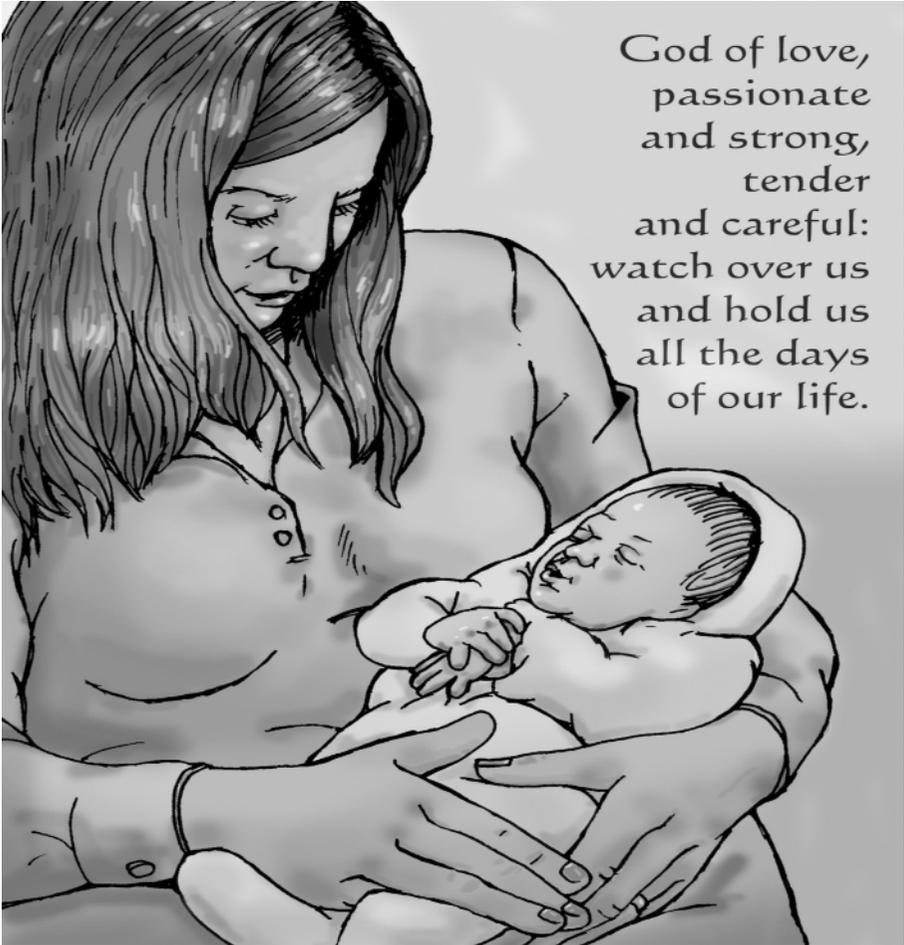


CYLCHGRAWN MISOL MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Mawrth/March 2015

50c/50p



God of love,
passionate
and strong,
tender
and careful:
watch over us
and hold us
all the days
of our life.

**Bro
Cyfeiliog a Mawddwy**

Dear Friends,

As you continue to read this month's magazine you will notice a few changes to the services and church meetings that are a traditional and important part of Lent. Firstly you will notice that our United Mothering Sunday Service will be held at Llanwrin this year, transport will be available for those who need it but please let me or the Church Wardens know.

Secondly each Church has to have a Congregation meeting prior to the Ministry Area AGM in April. I cannot stress enough how important these meetings are to the mission and ministry of each Church and our Ministry Area as a whole and I urge you all to attend the meeting in your Church and make your views known, bring along new ideas, show support for your Ministry Team and the Team Leaders and for all those who are already working very hard.

