

May 2004

The Magazine
of
The Parish of Pentyrch
with
Capel Llanilltern



St Catwg's Church, Pentyrch
St David's Church, Groesfaen
St Elteyrn's Church, Capel Llanilltern

Price 35p

THE PARISH OF PENTYRCH

VICAR

The Rev. John Binny, The Vicarage, Pentyrch

SUNDAY SERVICES

St. Catwg's Church, Pentyrch

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (4th Sunday only)
9.00 a.m. Parish Eucharist (Except the first Sunday in the month)
6.00 p.m. Evensong

St. David's Church Groesfaen

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (1st Sunday only)
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Except the first Sunday in the month)

St Elteyrn's Church Capel Llanilltern

10.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Creigiau Church Hall

10.30 a.m. First Sunday in every month Parish Family Communion

WEEKDAYS

St. Catwg's Holy Eucharist Wednesday 10.00 a.m.
St. David's Holy Eucharist Tuesday 10.00 a.m.
Other services as announced

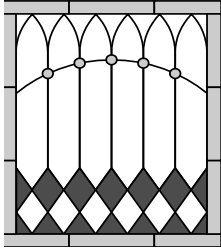
SUNDAY SCHOOL

St. Catwg's 10.15 am every Sunday in Church (except the first Sunday in the month)

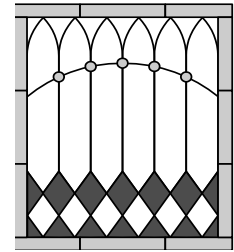
Baptism, Holy Matrimony, Banns of Marriage

By arrangement with the vicar

The Rev. John Binny
The Vicarage
Pentyrch
Tel: 20890318



From the Vicarage Window



Dear Friends

There are few things more emotional than saying 'Goodbye' to someone you love perhaps when a parent or child leaves home to live abroad, or go far away. There is no certainty that the family will see their loved one for a very long time.

During the great forty days after Easter the disciples of Jesus learned of the reality of the Resurrection. When this time was over Jesus and his disciples went to Galilee, to a mountain to which Jesus had directed them. He instructed them not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait for the promise of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. They were ordered to make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and Jesus said, 'Lo I am with you always to the close of the age.'

When Jesus had spoken these words, as the disciples were looking on he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight. They saw two men in white robes who said that Jesus would return in the same way as they had seen him go into heaven.

Here in a single breathless moment of time the disciples were given a glimpse of eternity and they knew beyond any slightest shadow of doubt that in Jesus their Friend they had seen God.

In his final orders Jesus had commissioned his disciples for mission.

The mission of the church has as its foundation Jesus Christ as Lord who gave the church its 'orders' These are our orders too as Jesus gives us our commission as his followers in our age as members of his church to continue his work of sharing our faith and the Good News of the Risen Lord with all peoples by word and deed in his Name. We are to be his witnesses to bring all people to the knowledge and love of God in Jesus Christ, to proclaim to others what our faith means to us.

The Christian disciple, however, is not left to go it alone. On the contrary Jesus told his disciples 'not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. I am with you always to the close of the age. The disciples knew that though parted from them The Risen and Glorified Christ would still be with them in their midst as he is with us and so they returned to Jerusalem with great joy and devoted themselves to prayer.

So we know that we shall not be left desolate but shall share in Christ's triumph in the power of the Holy Spirit. The promise of Jesus was fulfilled to his disciples then and to all his followers through the ages to our own day ten days later on the Day of Pentecost, the first Whit Sunday when the Upper Room in Jerusalem where the disciples were gathered, was filled with a mighty rushing wind and tongues of fire as the disciples had an overwhelming sense of the presence and the power of God to

preach repentance and forgiveness of sins in his name to all nations and to be his witnesses to the end of the earth. It is not at all surprising then that immediately following the gift of the Spirit men and women ‘from every nation under heaven’ heard the disciples telling in their languages the mighty works of God. There had been nothing like it before! And it all stemmed from Jesus!

And so the Holy Spirit has continued to direct the Mission of the Church in our own day. He directs the whole enterprise. The mission consists of the things he is doing in the world in the church and in people’s lives.

