ARDAL WEINIDOGAETH
TÂF RHYMNI
TAFF RHYMNEY
MINISTRY AREA

District of Gelligaer Magazine:

Churches of
St. Catwg's, Gelligaer
St. Margaret's, Gilfach

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

Harvest Thanksgiving

What's in this edition!

Greetings from the Rectory.

Reader Writes.

District News/Messages.

Friends of Gilfach

Books of the Bible.

For the Children!

and more…...



Edition No:27 ***October 2026*** ***Cover Price: £1.00***

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Greetings from the Rectory

Dear friends,



October is for us a special time of Thanksgiving. The month opens with our celebration of the Harvest with our Harvest Festival. For many life is still difficult.

As Christians we are called to love our neighbours as ourselves and to care for those in need. I know how generous you are and I would like to thank you all for your Harvest gifts and donations which will be delivered to the foodbank based at S. John's Church, Nelson, which serves the people and families of our Ministry Area. It is a service for which there is a great demand, which is rising all the time. Your very generous gifts will be greatly and gratefully received. Thank you all!

As the autumn draws in, I am immensely grateful to the members of our Social Committee who have put together a program of events which will bring us together as a community and help support the work of our Churches. Please keep your eyes on the magazine and the weekly newsletters for more details.

At the beginning of October, we enjoy our Harvest Lunch, and the Autumn Fayre takes place at the

end of October. We look forward to seeing your there.

I keep you all in my prayers.

Every blessing from your friend and Priest,

Fr Gary.

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Why do churches celebrate harvest?

Harvest is celebrated **to give thanks for the crops, which have been safely harvested**. Christians thank God for the food during harvest. Christians believe God made the world and everything in it. Christians also thank God for the variety of food and everything that helps the food to grow.

Leviticus 23:22

" 'When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and for the foreigner residing among you. I am the LORD your God. ' "

Reader Writes.



The past few weeks in school have been wonderful – working in schools that I have was in last year and some that I am returning to after a few years, meeting new headteachers, teachers and pupils and returning to the routines of the week.

Since the middle of September, it has been lovely going into schools and hearing the children practicing their songs and poems for harvest assemblies and towards the end of the month we will be welcoming schools into our churches for their harvest services.

Travelling through the valley allows me to try various routes to find either the most direct or the quickest way from school to school. The first week was fine – only one set of traffic lights. The next week was the same, the same set of lights but only this time the lights were stuck on red and as the opposite set of lights could not be seen, it was not the best of journeys – luckily no accidents!! Lesson learnt – from now on, I think I will use the mountain road to get to my next school!!!

Having traffic lights on our roads is similar to God's plan for each of us on life's journey. Red – is similar to God telling us to stop and have a rest. Orange – is similar to God telling us to prepare and think and Green – is similar to God telling us all is well and we are ready to go.

Carolyn

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew 24:44-51, Luke 12:40-46

Jesus warned his disciples to be always ready for his return at the end of time by telling the story of two servants



By the Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the C of E.

Premier League footballer says: 'faith helped me through injury.'

A Premier League footballer has revealed how finding faith helped him cope with a series of injuries that kept him off the pitch for periods totalling more than three years.

Josh Dasilva, who plays for west London-based Brentford FC, suffered a hip injury in February 2021 that kept him out of the team for a year, and then a hamstring injury followed between August 2023 and January 2024. Then, in February 2024, Dasilva suffered a serious knee injury while in training, and did not return to the team until the dying minutes of Brentford's 3-0 victory over West Ham in May 2026. The crowd gave Dasilva a standing ovation and cheered his every touch of the ball.

Dasilva's way back to fitness has been long and painful. He now says, "When you seek God honestly and diligently, you'll find true peace. When I was in dark places, that's what pulled me out." It was four months into rehabilitation, following his knee injury, that Dasilva made a choice that transformed his outlook and his life.

He recalls, "One of my closest friends invited me to church. I'd grown up in church but lost my way. My parents are strong believers. Whenever I went home and visited my parents, my mum would say, 'Let's pray quickly' and sometimes it wasn't so quickly!" Returning to church made a major impact on Dasilva. He explains, "Since taking it seriously, my whole life has changed. Faith has become a big part of my life and how I want to live my life. If it wasn't for Christ, if it wasn't for Jesus, I wouldn't be here right now. "What were the biggest things that helped me? Obviously, my family and friends and the club, but my faith has been number one."

Dasilva was baptised in May 2025, and prayer and worship became part of his daily routine. He explains, "I always dedicate the first hour of the day to God. I pray and I read. It directs my day.

"God is faithful. Regardless of my situation, whether I was able to play another game of football or not. I knew that God loved me regardless. I knew I would be fine

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100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh



One hundred years ago, on 14th October 1926, the children's book *Winnie-the-Pooh,* by A A Milne, was published.

