

# CYLCHGRAWN MISOL MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Chwefror/February 2016

50c/50p



Deuteronomy

8:3

Matthew 4:4

Bread is not enough to keep us alive;  
we need to feed on every word of God

**BRO**  
**CYFEILIOG a MAWDDWY.**

Dear Friends,

Candlemas on February 2<sup>nd</sup> is an important day in the church year, an exciting day, a day which sees the end of the Christmas season; it's time for the Shepherds to go back to tending their sheep and time for the Wise Men to make their long journey back home. It is time for us to make our journey towards Easter. The crib has been put away our focus now is on the altar and the cross pointing us towards Easter.

We use the word "journey" a great deal – the idea of our lives being a journey – our spiritual lives being a journey of faith - an unknown journey, a journey of discovery that takes courage and trust and faith. Jesus' journey led to His death but, more importantly, to His resurrection. We ask Jesus to lead us on our journey towards Easter but where will He lead us? Will it be hard? Will the way be steep? Will we be lonely? Will there be joy?

To all these questions the answer is "yes very likely". The journey will be hard and, at times, the road will be steep but Jesus has cut the steps into the hillside for us and He will walk each step with us. We will, very likely, be lonely at times but Jesus has promised that He will never leave us. And the Joy? The joy is ours for the taking, if we will listen for His word and recognise it when we hear it.

There is one unbreakable certainty – God's love enfolds us through Jesus Christ who walks each step with us drawing us to His final goal – life with Him for ever.

I pray that your journey through Lent to the joys of Easter morning will fill you with hope and peace.

With every blessing to you and yours

Kathleen

## ***Ministry Area Council***

The Ministry Area Council met on Wednesday 20th January where various items of business were discussed.

Mrs Joanne Gower, M/A Treasurer gave a short report on the M/A accounts which are looking healthy due to the fundraising efforts last year.

The Council was reminded that individual end of year church accounts had to be ready for the Ministry Area AGM to be held on Wednesday 20th April.

Mrs Jen Evans gave a short report on the work of the Pastoral Team. The "Cawl a Chlonc" held in November was a great success and would be repeated on February 11th at Cemaes Church Room. An open invitation was extended to Council members.

Future fundraising ideas were discussed – a M/A Recipe Book and Notelets/Christmas Cards to sell were two options.

The Diocese is in need of a property audit of each Church in the Ministry Area which needs to be done as soon as possible.

A faculty application for the internal repainting of St Peter's Church, Machynlleth was supported.

Mrs Jen Evans, our Ministry Area Pastoral Team leader and Worship leader, has offered herself for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. The Council fully supported her and wished her well as she begins this important faith journey.

## ***Lent 2016***

Five evenings of reflection based on Bishop Andy's Lent Course for 2016, held in the 'Parish Office, starting on Tuesday 16th February, then every Tuesday until 15th March, at 7pm. An opportunity for good fellowship, and a chance to learn from one another! All are warmly welcome.

**Revd. Peter Ward**

# LENT 2016



## MIDWEEK SERVICES ST PETER'S CHURCH MACHYNLLETH

<b>Tuesday Evenings</b>	7.00 pm	Lent Course
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am	Holy Eucharist
<b>Thursday Evenings</b>	6.00 pm	Prayer and Meditation for Lent

### Pray

When you pray...  
Words and wisdom of Jesus –  
He doesn't say, if or in case,  
He says, when... you pray.

And we will.

From deep within,  
Our spirit calls out to God,  
Created to communicate with the Creator.

Cinemas can ban,  
Statistics can suggest we won't,  
But Jesus says, when you pray...  
Say, Our Father,  
And when we do, he hears and answers  
And pours out his love,  
Always.

By Daphne Kitching



## ***UNDEB Y MAMAU / MOTHERS' UNION***

The first meeting of 2016 took place in the Parish Office on Jan. 21st, attended by 12 members. The service was led by the Enrolling Member and the Rev. Canon Kathleen read the lesson.

Copies of the annual Balance Sheet were distributed by the Treasurer and accepted by all present. The Secretary read a letter from the new Diocesan President, Mrs. Jenny Lane, outlining her plans for the year , and another from Mrs. Joanne Gower, thanking Branch members for their support of M.U. enterprises. The enrolling member of our Link Branch- Upper Severn, Mrs. Sheila Hodgkins, has stood down due to ill health. Her replacement is Mrs. Chiplin.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Elize Payne, who described her experiences in Germany after the war, as the child of an Army family. She was originally from Cardiff, and remembers the docks being bombed. In October 1945, the family was sent to Hanover. As the schools were in ruins, lessons were taken in a neighbour's front room. They later transferred to Minden, where she attended a proper school, with lessons given by Army personnel. When she was eleven, she and approx. 400 other children were sent by train to a boarding school near the Danish border. It had previously been used as a training college for the German Navy and submariners, so the facilities were superb, including a swimming pool and theatre/cinema. She was there for six years. Every year the former pupils have a re-union in London and she arranges one annually for the Welsh ex-pupils at Plas Dolguog.