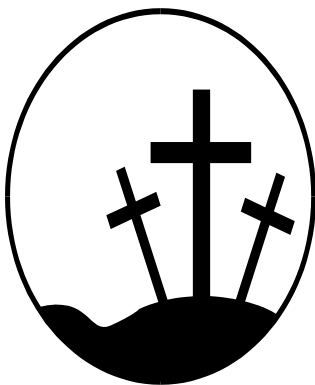
We are empowered by God’s Holy Spirit as we commit ourselves to Jesus Christ. If you love me you will keep my commandments – brings the assurance of the strengthening power of

the Holy Spirit who dwells in us for ever to guide us and give us vision. Life in the Spirit is indistinguishable from life ‘in Christ’ or life ‘in God’. A proper relationship with God means, says Jesus, that ‘we will come to him and make our home with him on a permanent relationship.

Within this relationship the Holy Spirit brings to the disciples of Jesus Christ then and now all that could be available in Jesus Christ that our lives may be filled with the joy, hope and confidence of the Risen Ascended Lord and that in us people may see the peace of Jesus Christ and know that we have this promise which is for all people. ‘Lo I am with you always, to the end of the age’. Jesus is for all people in all places at all times – Alleluia.

From us all at the Vicarage
John W Binny

Passion Sunday Music



The Meditation with readings, hymns and prayers on the evening of April 4th was, as expected, very inspiring. The choir sang six pieces: “O vos omnes” by de Victoria; Max Reger’s “Our Lady’s Dream” (both very difficult); “Cast Thy Burden Upon The Lord” from Mendelssohn’s Elijah; “All in the April Evening” by Hugh Robertson; “Now in this Holy Hour” by Alfred Whitehead and the very beautiful “Sanctus” from Schubert’s German Mass number 2.

The choir excelled themselves; it would be wonderful to have a CD recording of such a performance to replay many times at home. Many thanks to John Gough and all members of the choir for all their hard work and time.

Janine Howarth

“Rock of ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee”

Did you know that the inspiration for the well-loved hymn “Rock of Ages” (no.210 in “Hymns Ancient and Modern”) came from an incident which happened only about thirty miles - as the crow flies - away from here?

Augustus Montague Toplady, Curate of Blagdon, Somerset, was travelling through Somerset in 1762 or 1763 (accounts vary!) when a ferocious storm broke, with much thunder and lightning. He sought shelter in a cleft of a rock at Burrington Combe. While he was there, comparing the protection of the rock with the protection of God against the ‘storms’ of life, he had his idea for “Rock of ages”. Legend has it that he wrote the words down on an old playing card which he found lying nearby. If you go to Burrington Combe today (just to the east of Weston-super-Mare), you will see that there is a plaque marking the site.



Not much is known about Mr Toplady. He went on to become minister of a number of country parishes, before eventually finishing at a church in London. He wrote other hymns such as “A sovereign protector I have”, but none have become as well known as “Rock of ages”. He was a staunch Calvinistic Methodist and became involved in some controversy as a result, but he remained true to his beliefs. He never married and, always in delicate health, died at the early age of 38.

Photograph: Martin

Children’s Fun Day

Please note that the Parish of Pentyrch Children’s Fun Day scheduled for Saturday June 26th in the Church Hall Creigiau from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. will now take place a week later, Saturday 3 July, in order not to clash with Creigiau Carnival.

There will be fun and games, craftwork, puzzles and games. Prizes and snacks will be provided.

For further information please contact Mrs Ros James (tel: 20890743)



Tesco Update: *Every little helps!*

As you may be aware from a previous magazine, Tesco's of Talbot Green is supporting the Church Hall Restoration Fund in 2004 in a big way and is donating major prizes to be raffled during the year, as well as arranging the tickets and licence to sell them.

Since the last magazine we have had two two-day sessions selling raffle tickets in Tesco's Extra for the Church Hall Restoration which is being supported as a community project by Tesco's in 2004.

Each day lasted from 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. and the helpers sat in the foyer of the store along with display screens showing how the hall is used within the community. The draw was made at the end of each day and on both occasions the winners were from Llantrisant, winning a garden patio set and a television.

Very many thanks to all who manned



Reflections on experiences at the Tesco "*Every little helps*" raffle on Saturday 27 March.

We sat at the table at 2.30 p.m. ready for action! Books of raffle tickets open appealingly on the table: pen in hand, fingers massaged ready for the thousands of names to entered: moneybox waiting, mouth open, waiting to be fed!