It was set in the Hundred Acre Wood, an innocent world described as "largely Edenic" but based on Ashdown Forest in East Sussex, which the Milne family often explored from their home in nearby Hartfield. It came about through the encouragement of E H Shepard, Milne's colleague on the humorous magazine *Punch*, who provided the beguiling illustrations.

Alan Alexander Milne was firstly a playwright and occasional mystery story writer who, again with Shepard, wrote the book of children's verse *When We Were Very Young*, which contained the seeds of *Winnie-the-Pooh* and its sequel, *The House on Pooh Corner*, all of which proved extremely popular.

It was apparently during a family visit to London Zoo, where Christopher Robin encountered a tame bear called Winnipeg, that the book was conceived. Winnie's literary friends, such as Piglet and Eeyore, were originally toys of the real Christopher Robin.

Sadly, the book eventually had an adverse effect on the Milne family. The author said that he felt "amazement and disgust" at the fame his son had had thrust upon him: "I do not want C R Milne to ever wish that his name was Charles Robert." Nevertheless, the son did become estranged from his parents, especially following his marriage to his mother's niece.

The effect of the book on others has been happier. A plaque at Ashdown Forest declares that Milne and Shepard "captured the magic of Ashdown Forest and gave it to the world".

Despite creating a kind of Eden, Milne, who was a pacifist, said little about religion. But he did say on joining the Home Guard that "in fighting Hitler we are truly fighting the Devil, the Anti-Christ ... Hitler was a crusader against God." The four Winnie-the-Pooh books went on to sell more than 50 million copies worldwide. The first book became the first-ever foreign-language book on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

Aberfan: 60 years on

Canon Paul Hardingham looks back on a national tragedy…

On 21st October 1966 the Aberfan disaster took place in South Wales. A colliery slag heap collapsed, releasing a torrent of slurry onto the village. It engulfed a number of houses and Pantglas Junior School, killing 116 children and 28 adults. It was a disaster that shocked the nation. As we reflect on it today, we are left asking the question, *'where was God when this happened?'*

At the time there was a mixture of strong emotions: grief and sadness over the loss of those who had died, and anger against the Coal Board in allowing the disaster. However, people gave their energy to support each another. A local Baptist Minister, Revd Kenneth Hayes, who lost his eldest son at the school, responded in this way: *'For 36 hours he was working non-stop either at the school, or going around comforting bereaved and stricken families and kept open house for many who came seeking news and comfort.'*

How should we respond to such an incident? *'Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?'* (Romans 8:35). Paul reminds us that even in our darkest times of loss, God is with us to bring comfort. *'Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.'* (34). Paul also tells us that Jesus understands our suffering and is praying for us. *'If God is for us, who can be against us?'* (31). We can let go of bitterness and blame, because God is a God of justice.

King Charles III (then Prince of Wales) on the 50th anniversary summed up the community's response: *'darkest sorrow, but also the most shining selflessness.*

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St Francis – and the Life of Simplicity

Just about the only thing most people know about Francis of Assisi is that he talked to the birds. Church-goers also know the popular hymn based on his famous prayer, 'Make me a channel of your Peace', which was sung at the funeral of Princess Diana.

However, Italy's patron saint, whose feast day is this month (the 4th) was a more complex, and some would say controversial character. His life spanned the end of the twelfth and beginning of the thirteenth centuries. He was born into a very wealthy family, but after what he called his 'conversion' standing before a crucifix. He renounced all his possessions. In fact, he stripped himself of his of his wealthy garments in a public square in his home-town, Assisi. For the rest of his life he and his followers, including his feminine counterpart. St Claire longed, prayed and worked for a life of simplicity – a lifestyle without luxury or privileges. For the Franciscan brothers and the Poor Claires. This meant no private possessions at all. Francis saw that many poor people without these things, actually seemed to live happier and more fulfilling lives than the ambitious rich. He spoke of a simple life not shaped by money or power but by love and mutual concern. As his hymn says, 'it is in giving of ourselves that we receive'.

Of course, poverty; in our modern western world is seldom a matter of blissful simplicity, as present-day Franciscans recognise. For too many it is a matter of poor diet, over-crowded rooms, rough sleeping and unemployment. The call of today's followers of Francis and Claire is that those who are better-off should 'live more simply, so that others can simply live'. Christians follow a Master who said that he came with 'good news for the poor'. They believe that many of us today can be that good news.

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Notices!

100 Club Winners!

August 2026

Date	Number	Winner	Church
2nd	2	Christopher Hunt	St. Margaret's
9th	38	Darren Niland	St. Catwg's
16th	55	Sarah Lundregan	St. Margaret's
23rd	27	Lyn Evans	St. Margaret's
30th	60	Caroline Jones	St. Margaret's

Jottings from Jenn and Lynne

Following a recent MAC meeting we can report that we are still awaiting a response for work on St. Margaret's windows. Please pray for our situation regarding this work. Ministry Area financial situation has shown a slight improvement. On behalf of Gelligaer district our thanks to everyone from both churches for your generous and regular contributions to our district. We discussed outreach to families in the MA and getting to know visitors to our churches.