The Clergy Retreat this year was in Nant Gwrtheyrn on the Llŷn Peninsula – a beautiful place. The theme was "Transforming Landscapes – knowing your place". We were able to reflect on the changing landscape of this former mining village and the people who lived and worked there. How people were changed by the landscape and how the landscape was changed by people. How our own personal landscapes, both physically and spiritually, change and what we do with that. Isn't it lovely to watch the season's change – to watch the signs of spring greet us every morning – we know our place in this familiar landscape. But what about the changing landscape of our Church, our worship, how we "do church"? Do we know our place in this landscape? Our wonderful Creator God continues over and over again to make all things new. As our relationship with God deepens so the landscapes of our souls and minds change. But God is constant, His love is constant, the Good News is the same, our mission as Christians is the same – proclaiming the Good News.

I pray that this Lent God will guide you to discern your place in the story that is evolving around us, that we may all become more aware of His Eternal Presence reaching out to us in love.

With every blessing to you and yours
Kathleen

Lent is a time for reading...

In my 'day job' as an editor for the Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF), I have to publish an annual book of readings for Lent and Easter. Over the years I have worked with a wide range of authors, and enjoyed helping them find a theme for their book so that it will have a different 'feel' from the previous year's volume. The 2015 BRF Lent book, *Reflecting the Glory*, is by Tom Wright, the former Bishop of Durham, who is now Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St Andrews.

Over the years, Tom Wright has written hugely significant books of New Testament scholarship and also many titles aimed at a wide audience, including his 'For Everyone' series of Bible commentaries. It was a great privilege to be his editor for *Reflecting the Glory*, which provides a Bible reading, comment and prayer for every day from Ash Wednesday to Easter (including each day in Easter Week). Focusing on the New Testament epistles of 1 and 2 Corinthians, the book shows how through God's Holy Spirit, we can reveal something of Jesus even at the lowest and weakest points of our lives. No matter how feeble we may feel our faith to be, we can reflect the glory of God's own Son.

Even though Lent is now well underway, it isn't too late to pick up a Lent book (or some other book of spiritual reading) and take a bit of time to ponder what our faith means to us - and how it can be used to touch the lives of others. In the words of Tom Wright: 'The relevance of knowing God in Jesus is that when we love God in Jesus, we discover how that love, that personal love, is given to us in order that it may be given through us.'

Naomi Starkey

ELECTORAL ROLL 2015

The Electoral Roll for each church has to be renewed every five years; those who wish to have their names on the Roll will need to fill out a new form. Forms are available in each church, please return them to the Church Wardens before the end of March.



THE LADIES FELLOWSHIP.

Muriel Evans welcomed members and led a short service, the reader was Maureen Hughes. Minutes for December and January were read and accepted. It was agreed to hold the March meeting at the Plas, where we will have a Cawl lunch to celebrate St David's Day. Our trip in May will be to Ysgwrn, Hedd Wyn's house, details will be available later in March. Our speaker was Jean Preston who gave a talk on traditions at African weddings and celebrations. Jean brought along some native costumes for us to see, which were colourful and mostly hand printed. The tea hostesses were Joan Williams and Maureen Hughes. Muriel thanked them both and especially Jean Preston for a very interesting talk.

Alice Hughes.

Blodau'r Allor Eglwys Blwyf Machnilleth. Parish Church Alter Guild.



Mawrth 1 March: Lent no flowers.
Mawrth 8 March: Lent no flowers.
Mawrth 15 March: Lent no flowers.
Mawrth 22 March: Lent no flowers.
Mawrth 29 March: Lent no flowers.



Undeb y Mamau/ Mothers Union.

Eleven members and friends met at the Parish Office on Feb. 19th for the monthly meeting. The enrolling member conducted the service. The reader was Mrs. Margaret Searson and Mrs. Margaret Hughes the accompanist.

Condolences were expressed to Mrs. Beth Bastock on the death of her cousin in Edinburgh, and to Mrs. Gwenda Price on the death of her sister-in-law. Mrs. Ann Armstrong was wished a speedy recovery following her cataract operation.

A new M.U branch has been opened in Anglesey - Bro Deiniol - following the closure of three other branches. A new Enrolling Member has been appointed in our Link Branch of Holyhead - Mrs. Janet Hatter.

Members agreed to our usual donation of £10 to "Make a Mother's Day." Beryl and Joyce attended the Trustees Meeting and reported that 80 pairs of spectacles had been collected for distribution abroad. Items for Hospital Bags are still required.

