

Church News / Notices.

Lent Groups 2025

Our Lent Groups this year will reflect on the experiences of those who travelled with Jesus to Jerusalem. I know it can be difficult for people to attend every meeting and so each session will be a "stand alone" session. The sessions will be shared between S. Catwg's Church and S. Margaret's Church.

Our remaining meetings are:

St. Catwg's Church on Thursday 27th March 11.00am

St. Catwg's Church on Thursday 3rd April 11.00am

St. Margaret's Church on Wednesday 9th April 6.30pm

THE MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL

will meet next at 7.00pm

Wednesday 26th March

in S. Margaret's Church.

Church groups and Community groups – what's on!

Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union

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 16th March 2025 -
THE SECOND SUNDAY of 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.

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell

Two weeks ago we celebrated Shrove Tuesday followed by Ash Wednesday – the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent can be a time for us to perhaps give up something as a sign of sacrifice, testing our self-discipline in that same way as Jesus was tempted by Satan to worship him but Jesus refused. It can also be time for us to take up something perhaps helping out with a charity or being more disciplined in our reading of scripture. Last week, our Lent Course began. The details of each meeting being given on the reverse of the newsletter.

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: Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant that all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, may reject those things that are contrary to their baptism, and follow in the way of Jesus Christ our Lord; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings, Psalm and Gospel for Today.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

15. 1-12, 17, 18

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27 Response: The Lord is the strong-hold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? **(R)**

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh - my adversaries and foes - they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident. **(R)**

One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. **(R)**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock. **(R)**

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord. **(R)**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, Lord, do I seek.
Do not hide your face from me. **(R)**

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will take me up. **(R)**

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. **(R)**

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord; be strong,
and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! **(R)**

A reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians

3.17 - 4.1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. saved.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke Glory to you, O Lord.

13. 31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.