Father Darren's farewell

A service of mixed emotions foe Darren, Louise and family, as well as those who have been involved in his career thus far. A short service at St, Tyfaelog's church Pontlottyn, followed by afternoon tea, in a very full church hall. Presentations made to Darren from a number of people. Our gift from both churches presented by Pat Davies, who gave a very moving speech. Thanks Pat. After consultation with Louise, we gave Darren a beautiful, embroidered stole depicting Noah's Ark and the rainbow and a generous cheque from both churches. I am sure he will be able to use the stole on school visits as well as at church services Darren will be missed for his sense of humour and self-presentation which we learned to love. God bless him in his new ministry.

Jenn and Lynne

God in the Arts

Editor: Have you ever thought how an actual church building might provide a series of visual aids to spiritual meditation? The Rev Michael Burgess continues his procession through a church building, this month pausing to consider the significance of the church pulpit.

'He gave us eyes to see them' – the choir stall



'Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing *My God and King.*' George Herbert's poem from 'The Temple' tells us that 'the church with psalms must shout. No door can keep them out.' It is a reminder of the rich tradition of music in our worship that reaches back to the people of the Old Testament praising the Lord. 2 Chronicles 5 paints a vivid picture of musicians and singers gathered to welcome the Ark of the Lord to Solomon's Temple.

Because music is such an important part of worship, churches have set aside places for the singers to offer praise and petition. Some of the most wonderful choir stalls in the land can be found in Lancaster Priory, the parish church of St Mary. They are 14 in total, the third oldest choir stalls in England dating back to the 14th century. John Ruskin called them the finest in the country. The canopies are richly decorated with foliage and carved heads, and they enclose tapestries from the 1970s that depict saints and shields. Beneath are the seats: misericords with carvings that have survived the vandalism of the Civil War.

We can imagine the medieval monks gathered in these stalls to sing the offices. Today the stalls are a resplendent, harmonious blend of the old and the new – a work of beauty for the eye, just as the music offered there is a work of beauty for the ear. The word 'choir' means a dance to God, and the Priory has a fine choir whose chants and hymns dance from side to side of the chancel and resound in the air. But the music sung there is

not just for our enjoyment: its focus is God. Herbert tells us that the songs we create here in our churches on earth have no other destination but the courts of heaven.

Photograph from Lancaster Priory. Credit: Michael D Beckwith, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons.

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God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Do the Bible and Science contradict each other?



For the Christian, the Bible is God's Word to us; it tells us about His character and creative purposes, how He has related to people in the past, and His promises for the future. Science is a specific way of studying the world, exploring the physical properties of things – a wonderful way to explore God's creation. So, the question to ask if the Bible and Science seem to be contradicting each other is, have we made a mistake in interpreting one or the other?

Science is very good at answering certain types of questions: 'What size is it?', 'How fast does it travel?', 'What is it made of?', and so on. Questions like 'What's it for?', 'What should I do with it?', and 'What's it worth?' can't be answered using scientific methods. Some of the misunderstanding in discussions of science and religion come from not recognising the limits of science.

It's also important to recognise what the Bible is, and what sorts of questions it can answer. The Bible was written well before people began to investigate the world in ways we would recognise as scientific. Of

course, people in the Ancient Near East were studying the world around them, observing the movements of the stars, the processes of life and death that happened all around them, the seasons, the behaviour of physical objects, and so on. But they did not study the mechanisms underlying these things systematically using the tools of science, and they did not see or describe the world in scientific terms – not because they weren't intelligent, but because science as we know it wasn't happening at that time.

Instead, the biblical writers used words that were commonly used in their own cultures to record events, share truth and wisdom, and tell stories that convey deep truth about God's character. If we want to understand God's intention in inspiring these words, we need to do some careful work to connect with those ancient writers and find out what they meant, before we can discover what those words mean to us today.

These principles can help us have far more fruitful conversations about science and Christian faith. If we allow any apparent conflict between Science and the Bible to fuel our search for understanding, not only will we learn as individuals, but we will be able to draw others into a conversation that is relevant to wider society today.

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MOTHERS UNION 150-year CELEBRATION

Although we are no longer a branch a number of us are still MU members. To celebrate 150 years of the Mothers Union and Mary Sumner day, we joined with Monmouth Diocese for lunch at Green Meadows Golf Club Cwmbran. About 150 members – both male and female – enjoyed lunch and then the speaker for the occasion was Lowri Washington Jones, known to us all locally. She spoke of her experiences of 'MOTHERING' both of herself as a child being mothered, and her experiences of mothering others especially as a teacher. Lowri is a member of our Worldwide Council and will be travelling with Sue Rivers to Durban, to celebrate at the Worldwide gathering in late September.

Jenn and Lynne.

Friends of Gilfach

We continue with our meetings etc and in September we just had a meeting to discuss anything needed in the community. We still have a fair amount of money to distribute so were considering different ideas.