Dates for the Diary

Fri. 6th March - Women's World Day of Prayer - Maengwyn Chapel - 2.00 pm

Sun. 15th March - Mothering Sunday - Llanwrin - 10.30 am

Wed. 25th March - Lady Day Service - St. Peter's - 10.00 am

Sat. 9th May - Bishop's Fun Day - Plas, Machynlleth

Sat. 16th May - Fellowship Trip - For further details please contact Mrs. Alice Hughes

cont...

Our designated speaker, Mrs. Jocelyn Seagrave sent her apologies, so we were fortunate to welcome Jemma Hennigan, a former pupil at Ysgol Bro Ddyfi and now studying at Ysgol Penglais Aberystwyth. She was chosen to join a group of 25 Urdd members, from 250 applicants throughout Wales, to go on a study tour to Patagonia in 2014. Each member had to raise £2,200 towards the cost of the trip. They formed a choir and took part in the annual Eisteddfod in Chubut. They visited schools and churches and immersed themselves in the Patagonian culture. Jemma showed us how to make Mate tea - a popular drink in Patagonia- made from the ground-up leaves of a species of South American holly - definitely an acquired taste!!! She was warmly thanked by Mrs. Joyce Price and presented with a small gift, being the youngest speaker we've ever had.

The tea hostesses were Mrs. Doreen Ellis and Mrs. Marilyn Jones. The next meeting will be the "Quiet Afternoon" on March 19th.

Margaret Hughes.

***Bishop's Visitation.
Wednesday 4th March.***

- 10 a.m.** Holy Eucharist at St Peter's Church Machynlleth
- 11 a.m.** The Bishop will spend some time at the Lent Course
- 4 p.m.** Meeting with the Ministry Area Team
- 5.30 p.m.** Meeting with **Ministry Area Council, Church Wardens** and **parishioners** at **Cemaes Church Room.**

Please make every effort to attend this meeting where the Bishop will set out his plans for the Diocese and the Ministry Area. He will be very happy to take any questions.

Transport is available for those who require it.

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

Mawrth 1 March

Garawys 2 Lent

Dydd Gwyl Dewi/St David's Day

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

Mawrth 8 March

Garawys 3 Lent

- 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (**Corris**)
- 9.30 a.m. Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Penegoes**)
- 11.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 2.00 p.m. Gosber (**Darowen**)

Mawrth 15 March

Garawys 4 Lent

Sul y Fam / Mothering Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 10.30 a.m. **United Holy Eucharist** at Llanwrin

Mawrth 22 March

Sul y Dioddefaint / Passion Sunday

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

Mawrth 29 March

Sul y Blodau / Palm Sunday

- 9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist/Y Cymun Bendigaid (**Corris**)
- 9.30 a.m. Boreol Weddi (**Penegoes**)
- 11.00 a.m. Boreol Weddi/Morning Prayer

