

## News and Events

### Y Cymun Bendigaid / Welsh Eucharist

Gwasanaeth 11.00am 6fedl Mehefin 2026, Service 11.00am 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach.

You are warmly invited to our Annual Vestry Meeting, taking place on Sunday 7th June at 4:00pm at Holy Trinity Church, followed by Evensong. This is an important and exciting opportunity to come together as a Ministry Area community, reflect on our shared journey, and play an active role in shaping our future. We are currently seeking enthusiastic and committed individuals to take part in several key roles:

- **Ministry Area Council Representatives**

Each District is asked to nominate two representatives to serve on the Ministry Area Council. Elections will take place at District level, with successful candidates confirmed at the Vestry Meeting. This is a 3-year term (candidates must be over 18).

- **Ministry Area People's Warden**

Nominations and voting will take place during the meeting (candidates must be under 75).

- **Ministry Area Treasurer**

We are looking for someone willing to serve in this vital and valued role.

- **District Sub-Wardens**

These appointments will be formally ratified at the Vestry Meeting.

- **Deanery & Diocesan Conference Representatives**

Nominations will also be decided during the meeting.

**Nomination forms** for all positions will be available in your church. This is a particularly inspiring time for our Ministry Area as we welcome Revd Rajiv Sidhu as our Ministry Area Leader. Your voice, gifts, and participation truly matter as we move forward together. Please prayerfully consider standing for one of these roles and becoming part of this exciting new chapter. We would love to see you there!

*Taff Rhymney Ministry Area Key Contacts:*

**Ministry Area Leader – Rev'd Rajiv Sidhu.**

Email [rajivsidhu@cinw.org](mailto:rajivsidhu@cinw.org). Tel: 07510 089692

**Ministry Area Lay Chair - Mrs. Sue Rivers.** Tel: 07910 524816

#### Clergy

Fr Gary Powell	01443 832119	<b>Lay Reader</b>	
Fr Gareth Coombes	01443 813246	Mrs Carolyn Corbin	07983 677360
Fr Darren Lynch	01685 552502	<b>Ministry Area Wardens</b>	
Fr Keith Hemmings	01443 830662	Miss Pam Morgan.	07952 101179
Fr Ashley Hunt	01495 228445	Mrs Angela Treherne.	07925 817464

## Edition No: 29 - Ministry Area Pew Sheet - May 2026



### 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 - 14th May — ASCENSION DAY

Ascension, in Christian belief, the ascent of Jesus Christ into heaven on the 40th day after his Resurrection. The Feast of the Ascension holds as equal importance as Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost in the universality of its observance among Christians. Ascension Day commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven, according to the New Testament of the Bible.

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" **John 20:17-31. 17**



### THE DAY of PENTECOST – Whitsunday

Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, is the Christian Holy day of Pentecost. The name comes from the Greek word Pentekoste which means fiftieth. The holiday is celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter which is also fifty days after Easter, hence the name. Since its date depends on the date of Easter, Pentecost is a moveable feast, that is, the date is not fixed. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. This important event in the Christian faith is described in the Acts of the Apostles (**Acts 2:1-31**), the fifth book of the New Testament of the Bible.

*Taff Rhymney Ministry Area, registered as charitable incorporated organisation  
in England & Wales. Registered Charity No. 1208522  
Principal Office: The Vicarage, Cedar Way, Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7DR.*

S'Mae from Fr Rajiv

Bore Da, Pawb,

It has been wonderful to get to know the ministry area over the past few months. There was something very special about journeying holy week with the ministry area, and celebrating the dawn of Easter Sunday on Gelligaer common at the remains of Saint Gwladys Chapel, was an special moment of fellowship, faith, and witness.

Fellowship, faith, and witness are at the heart of our call as Christians. And it has been wonderful to experience the incredible hospitality, welcome and generosity of spirit that my wife Freya, my daughter Ranjini, my son Rajvir, baby Rupinder and I have received in each and every church in our ministry area. It really is a joy to be journeying alongside you, as we embark on the pilgrimage of life, together. It has also been incredible to see the thriving ministry and full fellowship in each church. Every building is filled with love, care, and community. Laughter and smiles fill the pews across our churches. The Taff Rhymney Ministry area really is a place of warmth, welcome, and love.

And all of this, the hospitality, the attention to buildings, churchyards, and meeting the needs of the community in each, and every place and space that we have, is very much thanks to the gifts, time, talent and resources that are openly shared by so many people, that come together to create the foundation on which our ministry and outreach stand.

From weekly envelopes, gift aided one-off donations, planning and sharing fundraising events, preparing halls and church spaces for weekly and regular lettings, resourcing and preparing school visits, and not to mention the incredible numbers of volunteer hours spent by so many people in each of our buildings, the amount that people offer and dedicate to the ministry area, is testament to that fellowship, faith, and witness that makes our Ministry area so special.

It is the sharing of those gifts, times, talents and resources, that enables each of our churches to remain open, as a place of witness and encounter; where people can come and encounter Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, In Word and Sacrament. Each one of our ten locations, stands on a foundation and legacy of faith, deeply rooted in the local community, branching out and reaching into the next generation of church.

I know that the clergy, and all who share in serving on the Ministry Area Council, I deeply grateful for all the work that has been going on to help sustain and grow our

Churches. Every gift that the church is given really is a blessing, and it has been wonderful to see how those blessings are used to share Christ's transformative love across our ministry area.

Bringing fellowship where there is social isolation.

Bringing love into times of despair.

Bringing hope into moments of darkness.

So, Thank You, for all that you share, and all that you do, to support our ministry area. Sharing gifts, time, talent and resources, to grow our communities into a fellowship of love, where Christ presents is known, and where we can share in the joys and sorrows of life, together, on the pilgrimage of life.

And I look forward to seeing you soon at one of the many events that we have in our ministry area.

With every blessing,

**Father Rajiv.**