News and Events

Y Cymun Bendigaid / Welsh Eucharist

Gwasanaeth 11.00am 3ydd Mis Hydref 2026, /
Service 11.00am 3rd October 2026,
at St. Tyfaelog's Church, Pontlottyn.

Confirmation Dates

Bishop Mary will be leading the Taff Rhymney **Ministry Area Service of Baptism and Confirmation** which will be at **11:15 on Sunday 11th February** 2027. We'll be joining together as a **Ministry Area** for this Sunday service, hosted S**t Gwladys Church, Bargoed**, followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. Please speak to a member of the Clergy Team if you want to find out more about Baptism and Confirmation, and our preparation for these very special events.

Holy Trinity Mother's Union

On Tuesday 13th October at 2pm Holy Trinity Mother's Union is having a talk given by The Seaman's Mission. Everyone is welcome to attend whether you are a Mother's Union member or not. We look forward to seeing you there!

Taff Rhymney Ministry Team Contact Information

Fr Rajiv Sidhu. Ministry Area Leader
Email: RajivSidhu@cinw.org.uk Tel: 07510 089692

Fr Gary Powell - Area Dean & Vicar in the Taff Rhymney Ministry Area
Email: GaryPowell@cinw.org.uk **Tel:** 01443 832119

Fr Gareth Coombes - Vicar in the Taff Rhymney Ministry Area
Email: GarethCombes@cinw.org.uk **Tel:** 01443 410280

Assistant Clergy	Licenced Lay Readers
Fr Linsay Ford	John Fenton
Fr Kieth Hemmings	Doug Nelms
Fr Ashley Hunt	Carolyn Corbin

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

Ministry Area Wardens

Angela Treherne.	Tel: 07925 817464 ……..	Peoples Warden
Pam Morgan.	Tel: 07952 101179 ……..	Leaders Warden

This Publication was produced and printed by the Taff Rhymney Ministry Area - 2026

Edition No: 33 - Ministry Area Pew Sheet - October 2026

ARDAL WEINIDOGAETH
TÂF RHYMNI
TAFF RHYMNEY
MINISTRY AREA

Our Ministry Area comprises of the following Communities:

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

Harvest Thanksgiving.

4th October



Harvest Thanksgiving celebrates the successful gathering of crops and food from the land. It is held on the Sunday nearest to the Harvest Moon normally around late September or early October. During the celebrations churches are traditionally decorated with baskets of fruit, vegetables, and flowers. Harvest is celebrated to give thanks for the crops, which have been safely harvested. As Christians thank God for the food during harvest. Christians believe God made the world and everything in it. Christians also thank God for the variety of food and everything that helps the food to grow.

The month of October.

October is a month of transition, inviting us to embrace the wisdom of letting go, cultivate deep gratitude, and prepare our hearts for the quieter months ahead.

- **The Beauty of Letting Go:** Just as the trees release their leaves, October teaches us that every ending holds the seed of a new beginning. Surrendering what no longer serves us creates space for inner peace and renewal.
- **Cultivation of Gratitude:** As the harvest is gathered, we are reminded to appreciate the gift of life and maintain a hopeful outlook despite the noise of the world.
- **Transformation and Stillness:** Spiritually and in nature, the cooling air encourages us to slow our pace. It is a time to step back from rushing and allow ourselves the quiet needed to recharge.

'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.

News and Events

October's Reflection

"I have been visiting a number of the schools in our ministry area this week; and they are all saying the same thing- "where did September Go?!" The seasons change, and we find ourselves preparing for Remembrance Services in a month's time (at least 23 services, at the last count!), as well realising that half term is well on its way. October is traditionally a moment of reflection and thanksgiving; as the Harvest is gathered, we reflect on all that we are blessed with, resources that God provides, and pray prayers of thanks over all who have had stewardship over our food and resources, farmers, and all those 'key workers' whom we recognised for their invaluable contributions to our lives, without which we'd struggle.