Every Wednesday

- 10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

ROTA OF READERS

Mawrth 8 March :Garawys 3 Lent

11:00 am Mr Neil Williams

Mawrth 15 March :Sul y Fam / Mothering Sunday

8:00 am Miss Pru Probert

Mawrth 22 March :Sul y Dioddefaint/ Passion Sunday

9:30 am Mrs Ann Armstrong

11:00 am Mr Grahame Cox

Mawrth 29 March:Sul y Blodau / Palm Sunday

11:00 am Mrs Muriel Evans / Capt Richard Lambert

Ebrill 5 April: Dydd y Pasg / Easter Day

8:00 am Mr Ken Searson

11:00 am Mrs Joyce Price / Mrs Jeanne Kerridge

ROTA OF SIDESPERSONS

Mawrth 8 March: Garawys 3 Lent

11:00 am Mr Elfed Jones / Mrs Margaret Davies

Mawrth 15 March: Sul y Fam / Mothering Sunday

8:00 am Mr Geraint Davies

Mawrth 22 March:Sul y Dioddefaint / Passion Sunday

9:30 am Mr Emyr Roberts

11.00 am Mrs Dorothy Edwards / Mr Henry Holt

Mawrth 29 March: Sul y Blodau / Palm Sunday

11:00 am Mrs Gwenda Price / Capt Richard Lambert

Ebrill 5 April : Dydd y Pasg / Easter Day

8:00 am Mrs Margaret Vince

11:00 am Mr Elfed Jones / Mr Henry Holt

**CEMAES, DAROWEN, MALLWYD & LLANBRYNMAIR
GWASANAETHU'R SUL/SUNDAY SERVICES.**

Mawrth 1 March

Cemaes 09:45 am.
Darowen
Mallwyd
Llanbryn'n 10:30 am

Garawys 2 Lent

Dydd Gwyl Dewi/St David's Day

RPB (E) AGM

PW (E)

Mawrth 8 March

Cemaes 09:45 am.
Darowen 14:00 pm
Mallwyd 11:15 am.
Llanbryn'n

Garawys 3 Lent

JE (MP)

Undebol/United.

JE (MP)

Mawrth 15 March

Cemaes 09:45 am.
Darowen
Mallwyd 11:15 am.
Llanbryn'n

Garawys 4 Lent

Sul y Fam / Mothering Sunday

RPB(E)

RPB (E)

Mawrth 22 March

Cemaes 09:45 am.
Darowen 14:00 pm.
Mallwyd 11:15 am.
Llanbryn'n 10:30 am.

Sul y Dioddefaint / Passion Sunday

PW (E)

RPB (E)

PW (E)

RPB (BW) AGM.

Mawrth 29 March

Cemaes 09:45 am.
Darowen
Mallwyd 11:15 am.
Llanbryn'n

Sul y Blodau / Palm Sunday

RPB (E)

RPB (E) AGM.

Dairy

Mawrth 1 March.

Mawrth 10 March

Mawrth 11 March

Mawrth 13 March

Mawrth 22 March

Mawrth 26 March

Mawrth 27 March

Ymarfer Agor y Llyfr Mallwyd 1pm

Agor y Llyfr Dinas Mawddwy

Mothers and Toddlers Machinations
Llanbrynmair 2pm

Clwb Ieuenctid / Youth Club Llanbrynmair

MA Team Meeting 3.15 Machynlleth.

Fun Day planning meeting Machynlleth
10.30am

Clwb Ieuenctid / Youth Club Llanbrynmair

The season of Lent, leading up to Easter, is a time to look at ourselves and perhaps even reassess our lives in the light of the Gospel. The other week I visited my old family home just outside Bala, where many of my family were staying in what is now a holiday let. It was rather poignant to think that 5 generations of my family have lived or slept in that house. - My grandparents, my parents and all my brothers and sisters, my own children, and now a whole tribe of nieces and nephews.

Even more astounding is to realise that those 5 generations amount (or have the potential) to encompass a life span of experiences of over 200 years – From my grandparents born at the dawn of the 20th century, to my nieces and nephews with the potential to see the end of the 21st, and with good luck, should I live long enough; I may even see at least one more new generation of my family. Gosh, it only takes 10 such life connections to take us right back 2000 years to the time of Christ! 2000 years is a blink of the eye.

It makes Jesus feel so much closer in a physical / historical sense. Yes we experience Christ every day through his saving grace, he is with us in the Spirit, Christianity has shaped our culture and our lives – and for the better, but on a physical time scale we often forget how close we are to Jesus.

“With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.” (2 Peter 3:8)

What plans might God have for the world? How small are our hopes, cares and fears in comparison! May we love one another and learn to trust in God.

Roland Barnes.

Mother's reward

A man was decorating his new den and decided it was a good place to display all the awards he and his two sons had won at various athletic competitions. When he had filled two whole walls, he remarked to his wife that it was a shame she had no awards to contribute.

The following day, she produced, neatly framed, the birth certificates of their two sons, and added them to the display.

The Way I See It: FIVE GOOD THINGS ABOUT LENT

In case you're thinking at this time of the year that Lent is (as one writer recently described it) 'all purple and prohibitions', here are five good things about it.

