

## Church News / Notices.

### OUR LENT COURSES

Please keep an eye on the newsletter for details of our Lent courses.

### S. David's Day Cawl Lunch

This year we celebrate our national Patron St. David with a Cawl Lunch, on Sunday 1st March at 1.00pm in Neuadd St. Catwg's Hall. Tickets are £8.00 and will be available in both churches soon! All are welcome! Thank you.

### NEW MINISTRY AREA LEADER

*The Licencing of the Revd Rajiv Sidhu as our new Ministry Area Leader and the Licencing of Revd Gary Powell as Area Dean of the Deanery of Eglwysilan will take place at 4pm on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in Llandaff Cathedral. There will be a warm welcome to all who can join us to welcome our new Ministry Area Leader and new Area Dean.*

### Lent Group Meetings

Our Lent Groups will begin meeting this week  
6.30pm Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February in S. Margaret's  
11.00am Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February in S. Catwg's Church

### Church groups and Community groups – what's on!

<b>Friends of Gilfach</b> Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 Afternoon Quiz – S. Margaret's	<b>Friends of Gilfach</b>
<b>Community Dance Group</b> Meet each Monday at 10.30am at St. Margaret's Church. <b>All are welcome!!</b>	<b>Bargoed Community Choir.</b> We meet each Thursday, during term time, at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach 10.00 to 11.30 am. <b>All are welcome!!</b>
<i>Everyone is welcome to join us for any of our groups and social meetings.</i>	



Scan to view our website.

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

[www.pariahofgelligaer.org.uk](http://www.pariahofgelligaer.org.uk) (scan the QR Code)  
Parish of Gelligaer Facebook page  
[llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk/](http://llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk/) [churchinwales.org.uk](http://churchinwales.org.uk)

St. Catwg

District of Gelligaer

St. Margaret

SUNDAY 22nd February 2026 –  
*THE FIRST SUNDAY in LENT*



*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.

This week we begin our Lenten Journey towards Easter we are taken with Jesus in to the wilderness. Following his baptism Jesus goes into the wilderness where he considers how best to undertake his public ministry. Easy answers present themselves in the form of the temptations but Jesus rejects them all. He is determined to remain faithful to his heavenly Father and to be follow only his ways. Called to work with Jesus, we too are faced with questions as to how we can exercise our ministry today in the most effective way. Like Jesus we must seek always to follow the ways of God, to walk in his footsteps.

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](mailto: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 God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 book of Genesis**

**2. 15-17; 3. 1-7**

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 32      Response: Forgive us, Lord, the guilt of our sins.**

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit. **(R)**

While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me:  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. **(R)**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity:

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. **(R)**

Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. **(R)**

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Do not be like a horse or a mule without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. **(R)**

Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.  
Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. **(R)**

#### **A reading from the Paul's letter the Romans.**

**5. 12-19**

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **The Gospel Acclamation:**

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.** "Worship the Lord your God", says the Lord. "Serve only him." **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

#### **Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Matthew.**

**4. 1-11.**

##### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**