News and Events **Pentecost Praise: A Joyful Celebration in the Ministry Area** Pentecost Praise was a truly uplifting occasion, bringing together members of the Ministry Area at St Gwlady's Church, Bargoed. The atmosphere was filled with joy as we sang lively, inspiring hymns, led by Fr Gary on the keyboard, Jeff Hankins on guitar, and John Fenton on flute. Their music set the perfect tone for a celebration of faith and unity. The service began in a particularly symbolic way, with the release of Joseph the dove-thanks to Lovey Dovey-reminding us of the Holy Spirit's presence among us. As the event drew to a close, we gathered to witness the lighting of a fire, a powerful representation of the flames of Pentecost. Following the service, we continued the festivities with a delightful party. A delicious buffet and a beautiful birthday cake brought everyone together in fellowship, sharing laughter and conversation. To top it all off, a Pentecost quiz challenged us to deepen our understanding of scripture, making for both a fun and enlightening experience. A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone who contributed to this wonderful celebration-those who planned, prepared, and participated. Your efforts made Pentecost Praise a truly memorable event. We now eagerly anticipate our next Ministry Area gathering: the celebration of Father Gary's 30 years of ordination. Stay tuned for further details on this special occasion! **Sue Rivers 2025** Glastonbury Pilgrimage - This year we are arranging a Ministry Area Pilgrimage to Glastonbury which will be held on Saturday 6th September. If anyone is interested in attending, please add your name to the contact list in each of our Churches, also there will be a poster advertising this event. Or contact Carolyn Corbin on 07983 677360. Further information/details (i.e. Cost, timings etc) will be given near the date. I have my commissioning as MU Provincial President on Saturday 26th July at 1.00pm in Llandaff Cathedral (*invite below*). All in the ministry area are invited and are welcome to attend. Sue Rivers. ---------Mothers' NON 💩 🛈 🤠 . 0 . . 1 2 . 1 2 We warmly invite you to the Provincial Mothers' Union Festal Eucharist and Commissioning Service of the Provincial President Susan Rivers, Provincial Chaplain Revd Sandra Birdsall and Provincial Officers Saturday 26th July 2025, 1.00pm Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff, CF5 2LA **Presiding** The Most Revd, Andrew John, Archbishop of Wales The Right Revd, Mary Stallard, Bishop of Llandaff TD *Refreshments in Prebendal House after the service* inwch â ni loin us. Join Taff Rhymney Ministry Area Key Contacts: Ministry Area Leader - Vacancy Email: Tel: Mrs. Sue Rivers. (Ministry Area Lay Chair) Tel: 07910 524816

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Please visit our website at http://www.taffrhymney.church

Our Ministry Area comprises of the following districts: Ystrad Mynach — Holy Trinity Treharris, Trelewis, Bedlinog, Nelson & Llanfabon — St. John, St. Matthias, St. Mabon Gelligaer & Gilfach — St. Catwg, St. Margaret Pontlottyn — St. Tyfaelog, St. Aidan, St. Mary & St. Andrew Bargoed, Deri & Brithdir — St. Gwladys

Saints and Holy Days

31st July - St. Joseph of Arimathea.

St, Joseph was, according to all four Gospels, a secret disciple of Jesus, who helped recover the body of Jesus, and laid it in the tomb. In designating him a "member of the council," *Mark 15:43* and *Luke 23:50* suggest his membership in the Great Sanhedrin in Jerusalem. Virtuous and rich, he held a high office, and he boldly gained Pontius Pilate's permission to obtain Jesus' body following his crucifixion. *Mark 15:43* notes his motive for this action as "waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God." Joseph wished to prevent the body from hanging on the cross overnight and to secure for it an honourable burial, thereby offending Jewish law, which allowed only a disgraceful burial to the traditional site of this tomb.



Reflections for July.

July reflections often focus on the beauty of the season, the joy of summer, and the opportunities for personal growth and reflection. It's a time to appreciate the warmth, the longer days, and the chance to connect with nature and loved ones. Many also use this month as a period for self-assessment, considering their aspirations and how to live with intention. *Some quotes for the month of July:*

- "Embrace the beauty of July and let it inspire you to live each day to the fullest." Unknown
- "The best way to predict the future is to create it." Peter Drucker
- "Just as the sun shines brightest in July, let your soul shine with unwavering confidence." Unknown

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