

Church News / Notices.

Carols By Candlelight

A service of Nine Lessons and Carols
6.00pm Sunday 21st December, S. Catwg's Church

Christmas 2025

24th Christmas Eve,

Christmas Eucharist 'Early Midnight Mass', 7.00pm St. Catwg's.
Christmas Eucharist, at 10.00pm, St. Margaret's Gilfach.

25th Christmas Day,

Holy Eucharist at 9.00am St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach.
Holy Eucharist at 10.00am St. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer

*My best wishes for a joyful,
peaceful and very merry Christmas
to you and all your families.
From your priest and friend, Fr Gary.*

Church groups and Community groups – what's on!

Friends of Gilfach

Friends of Gilfach

Community Dance Group

Meet each Monday at 10.30am at
St. Margaret's Church. **All are welcome!!**

Bargoed Community Choir.

We meet each Thursday, during term time,
at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach
10.00 to 11.30 am. **All are welcome!!**

Everyone is welcome to join us for any of our groups and social meetings.



Scan to view our website.

**DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL AND OTHER USEFUL
INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING
WEBSITES:**

www.parishofgelligaer.org.uk (scan the QR Code)
Parish of Gelligaer Facebook page
llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk/ churchinwales.org.uk

St. Catwg

District of Gelligaer

St. Margaret

**SUNDAY 21st December 2025 -
THE T SUNDAY of ADVENT**



We are a welcoming Christian community serving the people of the District of Gelligaer.

Priest: Fr Gary Powell

Reader: Carolyn Corbin

Dear friends,

I hope that you are all well and that you have all had a good week. We extend a warm welcome to everyone. Please join us for worship. Please keep this newsletter and see our parish website and parish Facebook page which for information of our weekly services and forthcoming events and devotional aids.

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell

In today's gospel we read how Matthew (1. 18-25) explains the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus. It focuses on Joseph's perspective as he learns Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, not sexually, and is instructed by an angel to marry her, name the baby Jesus (meaning "Saviour"), fulfilling prophecy that a virgin would bear "Immanuel" ("God with us"), showcasing Joseph's faith and obedience to God's divine plan.

Carolyn

Worship Through the Week.

S. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer:

Sunday 11.00am Sung Eucharist
Thursday 10.00am Holy Eucharist

S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach:

Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist
Wednesday 10.00am Holy Eucharist

Everyone is welcome to join us for worship during the week and our social groups and meetings. Further details on the back of this newsletter.

Priest: Fr Gary Powell, The Rectory, Church Road, Gelligaer, CF82 8FW

Telephone: 01443 832119 / Email: GaryPowell@cinw.org.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact Fr Gary in the event of sickness or other need.

*For enquires regarding Baptisms and weddings or spiritual guidance please contact Fr Gary.
We are here to help.*

*'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.

The Liturgy of the Word.

Collect: God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings, Psalm and Gospel for Today.

A reading from book of the prophet Isaiah

7. 10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80. 1-7

Response: Let your face shine, O God, that we may be saved.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon
the cherubim, shine forth
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. (R)

Stir up your might, and come to save us!
Restore us, O God; let your face shine,
that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be
angry with your people's prayers?
You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure. (R)

You make us the scorn of our neighbours;
our enemies laugh among themselves.
Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved. (R)

A reading from letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

1. 1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel'
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

1. 18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.