Llamau have still not got back to me despite Christine and David asking them. We look forward to helping them when they respond. Our coffee mornings and quiz afternoons are still good company and laughs at some of the questions, and more so the answers!

In our meeting in October Iiris has agreed to tell us about her early life growing up in Finland. She had to be persuaded but I am sure we will find it fascinating to hear her life story.

God Bless

Kath x

Samaritan Purse Shoebox Appeal.

S. Catwg's Church and S. Margaret's Church are organising this year's shoebox appeal. It is a wonderful scheme which brings real Christmas joy to the children who receive no gifts in the most deprived and difficult parts of the world. All are invited and are welcome to take part by filling a shoebox with gifts. If you would like a shoebox to fill or would like more information please contact Mrs Cheryl Pugh, Sub warden of S. Catwg's Church. Thank you.

Many Thanks Fr Gary.

Books of the Bible.

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the books of the Bible.

What's the Big Idea? - an Introduction to the Minor Prophets

The Minor Prophets are *'minor'* not because they lack importance, but due to their length. The twelve prophets, Hosea through Malachi, make up the last books of the Old Testament, and were written from around 770 BC (Jonah) until 433 BC (Malachi).

The prophets fall into three time-periods:

Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah and Nahum = Assyrian period

Habakkuk and Zephaniah = Babylonian period

Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi = post-exilic period.

Hosea and Amos spoke to Israel (Northern Kingdom), calling the people to acknowledge their sin and return to God. Joel and Micah addressed Judah (Southern Kingdom), including prophesies about the coming of the Messiah and the church. Habakkuk and Zephaniah spoke to Judah shortly before they were taken into exile into Babylon. Obadiah spoke God's judgment against the Edomites, while Jonah and Nahum both spoke against Assyria and their capital city of Ninevah. Following the people's return from exile, Haggai exhorted the people not to neglect rebuilding the Temple. Zechariah encouraged them with the promise of the future glory of Zion and of its shepherd king, while Malachi reminded them that if he is rejected, God would judge His people.

The minor prophets remind us that God cared not just for the Jews, but also for the Edomites, Assyrians, Egyptians and all of His creation. For Christians today the challenge remains to take the message of God's grace to all nations in the power of the Holy Spirit:

'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.' (Joel 2:28, 29)

Services and Holy Days

Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist will be held twice weekly in both our Churches:

St. Margaret's each Sunday at 9.30am and each Wednesday at 10.00am. St. Catwg's each Sunday at 11.00am and each Thursday at 10.00am.

Date		Services and Holy Days
4th Oct		**THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY *after* TRINITY / THANKSGIVING FOR THE HARVEST**
11th Oct		**THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY *after* TRINITY**
18th Oct		**LUKE, EVANGELIST**
25th Oct		**THE LAST SUNDAY *after* TRINITY *or* BIBLE SUNDAY**

Below is a list detailing the dates, time and locations for the Welsh Eucharist services, for the coming year (2026).

ARDAL WEINIDOGAETH
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MINISTRY AREA

Bendigaid Holy Eucharist

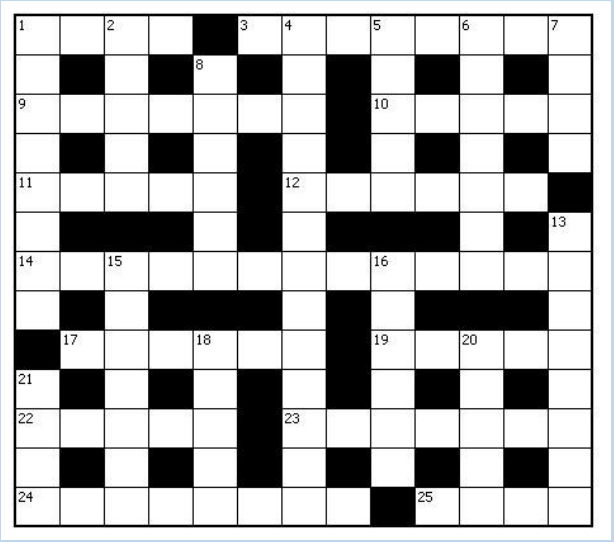
31st	Ionawr/January	S. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer
7th	Mawrth/March	S. Matthias' Church, Treharris
11th	Ebrill/April	S. Gwlady's Church, Bargoed
2nd	Mai/May	Holy Trinity, Ystrad Mynach
6th	Mehefin/June	S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach
4th	Gorffenaf/July	Llanfabon, Nelson
	Awst/August	Dim Gwasanaeth / No Service
5th	Medi/September	S. Margaret's Church, Gelligaer
3rd	Hydref/October	S. Tyfaelog's Church, Pontlottyn
7th	Tachwedd/November	S. John's Church, Nelson
5th	Rhagfyr/December	TBA

DYDD SADWRN 11.00AM SATURDAY

yn Gymraeg – in Welsh gyda te, coffi ac amser i gymdeithasu / with tea, coffee and fellowship.