Mrs. Payne was thanked by Mrs. Joyce Price. She also thanked Jocelyn and a friend of Margaret Searson for donating beautiful knitted children's clothes.

The tea hostesses were Mrs. Ann Armstrong and Mrs. Gwenda Price. The next meeting is on February 18th when the speaker will be Heather Taylor.

**Margaret Hughes.**



## *THE LADIES FELLOWSHIP*

In December members joined the Mothers Union at their Christmas Carol Service, then enjoyed a delicious meal at the Riverside Hotel Pennal.

The first meeting of the Fellowship for 2016 was our Annual Dinner at Machynlleth Golf Club. Ken Searson said Grace, members and friends enjoyed a lovely meal. Muriel thanked Huw and Sue for preparing and serving the food, then thanked Margaret and Alice for their support and help throughout the past year. This was followed by a quiz and then Prize Bingo ably led by Bronwen and Muriel, with most members going home with a prize and certainly a full stomach.

**Alice Hughes.**

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

**Chwefror 7 February      Sul y Gweddnewidiad  
Transfiguration Sunday**

- 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**)  
**11.00 a.m.**    Family Service and Baptism(**Machynlleth**)

**Chwefror 14 February      Garawys 1 Lent**

- 9.30 a.m.**    Morning Worship (**Corris**)  
**11.00 a.m.**    Holy Eucharist (**Machynlleth**)  
**2.00 p.m.**    Gosber (**Penegoes**)

**Chwefror 21 February      Garawys 2 Lent**

- 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**)  
**11.00 a.m.**    Bilingual Holy Eucharist (**Machynlleth**)

**Chwefror 28 February      Garawys 3 Lent**

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

**Mawrth 6 March              Sul y Fam / Mothering Sunday**

- 10.30 a.m.**    United Bilingual Holy Eucharist

**DYDD MAWRTH Y LLUDW/ASH WEDNESDAY**

- 10.00 a.m.**    Holy Eucharist (**Machynlleth**)

**Every Wednesday      10.00 a.m.**      Holy Eucharist  
**St Peter's Church, Machynlleth**

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

**Chwefror 7 February**

**Sul y Gweddnewidiad  
Transfiguration Sunday**

09:45 a.m. Cemaes RPB (E)  
..... Darowen  
..... Mallwyd  
11:00 a.m. Llanbryn-mair RPB (E)

**Chwefror 14 February**

**Garawys 1 Lent**

09:45 p.m. Cemaes JE (MP)  
..... Darowen  
11:15 a.m. Mallwyd AGM RPB (E)  
..... Llanbryn-mair

**Chwefror 21 February**

**Garawys 2 Lent**

09:45 a.m. Cemaes RPB (E)  
14:00 p.m. Darowen RPB (MP)  
11:15 a.m. Mallwyd RPB (E)  
..... Llanbrin-mair

**Chwefror 28 February**

**Garawys 3 Lent**

09:45 a.m. Cemaes PW (E)  
14:00 p.m. Darowen AGM RPB (E)  
11:15 p.m. Mallwyd PW (E)  
11:00 a.m. Llanbryn-mair RPB (MP)

**Mawrth 6 March**

**Sul y Fam / Mothering Sunday**

09:45 a.m. Cemaes AGM RPB (E)  
..... Darowen  
..... Mallwyd  
..... Llanbryn-mair

**Special Service**

**Ash Wednesday 10th February**

15:00 p.m. Cemaes



**Eglwys  
Sant Pedr  
Machynlleth**

**SUL Y FAM  
MOTHERING SUNDAY**



**Cymun Teuluol  
Family Communion  
10:30yb/am**

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

## ***Some hints about prayer this Lent***

Prayer is instinctive for human beings, even those who don't regard themselves as religious. You are standing at a bus stop in the wind and the rain, thinking 'I do hope the bus will come soon'. It's an inner yearning. It defies logic: either the bus is coming or it isn't. But we all do it. It's instinctive and it's the raw material of prayer. Hoping for something better is basic. Like all instincts, it needs to be trained.

To whom do we pray? What you pray and the way you do it will be shaped by your view of God. Christian prayers are fashioned by what we know of Jesus and what He taught about prayer.

We pray by invitation. Again and again, Jesus encouraged his companions to pray. A couple of his parables on the subject have been misinterpreted as instructions to persuade a resistant God to do what we want. Have a look at Luke 18, verses 1-8, about a widow whose perseverance finally persuaded an unwilling judge to rule in her favour. The lesson is that God is not like that! Similarly, an unwelcome neighbour who persistently calls for help in the middle of the night gets what he wants (Luke 11.5-13). The lesson?