"Would you like to buy a ticket for a T.V. to be drawn tonight? Just a pound a ticket."

How people responded!

"Got 7 TV's already."

the stall on the four days and particular thanks to Mrs Alison Woodley, the Church Hall Secretary for co-ordinating the event.

Five hundred and eighty pounds was raised on the 26th and 27th of March and five hundred and sixty nine pounds and eighty two pence on the 8th and 10th of April.

Future dates offered to us are:

Friday 21st May (any offers for 4.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.?)

Saturday 22nd May

Friday 8th October

Saturday 9th October

Thursday 16th December

Saturday 18th December

Wednesday 22nd December

Friday 24th December

There are time slots to be filled on these dates, so if you can help please sign the list in church or contact Mrs Alison Woodley or the Vicar.

"How many tickets for a pound? Only one?

Phew!" and walked off!

"Can I have a ticket for 50p?"

"Can I pay by credit card?"

"I'll pay a pound for the moneybox" – a young lad!

"Won't be able to have one, haven't got a phone."

"Have to ask the wife."

"I'll have an orange one to brighten up my day."

"No money left."

However, we did sell quite a number of tickets for the good cause. We enjoyed ourselves and it was a good exercise in guessing who might just buy a ticket as the trundled out with their trolleys piled high.

A Musical Soiree



We look forward very much to the evening of classical music and song with Paul Gyton and Alwyn Gyton (nee Mellor) and members of the Welsh National Opera Chorus and friends in the Church Hall, Creigiau at 7.30 p.m. on Sunday 16th May 2004 in aid of the Hall Restoration Appeal.

Paul and Alwyn are members of St. David's Church. Paul is a member of the Welsh National Opera Chorus and Alwyn is a professional soloist who has performed in Britain and abroad. Just before Christmas she sang as the soprano soloist in a concert with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in Birmingham, which was broadcasted, live on BBC 3. We are grateful to Paul, Alwyn and their friends for giving of their time in a very busy schedule and hope that their support will be rewarded with a full audience from all parts of the parish. Please encourage others to attend what promises to be a wonderful evening.

Young Enterprisers donate Profits

On Thursday 1st April Mrs Alison Woodley and the Vicar were invited to the end of term assembly at Creigiau Primary School which was itself very meaningful as we looked forward to Easter. At the end of assembly two pupils presented the Vicar with a cheque for five hundred pounds which was raised at a Trade Fair held by Year 6 earlier in the term. The children made and sold a wide range of goods including jewellery, fridge magnets, bookmarks, cakes and sweets. The fair sold out in under two hours and the Vicar thanked the school especially Year 6 for their generosity. He also congratulated the children who had made the goods which included Mothering Sunday cards.

The school supports a number of good causes during the year and despite needing money for their own projects within the school they were so willing to help other projects.

In Swansea there is a well-known firm of solicitors, W.G.Christian and Sons. A letter was sent to them from overseas, addressed simply:

W.G. Christian, South Wales.

It eventually arrived at their office with a note from the Post Office attached which read:

“ No Christians in Cardiff – try Swansea.” From “Church Chuckles”

Pentyrch Art Group 9th Annual Exhibition will be held on Sunday 23 May in Pentyrch Village Hall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission free, free refreshments; raffle.



Easter weekend

Following the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday evening in St. Catwg's members of the choir took part in the stripping of the altar as the ornaments and cloths are removed from church symbolising the isolation and desolation of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane after the fellowship of the Last Supper with his disciples.



A number of people stayed behind for the Passion Watch in a bare church, which remained bare for the Good Friday Liturgy and Devotions the following afternoon when the story of the Passion was read in dramatised form with the congregation taking part as on Palm Sunday together with the choir, and the church bell was rung at 3 p.m., the hour Christ died.

The Passion was read in a dramatised form on Good Friday in St. David's when the congregation included members of Capel Llanilltern Church.

In contrast to the solemnity of Good Friday our churches were filled with joyful singing and worship, colour and flowers on Easter Day with favourite hymns sung with great gusto as everyone was filled with Easter joy.

A larger than usual congregation attended the 8.00 a.m. Eucharist at St. David's and St. Catwg's and St. David's were full for the Sung Eucharist's at 9.00 and 10.30 respectively when Easter Eggs were distributed. Easter eggs were also given at Capel Llanilltern where the congregation was about average with many people being away.