Croeso cynnes i bawb / A warm welcome to everyone!

October's Crossword Challenge



Across

1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You — to insult God's high priest?"' (Acts 23:4) (4)

3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)

9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of — , the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite' (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)

10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)

11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)

12 Listen (anag.) (6)

14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)

17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)

19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)

22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)

23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)

24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)

25 Note (anag.) (4)

Down

1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)

2 'I — — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)

4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)

5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)

6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4–5, 7) (7)

7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)

8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)

13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)

15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)

16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)

18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)

20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)

21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)

Crossword solution - Page 30

Shampoo

Why didn't I realise this sooner? It's the shampoo I use in the shower that is my problem. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning: 'FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY.' No wonder I have been gaining weight.

District of Gelligaer Website

Scan the QR code on your smart phone, then open in browser to visit our website or visit us on https://www.parishofgelligaer.org.uk

Sudoku Challenge

				2		4		
4	8		7		9	5		6
6			3			9	2	
1					2	6	9	
		5				8		
	9	6	1					2
	2	8			5			9
5		1	2		6		8	7
		3		7				

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Solution can be found on page 39

For Harvest Thanksgiving

Galatians 6:7-9: "A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Psalm 107:37: "They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest."

Psalm 67:6: "The earth has yielded its harvest. God, our God, blesses us."



La Serata Italiana (The Italian Evening)

Friday 11 September, and Neuadd St Catwg's Hall has become a corner of Italy for the evening. Accordion music fills the air, sunny Italian scenes are projected onto the stage wall, and signoras in stripey tops, red neckerchiefs, and gondolier hats have been busily preparing tables in the national red, white, and green colours, with matching napkins. Candles (battery powered) and olive branches complete the table decorations. Grissini and bowls of baby spinach complete the look.

The kitchen is humming with activity, preparing the delicious choices of main courses: pasta bolognese, salmon farfalle, or lasagne, crusty garlic bread, and indulgent desserts: profiteroles or tiramisu (with extra cream as desired). The restaurant area has not a spare seat. A table is laden with bottles of wine and soft drinks, and another is displaying a comprehensive collection of raffle prizes. A young cameriere attends the guests with offers of liquid refreshment and raffle tickets. Conversation is abundant, but mostly in English apart from the occasional Grazie and Prego.

Amidst all the lively chatter, the guests are invited to complete a quiz testing their knowledge of the Italian peninsula (most could do better!), and between courses another quiz with an Italian slant, with some easy questions (e.g. Sophia Loren) and one that stumped everyone (The Lateran Treaty!). The quizzes are well received, and the results are quite close according to Quizmaster Fr. Gary, who made us all welcome and said grace.

So many people contributed to the evening's success: June and the rest of the Social Committee, and other willing volunteers. It is very special to be able to bring people together at events like this and create more happy memories.

Alla prossima! (To the next time!).

Neil



Church Reading Rotas

If anyone wishes to be on the readers rota for either church, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant church wardens.

St. Catwg's Reading Rota

September 2026		October 026		November 2026	
6th	Pat Davies	4th	Christine Harvey	1st	Janeve Manca
13th	Paul Thomas	11th	Pat Davies	8th	Christine Harvey
20th	Cheryl Pugh	18th	Paul Thomas	15th	Pat Davies
27th	Janeve Manca	25th	Cheryl Pugh	22nd	Paul Thomas
				29th	Cheryl Pugh

St. Margaret's Reading Rota

September 2026		October 026		November 2026	
6th	June Phillips	4th	Kath Llewellyn	1st	June Phillips
13th	Lynne Thomas	11th	Alex Ball	8th	Enid Mayne
20th	Neil Hazell	18th	Christine Thorpe	15th	Jenn East
27th	Mark Jones	25th	Chris Ball	22nd	Jennette Jones
				29th	Linda Bartlett

Sticks

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

November's Magazine 2026

Please can you forward any news, articles etc, to me by Sunday 26th October, for inclusion in the November's edition.

Many Thanks Chris *(email: chriscorbin1961@gmail.com)*

St. Margaret's Cleaning Rota

Should you wish to join the St. Margaret's cleaning rota please contact the relevant Church Wardens.

