

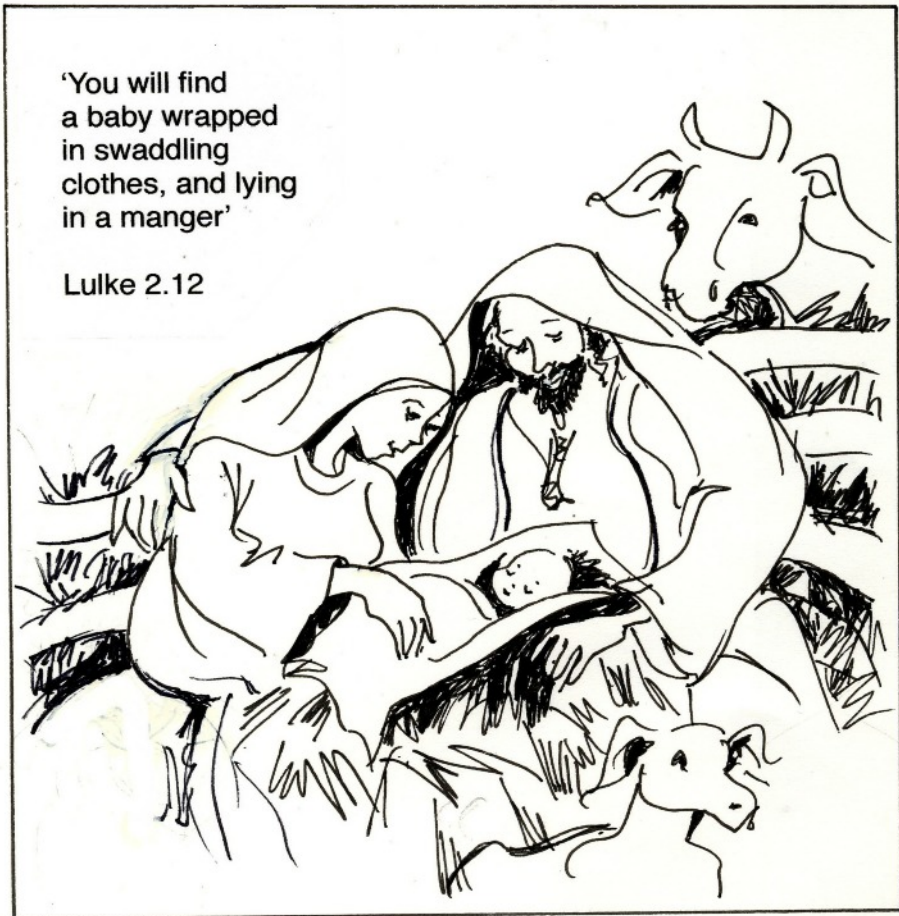
CYLCHGRAWN MISOL MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Rhagfyr/December 2014

50c/50p

'You will find
a baby wrapped
in swaddling
clothes, and lying
in a manger'

Lulke 2.12



**Bro
Cyfeiliog a Mawddwy**

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world." Luke 2. v.1

With these unlikely and inauspicious words, Luke begins his narrative of the birth of Jesus. Not for Christ a comfortable delivery at home amongst family. - Granny supervising the birth, Joseph anxiously waiting outside, pacing up and down, the expectant father hoping for a son. No this is a birth under a cloud, an embarrassment, a child conceived out of wedlock.

"Census in Bethlehem, ah, now here's an opportunity to conceal a difficult truth. A few weeks away from prying eyes. Come on Mary, wrap yourself up warm, we have to go!"

Now if only God could have organised a safe birth, everything sweetness and light, warm and cosy. Why all this awkwardness, this danger in a far away village in the middle of winter? We may have created a beautiful nativity story, I doubt it felt very cosy for Mary. But her child, the baby Jesus, is to be the source of salvation, of grace to all humanity. He is one with all the suffering children of this world, he feels the pain, he loves and gives value to **every child**. As on the cross, Jesus allows himself to be naked and vulnerable: his power is demonstrated through apparent weakness, he gives himself in unconditional love. The Son of God, born in a lowly stable.

"Glory to God in the highest

and on earth peace....." Luke 2.v.14

The angels sing, the shepherds adore, the Wisemen bring gifts and praise. Let the whole world rejoice for Christ is with us.