If tenacious lobbying can overcome human unwillingness, how much more our gracious God will heed his children's cry.

Pushing at an open door. Jesus is already praying for us. So when we start to pray, we step on to an already moving staircase. Sometimes prayer seems tougher than it need be. Jesus invited us to be linked to him, in the way an inexperienced bullock is yoked to a mature ox. Have a look at Matthew 11, 28-29, which concludes "for my yoke is easy and my burden is light". When Marion Bartoli unexpectedly won the 2013 Women's Wimbledon final, she said "I believe if you put all your heart and effort into everything you are doing, then God is there to help you."

Is your prayer on the right lines? Try adding "for Christ's sake" at the end. "Please let my marrow win the Gardening Club competition"? No. "Not my will but yours" is the key. So when praying, don't give God instructions, just report for duty.



## ***The Collect for Ash Wednesday***

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 for ever.

## *Memories of Christmas 2015*

Christmas 2015 already feels a long time ago! However it was encouraging to see such good congregations. The service that will stick in my mind for a long time was the service in Llan Llanbrynmair, with Moses the donkey and the children as Mary, Joseph and the Angel.

Walking along the road from the centre of the village to the church, in the dead of night, with the threat of hailstones, thunder and lightning; was, to say the least exciting. But more than that, our small party of travellers (most people very sensibly went straight to the church because of the weather) was transported back 2000 years to the Bethlehem road. The darkness all around, the flickering lamps, the earthiness, the groundedness of a real live donkey plodding along, with Mary riding and Louise and Joseph leading. It was magical. For a few minutes we were very much "in the moment" "being" "experiencing" rather than simply rushing around "doing." I think we all felt very close to Mary and Joseph; felt the warmth of Christmas, we sensed the precariousness of the birth of Jesus, God making himself oh so vulnerable; but allowing love, like the angels, to fill the air.

I'd like to thank John and Bob and Dave and Terrence for being on the spot to organise the practicalities on the night. Many thanks to Peter for coordinating things in the church and leading the service. Also thanks to the Revd. Dominic for leading our prayers. (When others lead, it allows everyone else to relax "in the moment") Many thanks to all the ladies of the church for organising refreshments after the service. You are all stars! Big thank you to Louise of Dyfi Donkeys Commins Coch for bringing Moses. Talking of stars, Rob (Campbell) you were great leading our carols on guitar, many, many thanks. Finally I must thank Jean, Arthur and Adi (3 more stars, Mary, Joseph and Angel) and their parents for playing their vital roles.

Moses is a busy donkey. He will be returning to us on Palm Sunday for a special service in Darowen Church on Sunday 20th March at 2pm. Please join us; hopefully, fingers crossed, it will be a fine sunny day, and we will feel transported back 2000 years, not to Bethlehem, but to Jerusalem for the completion of Christ's mission.



## ***St Peter's Plodders. February Walk***

### ***Circular route of Machynlleth. (4.5 miles)***

As this is our first walk in 2016 and indeed our first for a couple of months and with a backward glance at the weather, I have decided to keep our walk this month local. Meeting at St Peter's Church at **09:30 hrs** we shall then proceed down the Garsion then walking across the fields and railway line to the banks of the river Dyfi. We then walk upstream across the main road ay Dyfi Bridge and carry on up stream to eventually come out before the entrance to Dolguag Caravan site. We the walk through the site and out to the main road and Felyngerig . From there we shall prodeed around the Penrhos and back into town via the Golf Course and Tre-owain.



## ***NEWS AROUND THE MINISTRY AREA***

### ***St Mary's Llan***

A bingo session has been arranged for Feb 26th in the Community Centre at 7.30 funds for the Church.

A toilet for Llan Church will be delivered on Feb 3rd, that will be of great help to the Church in the future. Hoping we can hire the room out in the future.

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Tîm Bugeiliol Bro Cyfeiliog a Mawddwy Pastoral Team.

Ymunwch â ni am

**Gawl a Chlonc**

Join us for



**Soup and a Chat**

Neuadd yr Eglwys Cemaes Church Room

Chwefror 11 February am/at 12:00

Bydd cludiant ar gael/Transport available

## **Tîm Weinidogaeth / Ministry Team.**

### **Arweinwyr Tîm /Team Leaders:**

Rev Canon Kath Rogers, Rev Roland Barnes.

Rev Peter Ward, Mrs Jen Evans , Rev Dominic McClean.

## **Gweinidogaeth Swyddogion Cyngor Ardal. Ministry Area Council Officials.**

**Ysgrifennyddes / Secretary:** Mrs Maureen Hughes.

**Trysorydd / Treasurer:** Mrs Joanne Gower.

**Wardeiniaid / Wardens:** Mr Alan Murphy,  
Mrs Denise Perkins.



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