St. Margaret's Cleaning Rota					
September 2026		**October 026**		**November 2026**	
6th	Kath / June	**4th**	Kath / June	**1st**	Kath / June
13th	Lynda Bartlett / Sue	**11th**	Lynda Bartlett / Sue	**8th**	Lynda Bartlett / Sue
20th	Lynda Trollope / Enid	**18th**	Lynda Trollope / Enid	**15th**	Lynda Trollope / Enid
27th	Jeannette / Audrey	**25th**	Jeannette / Audrey	**22nd**	Jeannette / Audrey
				29th	Kath / June

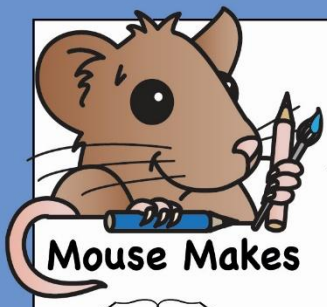
Sundays Bible Readings for the Month of Sept 2026

The Season of TRINITY			
		Continuous	Related
Week 1	**Sunday 4th October**	Exodus 20. 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 or 19. 7-14 Philippians 3. 4b-14 Matthew 21. 33-46	Isaiah 5. 1-7 Psalm 80. 7-15 Philippians 3. 4b-14 Matthew 21. 33-46
	Harvest	Deuteronomy 8. 7-18 or 28. 1-14 2 Corinthians 9. 6-15	Psalm 65 Luke 12. 16-30 or 17. 11-19
Week 2	**Sunday 11th October**	Exodus 32. 1-14 Psalm 106. 1-6, [19-23] Philippians 4. 1-9 Matthew 22. 1-14	Isaiah 25. 1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4. 1-9 Matthew 22. 1-14
Week 3	**Sunday 18th October**	**LUKE, EVANGELIST**	Isaiah 35. 3-6 or Acts 16. 6-12a Psalm 147. 1-7 2 Timothy 4. 5-17 Luke 10. 1-9
Week 4	**Sunday 25th October**	Deuteronomy 34. 1-12 Psalm 90. 1-6, [13-17] 1 Thessalonians 2. 1-8 Matthew 22. 34-46	Leviticus 19. 1, 2, 15-18 Psalm 1 1 Thessalonians 2. 1-8 Matthew 22. 34-46
	BIBLE SUNDAY	Neh. 8. 1-4a, [5, 6,] 8-12 Psalm 119. 9-16 Colossians 3. 12-17 Matthew 24. 30-35	

The monthly readings are taken from the Church in Wales – Word of the Lord 2011 copyright © Church in Wales Publications 2011

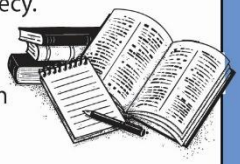
For our Younger Generation.





The **Bible** is a collection of books, written by many different people who were helped and inspired by God. The **Bible** includes books of history, law, poetry and songs, wisdom, testimony, letters and prophecy.

The **Bible** encourages us, corrects us and teaches us about God and how we can be friends with Him.





