

Church News / Notices.

Fr Darren's Farewell.

We are keeping Fr Darren and his family in our prayers as he prepares to move and take up his new post as Team Vicar in the Islwyn Ministry Area.

Fr Darren's last Sunday in our Ministry Area will be next Sunday 2nd August 2026 when he will hold a Farewell Service at 3.00pm in S. Tyfaelog's Church in Pontllytyn.

All are welcome to come and give thanks for his ministry among us and to wish him and his family well.

THE MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL

*will meet next at 7.00pm
on Wednesday 29th July 2026*

Church Groups and Community Groups – what's on!

Friends of Gilfach

Monthly Quiz Afternoon Tuesday
28th July at St. Margaret's Church,
Gilfach, 2.00pm.

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 26th July 2026 -
The Eighth Sunday after Trinity**



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.

In our gospel reading Jesus continues to teach us about the nature of the Kingdom of heaven. From being like a mustard seed that grows into the greatest of all shrubs, Jesus tells us, the Kingdom grows out into the world, offering a place, a home to everyone. For those who search for the Kingdom and who find it the Kingdom is a great treasure, not a treasure to be jealously guarded but a treasure to be shared because there is more than enough for everyone.

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell

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: Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern us in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, 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 the first book of the Kings.

3. 5-12

At Gibeon, the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119. 129-136

Response: Lead me, O Lord in the path of your commands.

Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. **(R)**

Turn to me and be gracious to me,

as is your custom towards those who love your name.

keep my steps steady according to your promise,

and never let iniquity have dominion over me. **(R)**

Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.

Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept. **(R)**

A reading from the letter of S. Paul to the Romans.

8. 26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes

for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed," says the Lord, "it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. Matthew.

13. 31-33, 44-52

Glory to you, O Lord.

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.' He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.' 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.