Roland Barnes

Gwasanaethu'r Nadolig Christmas Services

NOSWYL NADOLIG/CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00 p.m. Crib Service (**Machynlleth**)
11.30 p.m. Holy Eucharist (**Machynlleth**)

NADOLIG CRIST/CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (**Machynlleth**)
9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Llanwrin**)
9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Corris**)



Undeb y Mamau/ Mothers Union.

Twelve members met at the Parish Office on Nov. 20th for our monthly meeting. The enrolling member led the service. Mrs. Gwenda Price read the lesson and the organist was Mrs. Margaret Hughes. Apologies were received from Mrs. Ann Armstrong, Mrs. Ann Humphries, Mrs. Marilyn Jones and Mrs. Alice Hughes. A letter has been received from the British Legion thanking for the window display in the Parish Office prior to Remembrance Sunday. Three members are going to Council and will be taking the knitted items and toiletries. Mrs. Joyce Price thanked everyone for their contributions. From now on, M.U members attaining the age of 90 will receive a card from Mary Sumner House. Also those celebrating 50,60 or 70 years of marriage.

The Bishop's Fun Day will be held in Machynlleth in 2015, on the 9th May. £420 was raised at the Christian Aid coffee morning towards the Ebola Fund, and another one will be held on 10th Dec. towards Church Funds. On 29th Nov. the town Christmas Lights will be switched on at 6.00pm by the Clock, followed by a candlelit procession to St. Peter's for mince pies and mulled wine.

The speaker was Mrs. Ann Jones - Social Policy Coordinator from Bangor who gave an excellent, thought-provoking talk on modern day slavery, domestic violence, and child-rearing. The M.U is holding a silent vigil at the clock on Wed. 3rd Dec. from 10.00am - 12.00pm to raise awareness of domestic violence. The speaker was thanked by Mrs. Joyce Price. The tea hostesses were Mrs. Gwenda Price and Mrs. Roberta Williams.

The next meeting is our Annual Carol Service in Church on Dec.18th at 11.00 am followed by Christmas Lunch at the Wildfowler, Tre'rddol. Each member is asked to bring a raffle prize.

M.H.



Undeb y Mamau/ Mothers Union.

On Saturday 22nd November the Autumn Council was held at Eglwys y Groes, Maesgeirchen, Bangor. After coffee a service was held in Church for the old and new "Wave of Prayers" overseas link.

The meeting was chaired by the Diocesan President Mrs Carol Cooper. Mrs Joyce Price was given an opportunity to promote the "Silent Vigil" to be held in Machynlleth on the 3rd December. We hear so much about abuse in the media these days, that I took it on board and decided we should be doing something to raise awareness of what sort of world we live in. There's domestic abuse, usually behind closed doors, the victims too afraid to seek help, there's verbal abuse, financial abuse, child abuse, we could go on and on.

This is a bold campaign and needs a bold response. So to try and make an impact, please wear something yellow and purple all day on December 3rd, to show your support for this worthwhile cause.

The MU has a range of projects both in the UK and Worldwide and all have a part to play in ending gender abuse.

Following the vigil at 12:00 pm there will be prayers and coffee at the Parish Office. Please come along and join in our prayers for the victims, perpetrator's and indeed all members of the MU around the world, especially the Bangor Dioceses members trying to make a difference.

JP



THE LADIES FELLOWSHIP.

Mrs Muriel Evans welcomed members to the meeting and led a short service, Alice Hughes was the reader. There has been very positive feedback from the Harvest Supper with everyone having enjoyed the evening.

The guest speaker this month was Rab Jones who spoke about the names on our War Memorial in Machynlleth concentrating on those who died in the 1st World War. Research into these men and the part they played in the war was very interesting and is ongoing. The ancestors of many of the men still live in the Machynlleth area. The Rev Kathleen thanked Rab for a very interesting talk and for the reminder that these "names" were young men with lives and families in this town.

The tea hostesses were Dorothy Edwards and Alice Hughes.

BLODAU'R ALLOR EGLWYS PLWYF MACHYNLLETH.PARISH CHURCH ALTAR GUILD.

Rhagfyr 7/14/21 Dec: Advent no flowers.

Rhagfyr 24 Dec: Mothers Union Christmas

Rhagfyr 28: Mothers Union Christmas

St Peter's Plodders Christmas Dinner.