1. How many books are there in the New Testament?

2. Which book of the Bible has the shortest title?



3. The Word of God is sharper than a two edged _ _ _ _ _
Hebrews 4:12

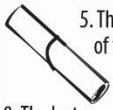




6. God's word is like?
A _ _ _ _
and a _ _ _ _ _
Psalm 119:105

4. He was an Old Testament prophet that has a book named after him.

5. The first book of the Bible.





8. The last book in the Bible.

9. The Old Testament book of poetry and songs.





11. The last book in the Old Testament.

10. Who wrote the third book of the New Testament?

7. What are the first four books of the New Testament known as?

12. Which book tells the story of the spread of Christianity?



13. The Bible is also known as the _ _ _ _ _ of God.
Hebrews 4:12

14. A book of the Bible named after a woman





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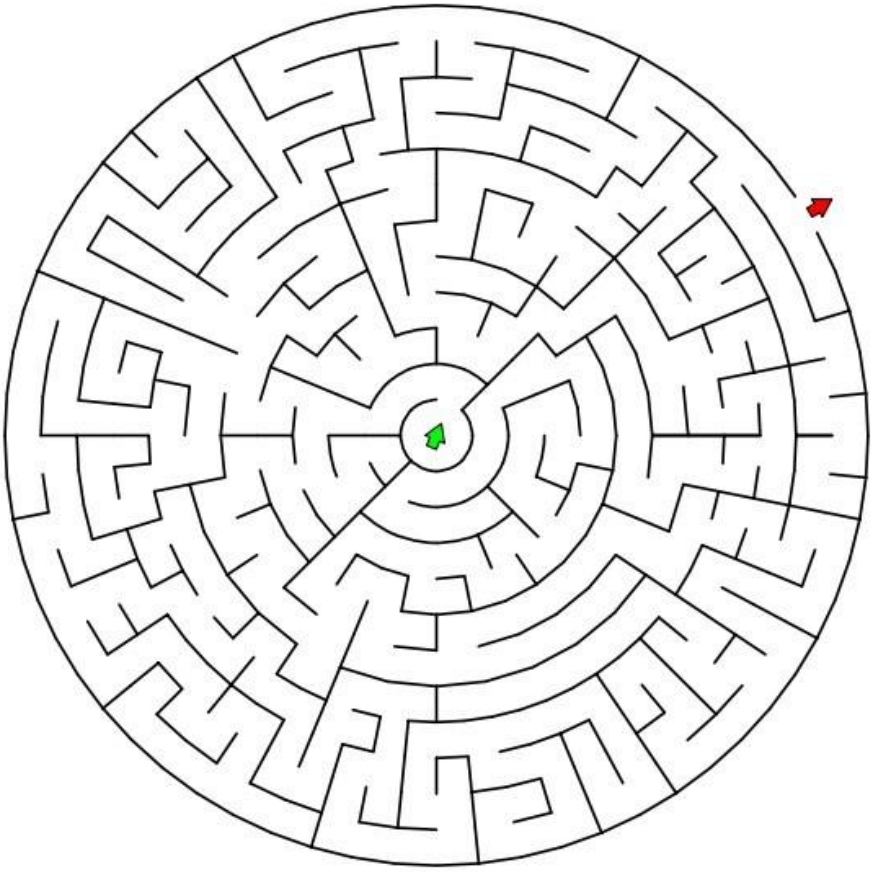
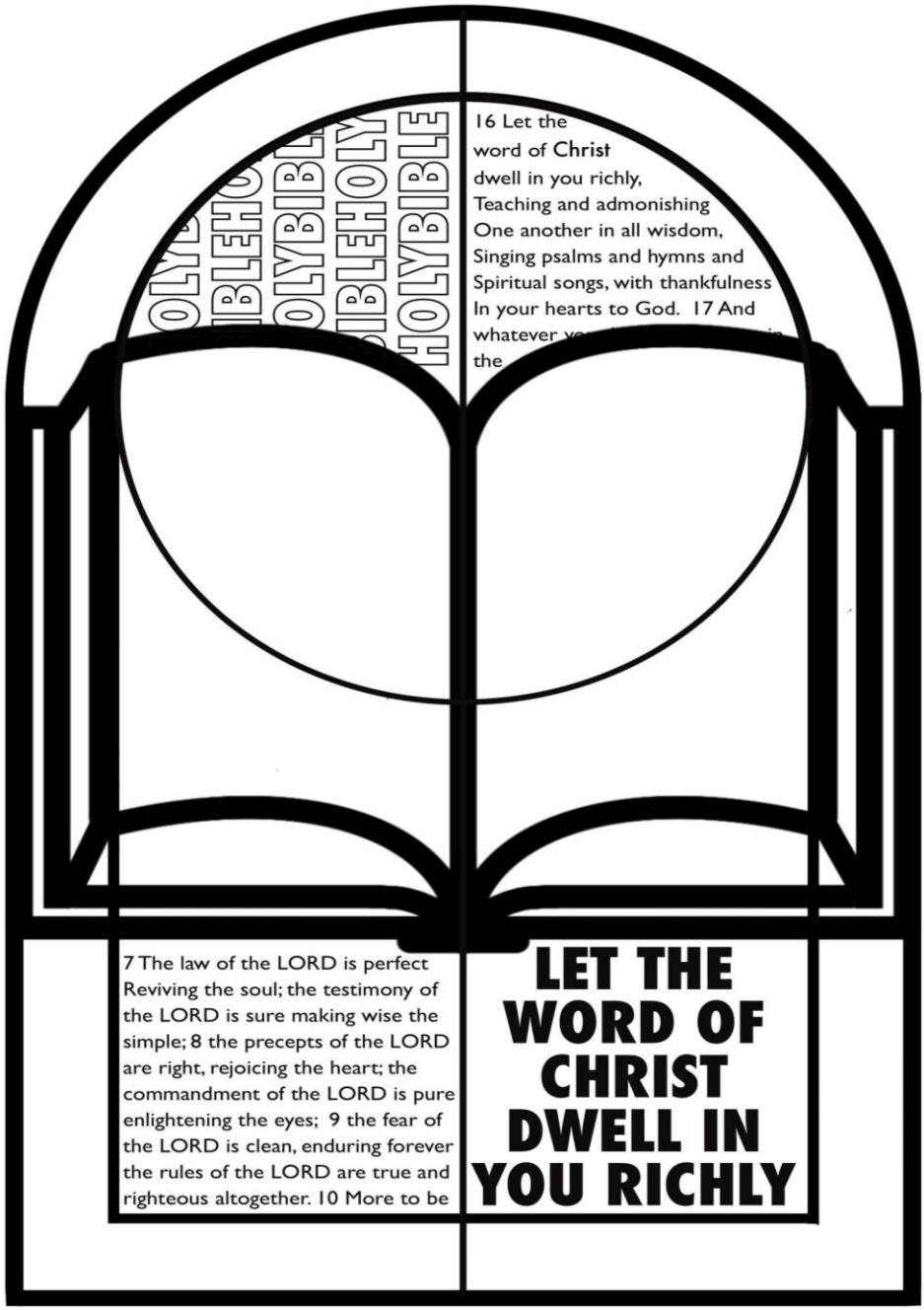
Complete the Maze.



Colour in!



Colour in!