The first week of October is '*Dyslexia Awareness Week'*; where many charities and action groups will share about their work to make the world a fairer and more accessible place, as we recognise our wonderful diversity. October is also *"Black History Month*"; and St Fagans Museum of Welsh life began the *"Proud to be M*e" as they began the "Black History Wales 365"; another reminder of the full richness of our humanity being found in the breadth of our diversity, recognising the diversity of Wales, and the contributions that we all make to our communities and *Cynefin*. Themes of identity, generous understanding, and charity with no boundaries, seem to emerge as we step into the Month of October. Each of these events and themes all remind us that we are made in the *Imago Dei*, the Image of God, and we all share in the *Missio Dei*, the Mission of God. The season of Harvest reminds us that all our gifts are from our God who loves us, see us and nurtures us. And God's Love is the love that calls us to Love One Another, as siblings in Christ, seeing the image of God in one another; as fellow pilgrims on the way.

Love is what Christians have always been known for. Even in the early Church, as the very first apostles came together- the powers of the time knew that at the heart of "The Way" was this Christian Love and acceptance. As Aristides report regarding Christians to Emperor Hadrian records in AD 125 "*They love one another, and he, who has, gives to him who has not, without boasting. And when they see a stranger, they take him into their own homes and rejoice over him as a very brother... Such, O King, is their manner of life, and verily, this is a new people, and there is something divine in the midst of them.*"."

Julian , the final non-Christian Emperor, also complained about the generous charity of the Christian church in AD362. "*Those impious [Christians] support not only their own poor, but ours as well, all men see that our people lack aid from us.* As we come into this season of Thanksgiving and Community; may we always be known for our Love and Service to one another, seeing each other with the love and care that our Father shows us; sharing that Love in the same generous spirit as the earliest apostles, in loving service of one another.

Because there is something in the midst of us. Jesus Christ our Lord, present in Word and Sacrament, calling us to share his selfless love, grace filled forgiveness, and perfect peace in the world. May we have the courage, wisdom and heart, to follow his call on us; today and always.
With Every Blessing,
Fr Rajiv"

St. Tyfaelog church are holding the following events during October.
All are welcome!!

- Sunday October 4th at 5.00pm, Songs of Praise led by the Silurian choir.
- Saturday October 31st - Elvis tribute act with wine and nibbles 3.00pm in the church hall. £5 a ticket.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Mothers' Union, Bargoed warmly invite you to our celebration evening on Thursday 15th October at 7.00pm in the Hall. We will be welcoming new members and celebrating long service.
Guest speaker: Fr Rajiv to tell us about his faith journey. A great chance to meet our Ministry Area Leader informally.
Refreshments provided (so please let Sue Hankins know if you're coming on 07908419585 or suehankins60@hotmail.co.uk) .
Look forward to seeing you!

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

District of Gelligaer Autumn Fayre

Our Autumn Fayre takes place on the 24th of October at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach, from 11.00am to 1.00pm. All are welcome!!

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Coming Soon :

Fr Lindsay's Pre Advent Talk Series on
Problems/Suffering, Evil, Forgiveness, Hope in Hopeless word
St Matthias Tuesdays @10:00 am 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th of November
All are welcome, refreshments available.

Reader Sue's Bible Talks & Discussion :
An opportunity to explore and reflect together interesting topics in an informal and relaxed way. From Wednesday the 7th of October; 11:30 am at St Matthias. All are welcome. Refreshments available.

HOLY BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION if anyone would like to explore receiving the sacraments of holy baptism or confirmation, please speak to one of the ministry team for further details.

Samaritan Purse Shoebox Appeal.

S. Catwg's Church and S. Margaret's Church are organising this year's shoebox appeal. It is a wonderful scheme which brings real Christmas joy to the children who receive no gifts in the most deprived and difficult parts of the world. All are invited and are welcome to take part by filling a shoebox with gifts. If you would like a shoebox to fill or would like more information please contact Mrs Cheryl Pugh, Sub warden of S. Catwg's Church. Thank you. ***Many Thanks Fr Gary***