat Centre - Llandudno - March 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>
- 4 - Lady Day service - March 28<sup>th</sup> -10 a.m in Church
- 5 -Spring Council in Dolgellau - April 17<sup>th</sup> -10.30 a.m

6 - M.U. General Meeting -Llandudno on June 16th. Tickets are £8-50 each and must be ordered from the Treasurer as soon as possible.

Five church members are now in Cartref Dyfi and M.U. members are asked to visit them whenever possible.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Liz Johns, who shared with us her hobby of perusing wills and inventories from the 16th century onwards in her native Lancashire, to discover how people lived at that time. Money was rarely mentioned as people bartered their goods. In 1850 the State took over probate from the Church, and married women could not make wills until the Married Women's property act of 1882. Mrs. Johns was thanked by Mrs. Ann Humphreys for a most interesting talk. The tea hostesses were Mrs. Margaret Hughes and Mrs. Gwenda Price. Members are reminded that subs. are now due and should be paid to the treasurer A.S.A.P. The next meeting is on Feb. 16th. M.H.

If you have any unwanted knitting wool the Mothers' Union can make use of it – please give to Mrs Joyce Price or other M.U. Officials.

### *CHRISTINGLE SERVICE*



The Christingle Service was held at St Peter's on Sunday evening the 8<sup>th</sup> January and much enjoyed by all. Miss Abigail Fletcher read the first English reading and Mrs Siân Calban the Welsh reading. Mrs Joyce Price led the prayers. The Rev'd Kathleen helped by Mr Ken Searson distributed the Christingles. The Church looked and sounded exquisite as the Christingles twinkled in the darkness while the congregation sang a Christingle song. The collection, amounting to £, was donated to the Archbishop of Wales' Fund for Children. The organist was Mrs Margaret Hughes.

## *OBITURIES*

The New Year brought news of the deaths of two well known Machynlleth people Miss Jenny Lewis, Milford House, Maengwyn Street passed away suddenly at Bronglais Hospital on 29<sup>th</sup> December and

Mr Archie Fleming, 10 Treowain, passed away at The Old Vicerage Nursing Home, Gobowen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

Mr Archie Fleming's funeral service took place at St Peter's Church on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January led by the Rev'd Kathleen. Mr Gwyn Fleming read a fitting tribute on behalf of the family. Archie was born in Machynlleth and had lived and worked for most of his 90 years in the town as a train driver, a job he loved and never lost interest in. He greatly missed the steam engines – he epitomised the belief that "steam was king". Archie was a true friend to many people and would willingly give help wherever it was needed. He served for many years in the St John Ambulance and was admitted in the Order of St John as Serving Brother for his dedicated service. Archie was well known character of the town and will be sadly missed. Donations in fond memory of Archie were gratefully received towards St Peter's Church.

Miss Jenny Lewis' funeral service took place at St Peter's on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> January. The Rev'd Kathleen read a short tribute to Jenny on behalf of the family. Jenny had lived all her life in Machynlleth; she was a fiercely independent lady with a strong Christian faith and it was these two things together that gave her the strength of character to stay in her own home right to the end of her life. Jenny was a faithful communicant at St Peter's and an active member of the community for many years until her health prevented her from attending services and events but her strong support continued. She welcomed taking her communion at home and gained strength and courage from it.

Donations in fond memory of Jenny were gratefully received towards St Peter's Church.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> January Mr Syd Thomas, 35, Cae Crwn, Machynlleth, passed away suddenly at home aged 92. His funeral service took

place at St Peter's on the 26<sup>th</sup> January led by the Rev'd Kathleen. He and his brothers were well known and respected bakers and businessmen in Machynlleth for many years. Syd was a very talented footballer in his youth playing for Fulham and Wales and took great interest in the town football team for many years. He was the subject of a recent book by Mr David Wyn Davies. Donations in fond memory of him were gratefully received towards St Peter's Church.

Machynlleth has lost three long standing members of the community but they have left behind a great many memories, both good and bad. We give thanks for their lives and commend them into God's loving care.

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace  
And rise in Glory.

We extend our sincere sympathies to

Mr Terry Horner, Mrs Elizabeth and Miss Jenny Lewis' nephew and nieces in their loss

Mr & Mrs Gordon Fleming and Mr Stan Fleming and all the family of Mr Archie Fleming.