Our Annual Christmas Dinner will be held at the Plas Macynlleth on Thursday 11 March at 7;00 pm. (Bring your own drinks) Those of you who have the menu, could you please return them to either Clive or Helena with your choices. Whilst the dinner is for those members of the Plodder's, anyone wishing to join us is more than welcome. Again contact Clive or Helena for a menu.

As we go through Advent towards Christmas and the celebrations of the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, we remember all those for whom Christmas is not a time of celebration but a time of loneliness, sadness and desolation. We pray for the homeless, the sick, the grieving, those deprived of love and care. We pray that God will keep them in His love and mercy.

If you would like to receive Communion at home or you know of anyone who would like to receive communion please let the Rev Kathleen or the Rev Roland know.

The Reverend Canon Kath would like to wish everyone a peaceful and Happy Christmas and thank everyone for their support and help throughout the year. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

Prayer for Christmas Presence

Generous Father,

At this busy time of year, help us to remember the important things. In all the rush of sending cards and giving presents may we make time to be still, to acknowledge your sending and giving of the greatest gift of all, Jesus. Thank you that he didn't stay in the stable in Bethlehem, but lived and died and became the Saviour of all who put their trust in him. May we receive afresh the gift of your presence with us in Jesus, now and forever, with great thankfulness. In his name, we pray. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

CYLCHGRAWN MISOL MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Annual subscriptions are now due for the Church Magazine. The price is £6, would those member's who distribute the magazine please collect the subscriptions. Thank you.

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

Rhagfyr 7 December Adfent 2 Advent

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Corris**)
11.00 a.m. Bilingual Holy Eucharist
2.00 p.m. Gwasanaeth Carolau Adfent (**Llanwrin**)

Rhagfyr 14 December Adfent 3 Advent

9.30 a.m. Advent Praise (**Corris**)
9.30 a.m. Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Penegoes**)
11.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
2.00 p.m. Gosber (**Darowen**)

Rhagfyr 21 December Adfent 4

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9.30 a.m. Boreol Weddi/Morning Prayer (**Llanwrin**)
9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Corris**)
11.00 a.m. Bilingual Holy Eucharist

Rhagfyr 28 December Nadolig 1 Christmas

9.30 a.m. Y Cymun Bendigaid
9.30 a.m. Service of Carols and Readings (**Corris**)
11.00 a.m. Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Penegoes**)
11.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Ionawr 4 January Nadolig 2 Christmas

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Corris**)
9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Llanwrin**)
11.00 a.m. Bilingual Holy Eucharist
5.00 p.m. **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

Every Wednesday

10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

ROTA OF READERS

Rhagfyr 7	December : Adfent 2 Advent
8:00 am	Miss Pru Probert
11:00 am	Mrs Muriel Evans /Capt Richard Lambert
Rhagfyr 14	December : Adfent 3 Advent
11:00 am	Mrs Jeanne Kerridge
Rhagfyr 21	December: Adfent 4 Advent
8:00 am	Mr Ken Searson
11:00 am	Mrs Joyce Price / Mrs Marilyn Brunton
Rhagfyr 24	December:Noswyl Nadolig / Christmas Eve
11:30 pm	Mr Ken Searson
Rhagfyr 25	December:Dydd Nadolig / Christmas Day
8:00 am	Mr Ken Searson
Rhagfyr 28	December :Nadolig 1 Christmas
9:30 am	Mrs Joyce Price
11:00 am	Mr Grahame Cox
Ionawr 4	January: Nadolig 2 Christmas
8:00 am	Miss Pru Probert
11:00 am	Mrs Muriel Evans / Mrs Jeanne Kerridge.