Many thanks to those who decorated our churches so splendidly for Easter and whose to contributed towards the flowers. They were magnificent and many people remarked on how beautiful the both churches looked. My thanks also to Canon Jack Buttimore for his help and support.

Special Services

Ascension Day Thursday 20th May

St. Catwg's, Pentyrch 10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

St. David's, Groesfaen 7.00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Pentecost Whitsunday May 30th

Services at the usual Sunday times

Pentyrch Open Gardens Weekend

We are pleased to report that St. Catwg's Church will once again be participating in the Pentyrch Open Gardens Weekend on Saturday and Sunday 10th and 11th of July. The church will be open on both days for people to look at the vestments, silver and old registers as well as enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the prayerful atmosphere of the building. Refreshments will be served in the Church Room.

Please let us know if you can help with the refreshments and also to welcome people in church for both dates.

The availability of the church, its welcome and the appearance of the church and grounds were much appreciated last year – More details to follow.

The Alto's Lament

*It's tough to be an alto when you're singing in the choir:
The sopranos get the twiddly bits that people will admire.
The basses boom like loud trombones, the tenors shout with glee,
But the alto part is two notes (or, if you're lucky, three.)
And when we sing an anthem and we lift our hearts in praises,
The men get all the juicy bits and telling little phrases.
Of course the trebles sing the tune – they always come off best;
The altos only get three notes and twenty two bars rest!
We practice very hard each week from hymn book and psalter.
But when the conductor looks at us our voices start to falter.
"Too high! Too low! Too fast! – You held that note too long".
It doesn't matter what you do - it's certain to be wrong!
Oh, shed a tear for the altos, they're the martyrs and they know
In the ranks of choral singers they're considered very low.
They are so very 'umble that a lot of folk forget 'em;
How they'd love to be sopranos, but their vocal chords won't let 'em!
And when the final trumpet sounds and we are wafted higher,
Sopranos, basses, tenors – they'll be in the heavenly choir.
While they sing "Alleluia!" to celestial flats and sharps,
The altos will be occupied with polishing the harps!*

Thanks to Judy Binny

I refuse to make any comment except to say: try singing music
by J.S.Bach. JG



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

‘Grafted into the Body of Christ’

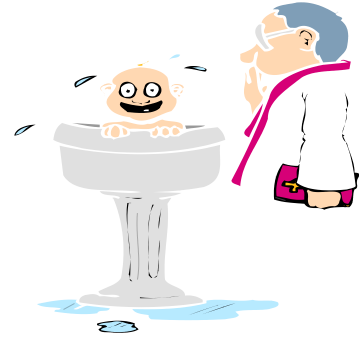
St. Catwg’s, Pentyrch

March 28th

Lucy Victoria Molton
Hafwen Lili Davies

April 4th

Luke Joseph Wiltshire
Emily Rose Lewis
Olivia Mair Lewis



Holy Matrimony

‘That they may be one’

St. David’s Church

April 10th

Geoffrey Hugh Magnus Gallaher
and
Rebecca Anne Ash

April 4th

John Lester Davey and
Helen Katharine Mais

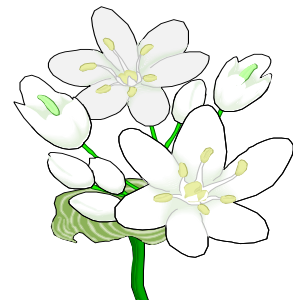


Funerals

‘May they rest in peace’

29th March

Myrddyn Evans



Magazine Items

Any groups, organisations or individuals in our communities who wish to share items, articles or information is welcome to pass it on. Please let us know!

Good News Coffee Morning

Don't forget the Good News Coffee Morning on the third Saturday of the month in the Church Hall, Creigiau.



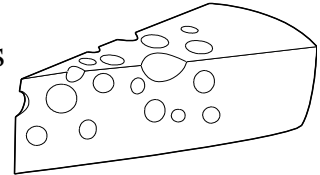
During this month the Coffee Morning will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday 15th May. Please support this event if you can!

Many thanks to all the groups and individuals who take so much trouble to organise these Coffee Mornings.