Mrs Ivy Thomas, Clive & Helena Thomas and all the family of Mr Syd Thomas.

We pray that all who have lost someone dear will find comfort and strength knowing that our loving and faithful God is always near at hand to support us and love us when the days are dark and the future seems bleak; in the good times and the bad He is always there.

### *PARISH REGISTERS*

**Burial: Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest**

January 9<sup>th</sup> Mr Archie Fleming, 10, Treowain, Machynlleth

January 17<sup>th</sup> Mrs Constance Mary Smith, 22, Cae Crwn  
Machynlleth

**Burial of ashes**

January 30<sup>th</sup> Mr Philip Dowse, 8, Brickfield Street, Machynlleth  
Town Cemetery

### SICKNESS

We send our love and prayers to all who have been ill in any way over the New Year, especially those who have had to spend the Christmas period in hospital. We also remember those who have had to leave their homes to move into residential care this last month; Mrs Dilys Smith-Jones and Miss Myra Humphreys.

*Loving and gracious Lord,  
we bring before you all who are struggling at this time.  
We ask your presence to bring them comfort and hope,  
That they may know your love and care, through Jesus Christ our  
Lord.*

### DONATIONS

The following donations were gratefully received towards St Peter's church funds

Rod Cross & Home Communion.....£16.60  
Mr & Mrs Barry Smith  
in memory of Mrs Connie Smith.....£100.

### THE VERY FIRST VALENTINE CARD A LEGEND

The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could - until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison awaiting

execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer. The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14 February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.'

So the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers.

## *ASH WEDNESDAY* *A GOOD TIME TO SAY YOU ARE SORRY*

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you:

*'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)*

*'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55.7)*

*'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.' (Joel 2:12-13)*

God is inviting you to come to him this Ash Wednesday. What a wonderful offer! Make the most of it, and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father. The Collect for Ash Wednesday is:

*Almighty and everlasting God,  
You hate nothing that you have made  
And forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts*

*That we, worthily lamenting our sins  
And acknowledging our wretchedness,  
May receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
Perfect remission and forgiveness;  
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 forever.*

30, Tregarth,  
Machynlleth.

Dear Friends,

Ash Wednesday on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February sees the beginning of Lent and our time to settle down after the hustle and bustle of Christmas and the New Year and the realisation of just how much we did spend although we thought we had decided not to!! This time of Lent when we can look back at our lives and the misgivings we have about things we did and maybe we shouldn't have done and the things we didn't do and now regret not doing them; a time of realisation of how strong the temptations are that steer us from the direction in which we know we should be going and just how difficult they are to resist. These things, of course, we should be doing every day but Lent gives us the focus of Christ in the wilderness and his own struggles with the temptations of life.

We are pleased to welcome the Reverend Peter Ward, NSM Curate in Bro Ddyfi Uchaf, to our Lent Services at St Peter's this year, who will give a series of reflections for Lent which will start on Ash Wednesday evening and every following Wednesday in Lent at 7pm. Over the last few months I have been having quite in-depth conversations with a number of people on the good and bad qualities of "Facebook". The internet has taken over our lives whether we like it or not, and I do use it a great deal, but I have never been a fan of Facebook or Twitter or any of the other of the social networking sites. In my opinion they are too intrusive, there is far too much personal information given out, it is a means of spreading gossip and malice and I could go on and on. BUT (there has always got to be a BUT) I read an article in the Church Times this morning (by Peter Graystone) that has started me thinking. During Epiphany the gospels tell the story of how Jesus' first

followers told their friends about how Jesus had changed their lives and the epistles are about relationships and immorality, subjects very pertinent to our world today. Every Christian is called to spread the gospel wherever and to whoever they can at every opportunity. The writer pointed out that millions of people log onto Facebook every minute of the day – real people, with real lives, making real relationships – Christians have the ideal opportunity via these sites to evangelise, in Peter Graystones words, “Twitter, on which people make public every action and opinion, is no place to be private about prayer and faith”.

I am not quite ready to start a Facebook account but this article has made me think and maybe I do need to move into this online world and not just watch from the sidelines.

What are your opinions? Let me know.

With every blessing to you and yours

Kathleen