ROTA OF SIDESPERSONS

Rhagfyr 7	December: Adfent 2 Advent
8:00 am	Mr Geraint Davies
11:00 am	Capt Richard Lambert & Mrs Margaret Davies
Rhagfyr 14	December:Adfent 3 Advent
11:00 am	Mrs Muriel Evans / Mrs Margaret Searson
Rhagfyr 21	December: Adfent 4 Advent
8:00 am	Mrs Margaret Vince
11:00 am	Mrs Gwenda Price / Mrs Margaret Davies
Rhagfyr 24	December:Noswyl Nadolig / Christmas Eve
11:30 pm	Mr Henry Holt / Mr Geraint Davies
Rhagfyr 25	December: Dydd Nadolig
8:00 am	Mr Ken Searson
Rhagfyr 28	December: Nadolig 1 Christmas
9:30 am	Mr Emyr Roberts
11.00 am	Mrs Dorothy Edwards/ Mr Elfed Jones
Ionawr 4	January: Nadolig 2 Christmas
8:00 am	Mr Elfyn Rowlands
11:00 am	Mr Henry Holt / Mrs Margaret Davies

A Saint at Christmas

Lord of pots and pans and things,
Since I've not time to be
A saint by doing lovely things,
Or watching late with Thee
Or dreaming in the dawn light
Or storming Heaven's gates,
Make me a saint by getting meals,
And washing up the plates.
Although I must have Martha's hands,
I have a Mary's mind that's free -
And when I clean and cook and care,
It is your face that I see.
I think of how you trod the earth
Each time I scrub the floor,
Accept this meditation Lord,
I haven't time for more

By Klara Munkres (adapted)

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December 6 St Nicholas

The true story of Father Christmas, or Santa Claus, began with a man named Nicholas who was born in the third century in the Greek village of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey. His family was both devout and wealthy, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to use his inheritance to help people. He gave to the needy, the sick, the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to God's service, and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. As a bishop, he joined other bishops and priests in prison under the Emperor Diocletian's fierce persecution of Christians across the Roman Empire.

Finally released, Nicholas was not bitter, but all the more determined to spread abroad the news of God's love. He did so by giving. One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today. There was a poor family with three daughters who needed dowries if they were to marry, and not be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight, and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window – thus saving the girls from a life of misery.

The bags of gold landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. Hence the custom of children hanging out stockings – in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas - on Christmas Eve. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols of St Nicholas.

The example of St Nicholas has never been forgotten - in bygone years boys in Germany and Poland would dress up as bishops on 6th December, and beg alms for the poor. In the Netherlands and Belgium 'St Nicholas' would arrive on a steamship from Spain to ride a white horse on his gift-giving rounds. To this day, 6th December is still the main day for gift-giving and merry-making in much of Europe. Many feel that simple gift-giving in early Advent helps preserve a Christmas Day focus on the Christ Child.



**MINISTRY AREA
CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
ST PETER'S CHURCH
SUNDAY JAN 4th
5.30pm
COLLECTION TO
ARCHBISHOP OF WALES FUND FOR CHILDREN**



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
CORRIS
ADVENT REFLECTIONS and DISCUSSION
TUESDAYS in ADVENT
10am
FOLLOWED by COFFEE at THE INSTITUTE**

Very warm welcome to all.



**ADRAN URDD SANT IOAN
GWASANAETH CAROLAU ADFENT
EGLWYS LLANWRIN
7 RHAGFYR
2PM**



COFFEE MORNING
PARISH OFFICE
10th DECEMBER 10am.
PROCEEDS to ST PETER'S



CAROL SERVICE
ST PETER'S CHURCH
THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER
7.00PM
COLECTION TO CARTREF DYFI



CRIB SERVICE
ST PETER'S
CHRISTMAS EVE at 4pm
and
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CORRIS
at 5.30pm

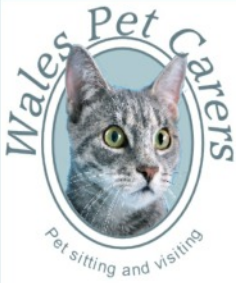


St Peter's Plodders December Walk.

With Christmas and the New Year approaching and the inclement weather this time of year, we have reluctantly decided to cancel walks in December and January. Whilst out walking recently myself, I find the paths and byways treacherous with leaves, mud and water and would hate to lose one of our dedicated Plodders!!!

The November walk was in and around the Ganllwyd/Coed y Brenin area ably led by Ken Searson. I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Ken and Margaret for looking after the Plodders as I was unavoidably absent. The walk is one that had been undertaken by the Diocesan walkers not that long ago, again led by Ken. I was able to join them that day and know full well that the Plodders will have enjoyed the surrounding area, especially this time of year with the Autumn colours. I am reliably informed that no "Gold Nuggets" were found in and around the old Gold Mines for the Church Fund although my wife came home with her rucksack looking decidedly heavy and a big smile.





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