16 Let the
word of Christ
dwell in you richly,
Teaching and admonishing
One another in all wisdom,
Singing psalms and hymns and
Spiritual songs, with thankfulness
In your hearts to God. 17 And
7 The law of the LORD is perfect
Reviving the soul; the testimony of
the LORD is sure making wise the
simple; 8 the precepts of the LORD
are right, rejoicing the heart; the
commandment of the LORD is pure
enlightening the eyes; 9 the fear of
the LORD is clean, enduring forever
the rules of the LORD are true and
righteous altogether. 10 More to be
LET THE
WORD OF
CHRIST
DWELL IN
YOU RICHLY

From the Register

Christian Funerals		
September 2026		
3rd		**Mrs Melvina Burton RIP**
8th		**Mrs Angela Jones RIP**
14th		**Mr Defryd Jones RIP**
17th		**Mrs Morwen Price RIP**
29th		**Mrs Charlene While RIP**

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.





Gone yet not forgotten,
Although we are apart,
Your spirit lives within me,
Forever in my heart.
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Author Unknown

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Prayers for the Bereaved

May the love of God and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ console you and gently wipe away every tear from your eyes. May Almighty God bless you and look after you at this difficult time. ***Amen.***

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Lord, in our time of grief we turn to you. God of love hear our cries. Listen to our prayers for whom you have called out of this world. Lead them to your kingdom of light and peace. ***Amen.***

Service Times

Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist will be held twice weekly in both our Churches:

St. Catwg's each Sunday at 11.00am and each Thursday at 10.00am and St. Margaret's each Sunday at 9.30am and each Wednesday at 10.00am.

Both of our Churches have a friendly and welcoming atmosphere where you can worship our Lord, Jesus Christ. Everybody is welcome to attend any of our services listed below. If it is your first visit to the Parish and you are new to our Church, please do not hesitate to make yourself known to us.

SUNDAY

9.30 am. Sung Eucharist at St. Margaret's Church

1st Sunday of each Month - Family Services

11.00 am. Sung Eucharist at St. Catwg's Church

An audio service is available on our website each Sunday.

Please visit our website at www.parishofgelligaer.org.uk then go to our publications or weekly events page

WEDNESDAY

10.00 am. Holy Eucharist at St. Margaret's Church,

followed by Tea and Coffee

THURSDAY

10.00 am. Holy Eucharist at St. Catwg's Church

General Disclaimer

The appearance of comments, articles, advertisements, hyperlinks, or statements made within our District magazine do not necessarily represent the views of the District of Gelligaer Wardens and Committee. While we aim to include accurate and up-to-date information at the time of publication, we make no warranties or representations as to the accuracy. We therefore assume no liability or responsibility for any error or omission in the content.

Directory of Contacts

Should you wish to contact a specific group that meets in our churches, please use the relevant telephone number from the list below.

Thank You!

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Email. carolyncorbin63@aol.com

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Branch Secretary …….....

Branch Treasurer …….. June Phillips. Tel: 01443 835977

Community Dance Group: ….. June Phillips. Tel: 01443 835977

Flower Arranging Group: …… Nesta Williams. Tel: 01443 831009

Arts and Crafts Group: …… June Phillips. Tel: 01443 835977

Neuadd St. Catwg's Hall: …….
(Bookings and Enquiries)

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Solutions to this month's puzzles.

3	5	9	6	2	8	4	7	1
4	8	2	7	1	9	5	3	6
6	1	7	3	5	4	9	2	8
1	7	4	5	8	2	6	9	3
2	3	5	9	6	7	8	1	4
8	9	6	1	4	3	7	5	2
7	2	8	4	3	5	1	6	9
5	4	1	2	9	6	3	8	7
9	6	3	8	7	1	2	4	5

*Answer to **Sudoku** on page 19*



*Answers to **Crossword** on page 17*

This Publication was produced and printed by the Taff Rhymney Ministry Area, District of Gelligaer. ***2026***

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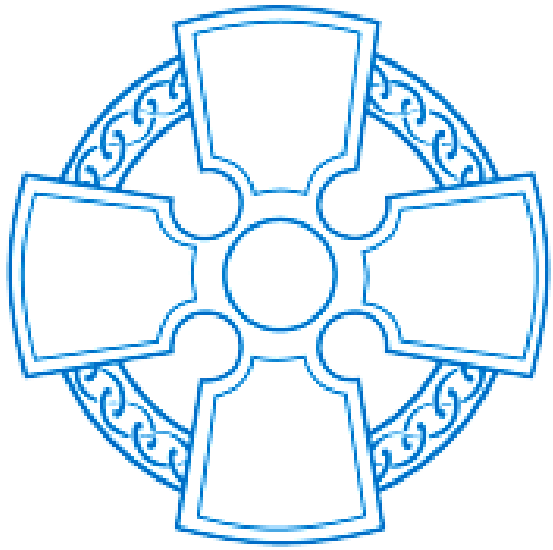
TAFF RHYMNEY
MINISTRY AREA





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