

## Church News / Notices.

### *Holy Week 2026*

Next Sunday we begin our commemoration of the most Holy and important week of the Churches year as we celebrate Palm Sunday. During Holy Week we are invited to accompany Jesus and the Apostles to Jerusalem to witness, once again, the events that stand at the very centre of our faith, the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ. Please join us for as many of our celebrations as you can as Jesus strengthens our faith and draws us into a closer relationship with himself.

### *Holy Week Services*

*Palm Sunday – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026*

*9.30am S. Margaret's Holy Eucharist 11.00am S, Catwg's*

#### *Compline and Address*

*7.00pm Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March S. Margaret's*

*7.00pm Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March S. Catwg's*

*7.00pm Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April S. Margaret's*

*MAUNDY THURSDAY – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026*

*7.00pm Sung Eucharist S. Catwg's Church*

*GOOD FRIDAY – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026*

*12.00 (Noon) Stations of the Cross, S. Margaret's*

*7.00pm Good Friday Liturgy, S. Catwg's*

*EASTER SUNDAY – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026*

*9.30am S. Margaret's Holy Eucharist 11.00am S, Catwg's*

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

#### *Friends of Gilfach*

Quiz Afternoon at St Margaret's Church,  
Gilfach on Tuesday 24th at 2.00pm.  
**All are welcome!**

#### *Friends of Gilfach*

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

[www.parishofgelligaer.org.uk](http://www.parishofgelligaer.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 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**  
**THE FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT -**  
**Passion Sunday**



*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 Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem and to Calvary. Today we see Jesus visiting his friends Martha and Mary whose brother Lazarus has just died. Martha reached out to Jesus in her grief and Jesus, asking to be taken to the place where Lazarus is buried, comes and calls Lazarus out of the tomb. To the amazement of everyone Lazarus appeared, fully restored to health. The raising of Lazarus strengthens the disciples as they accompany Jesus to Jerusalem and the raising of Lazarus strengthens us on our daily journey through life being a foretelling of the resurrection of Jesus himself.

*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  
Thursday 11.00am Lent Group

#### **S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach:**

Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist  
Wednesday 10.00am Holy Eucharist  
Wednesday 6.30pm Lent Group

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



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## The Liturgy of the Word.

**Collect:** Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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 prophet Ezekiel.

37. 1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.' This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm: 130 Response: Out of the depths, I cry to you O Lord.

Out of the depths, I cry to you, O Lord. Lord hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! (R)

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?  
But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. (R)

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word, I hope:  
my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,  
more than those who watch for the morning. (R)

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is great power to redeem.  
It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. (R)

#### A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

8. 6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### The Gospel Acclamation:

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him all you peoples.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

#### Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John.

11. 1-45

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**