1 It only lasts 40 days. Fasts, by their very nature, can't last forever, but Lent has a very manageable forty days. (If you're thinking at six weeks and a bit it's longer than that, see Item 2)). New Year Resolutions simply stretch off into some impossibly distant horizon, but our Lenten attempts at discipline (chocolate, cigarettes, daily prayers, being kind to the cat) have an end date to them.

2. Sundays in Lent are 'as oases'. Sunday is never a day of fasting, but a weekly celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. So - and this is official! - Sundays don't count in Lent.

3. A bit of self-denial is better than a lot of self-indulgence. We live in a very self-indulgent society. Just for forty days it's no bad thing to deny ourselves something that is a minor luxury or a bit of self-pampering - especially if it saves some money which could go to people in the world who have no 'little luxuries'.

4. It's a journey towards Easter. Lent goes somewhere, and that somewhere is the empty tomb of Easter morning. It's daffodils in the churchyard and new life all around us.

5. The days get longer. The English word for this season is the only one that has no religious significance at all. 'Lent' is simply an abbreviation of the Old English word 'lencten', which means 'lengthen'. On these islands, where weather is always a major topic of conversation, it's not surprising that what people noted about the days of Lent was that they got longer - no more of those ghastly dark tea-times. But the 'lengthening' is all part of Item 4, really - moving towards new life.

Given those five splendidly positive things about Lent, which covers the whole of March this year, I trust readers will approach its rigors with joyful hearts.



**Eglwys
St Ust a St Dyfrig
Church
Llanwrin
SUL Y FAM
MOTHERING SUNDAY
Cymun Teuluol
Family Communion
10:30yb/am**

**Croeso Cynnes i Bawb.
A Very Warm Welcome to All.**

CONGREGATION MEETINGS.

**Eglwys St Ust a Dyfrig Church, Llanwrin
Mawrth 10 March
7pm yn yr Eglwys/in Church**

**Eglwys St Pedr/St Peter's Church, Machynlleth
Mawrth 26 March
7pm Swyddfa Blwyf/Parish Office**

**Eglwys y Drindod Sanctaidd/Holy Trinity Church Corris
Mawrth 22 March
10.45am yn yr Eglwys/in Church.**

We kicked off this years Plodders walking with a gentle 4 miles walk in and around the villages of Pennal and Cwrt which took in part of the Discover Ddyfi walks and part of the Welsh Coastal Path. The sun shone , which highlighted how grand this part of Wales is even in the depths of Winter, and finished the walk off at Plas Talgarth with lunch in the Stable Bar.

For those interested the Discover Ddyfi Walking pamphlets they are available from Reception in the Plas building.



The best mathematical equation I've ever seen:

1 cross + 3
nails = 4 given"

"If God is your
co-pilot, switch
seats."



St Peter's Plodders March Walk

Harlech to Llanbedr Coastal Path (5 miles) Sat 7th

Leaving **Machynlleth Rail Station at 8:57am** arriving at Harlech 10:25 am, then with the Snowdonia National Park providing a mighty natural backdrop, we will commence this great walk, which includes an estuary and a long sandy beach. Starting from Harlech this breathtaking stretch of coast is part of an extensive sand dune system that sweeps from the Mawddach estuary along the shore of Cardigan Bay north to Morfa Bychan (National Nature Reserve) Standing at the waterline, the pale sands hug the shore before giving way to the spectacular sand dunes system. The backdrop is provided by the mountains of Snowdonia and of course Harlech Castle., A another of Edward 1's mighty fortifications. Seemingly impregnable it was taken in 1404 after a long siege by Owain Glyndwr who lived there until 1408, when it was retaken by the English. It was again used as a stronghold during the Wars of the Roses. The castle fell into disrepair until it was again besieged in the Civil wars and was surrendered in 1647 as the last Royalist stronghold in Britain.

The train leaves Llanbedr at 14:36 pm arriving in Machynlleth at 15:54. This allows plenty of time to enjoy the walk and stop to eat our packed lunch (sorry folks, no hostellerie s along the way)





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