Frugal Lunch

At the time of writing we are looking forward to the annual Frugal Lunch which will be being held on Saturday May 1st from 12.30 to 2.30 in the Church Hall, Creigiau.

At the lunch will be a Geranium and Bring and Buy stalls along with a raffle.



Tickets at £5 are available from Miss Doris Jermine and Mrs Cynthia Dunn among others. Proceeds are in aid of Cancer Research Wales at Velindre Hospital.



Point to Ponder

In last month's magazine we asked the following.

A train left for Edinburgh from London at 10.00 a.m. travelling at 80 miles per hour. At the same time a train left Edinburgh for London travelling at 40 miles per hour – the trains being on adjacent tracks. The distance from London to Edinburgh is four hundred miles. At the moment when the trains passed each other, which was nearer to London?

Answer – Neither – when they were side by side they were exactly the same distance from London.

This month's question – Who have played a number of times for Wales at full internationals at the Millennium Stadium and yet never won a cap?

Answer next month – Good luck!



Collections for Christian Aid will be made in the parishes during the week 9—15 May . Enclosed with this magazine are pages illustrating the work of Christian Aid. No doubt the Christian Aid organisers in all the churches will be looking for new collectors; if you can offer your services, make yourself known to the church wardens.



Vestry meeting time

Following prayers and welcome the CAPEL LLANILLTERN VESTRY meeting on 19 April included the Vicar's report.

The Vicar referred to the election and installation of the Bishop of Llandaff, Dr Barry Morgan, as Archbishop of Wales; the retirement of the Bishop of Bangor; and the failure of the electoral college of the Church in Wales to elect a successor. More locally, Revd Stephen Lisk will succeed the retiring Revd Bill Barlow as Area Dean later in the year. Within the Deanery the Area Deanery Conference met during the year, discussing the implications of the "Growing Health Churches" booklet and the Mission Church in the future. A Deanery Candlemas service followed by refreshments was held in Llandaff Cathedral on 2nd February.

A Diocesan day of prayer and the Diocesan Conference were held in the Cathedral in January. The Bishop spoke of the Mission Action Planning, looking ahead to the future ministry of the diocese. He signed a Covenant expressing the diocese's commitment to support parishes in the development of

local mission. He asked parishes to take on a planning mission and to look at the development of everyone's ministry.

The Vicar reported that the Bishop is looking at the Church in Wales in ten years' time and the development of the ministry of all God's people, lay and ordained. It is crucial for the mission of the Church that all the talents and resources God has given His people are used. Falling attendances, increasing costs and lower clergy numbers mean increasing challenges for the future. This will affect the developments in the pastoral, teaching and ordained ministry and the impact the Church has in the transformation of God's world. In ten years' time the diocese will be financially self-supporting and will be directing its income towards mission priorities. Full time clergy will be fewer and attached to archdeaconries, deaneries or large parish units: most parish units will be responsible for their own

My aunt died recently just over a month short of her 90th birthday. By her side she had her well-thumbed bible and inside it this poem that she used to read to my cousins when they were younger. I was asked to read it at the funeral. John Gough

The Touch of the Master's Hand

'Twas battered and scarred, and the auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But held it up with a smile.
“What am I bidden, good folks,” he cried,
“Who'll start the bidding for me?
A dollar, a dollar – now two, only two –
Two dollars, and who'll make it three?”

“Three dollars, once, three dollars, twice,
Going for three” - but no!
From the room far back a grey-haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow;
Then wiping the dust from the old violin,
And tightening up all the strings,
He played a melody, pure and sweet,
As sweet as an angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer,
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said: “What am I bid for the old violin?”
And he held it up with the bow.
“A thousand dollars – and who'll make it two?
Two thousand – and who'll make it three?
Three thousand once, and three thousand twice –
And going – and gone,” said he.

The people cheered, but some of them cried,
“We do not quite understand –
What changed its worth?” The man replied:
“The touch of the master's hand.”
And many a man with life out of tune,
And battered and torn with sin,
Is auctioned cheap to a thoughtless crowd,
Much like the old violin.

A “mess of pottage,” a glass of wine,
A game – and he travels on,
He's going once, he's going twice,
He's going and almost gone!
But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd
Never can quite understand
The worth of a soul, and the change that's wrought
By the touch of the Master's hand.

