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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.*

The Season of TRINITY

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.....



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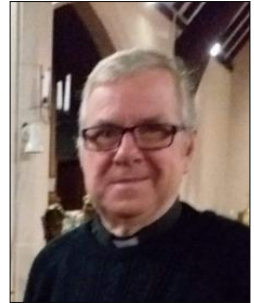
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Greetings from the Rectory

Dear friends,

People often comment that as we grow older time passes ever more quickly. Well, this year seems to be passing as quickly as ever. It is hard to believe that we have arrived in September already. September seems to mark a change of gear, children return to school and our attention is drawn forward to the autumn and, dare I say it, Christmas begins to appear on the horizon.



It is a great comfort to us that as we travel through the year and as we travel through our lives, we do so with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ at our side. In his own life Jesus has led the way and opened for us the path we are to follow. He faced betrayal and death on the cross before coming to the glory of the resurrection and taking his eternal throne in the Kingdom of Heaven. It is invaluable to us that as we face our own trials and tribulations, we do so with Jesus at our side, strengthening us and encouraging us. With Jesus at our side nothing can overcome us and we too can look forward to sharing in the glory of his resurrection in the eternity of heaven. What wonderful news that is! News, that we are called to share with those among whom we live. News to give hope, a hope that will never disappoint.

After a couple of quiet months over the summer Church activities begin once again. I am very grateful to the Social Committee for all the social

and fundraising events that they have organised for the next few months. The next event is the Italian Night to be held on Friday 11th September. Please see our weekly newsletter, church facebook page or the church website for more details. Please keep an eye out for all our events. I am very grateful to all who support our various events. Finance remains a real challenge for our Churches, and we are very grateful for all the support that you give to us. Your support is vital if we are to continue to witness to the love of Jesus Christ for all his people in our own neighbourhoods.

I keep you all in my prayers.

**Every blessing from your friend and Priest,
Fr Gary.**

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Prayer for September 2026

Dear Lord, September – the month of new starts!

New terms, new groups, new friends, new hopes, every year.

Lord, be with us!

Lord, thank you for the new start you offer us when we put our trust in Jesus. A new start that we make once – and then can renew every day.

Every time we falter, you pick us up. Every time we come back to you, you forgive us and accept us.

Thank you, Lord, for never letting us down, for never leaving or forsaking us, that new starts with you are always possible, not just in September.

*In Jesus' name, **Amen.***



By Daphne Kitching

Reader Writes.

All too soon the school holidays have drawn to a close and I am happy to get back to a routine. Other households will find that the hustle and bustle of the mornings has arrived, from trying to get the children out of bed to getting them to school. For some children, this will be their first year at school and for others the first term of their last school year. Whichever



‘first’ this is for the children and young people, it marks the beginning of a new chapter on their journey of life – for those starting nursery it will be making new friends and for those in their last year it will entail working towards a future post school/college/university. On this journey of life there will always be twists and turns and maybe a few wrong turns and bumps along the way, but no journey is ever straight forward.

Irrespective of age, each of us are on this journey, each of us at various stages of our lives. Physical journeys by car, train, bus or walking can have their moments – thinking we know where we are going and then we see a diversion sign and are taken by surprise especially if the sat nav gets confused!!! On these journeys we take the right roads, take wrong turns or even get lost. The journey of life is no different – whilst it may not be physical, we still take right and wrong roads, arrive at a crossroads wondering which road to take and may even lose our way. As we travel on this journey, we have the companionship of a good and wonderful friend. We may not see this friend, but we have faith in Jesus and know he is at our side through each and every day, the good times and the not so good helping us to either stay on the right road or find our way back on to the right path.

One of my mother’s favourite more modern hymns was ‘Walk with me O my Lord.’ The chorus of the hymn asks Jesus to walk with us through the good and the not so good times and hold our hand as we go on our way and each verse explains whatever our problem, Jesus will never fail to pick us up and guide us in the right direction.

How wonderful it is to have Jesus as our friend and guide on our journey through our lives.

Carolyn

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 12:1-14, Luke 6:1-11

The Pharisees watched Jesus to see if he broke any of God's laws, or the rules they had made up to stop the Laws being broken.

Jesus' disciples were hungry so they picked some wheat from a field as they walked.



The Pharisees said to Jesus



But King David broke the rules when he ate the bread that was only for the priests*



And priests are allowed to work in the temple on the Sabbath*



Don't you understand when God says 'keeping rules doesn't make up for not having kindness'?*



If you understood, you would know my disciples did nothing wrong.



The Pharisees followed Jesus to the meeting place



The Pharisees wanted to accuse Jesus of breaking rules, so they asked him a trick question.



If your sheep fell into a ditch on the Sabbath you would lift it out.



People are worth far more than sheep, so it is right to do good on the Sabbath



Hold out your hand.



The Pharisees left and made plans.



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In both eastern and western Churches, Mary has always been held as pre-eminent among all the saints. The unique, extraordinary privilege of being the mother of the One who was both God and Man, makes her worthy of special honour. Thomas Aquinas believed she was due *hyperdulia*, or a veneration that exceeds that of other saints, but is at the same time infinitely below the adoration, or *latria*, due to God alone.

The gospels of Matthew and Luke give Mary most mention. Luke even tells the story of Jesus' infancy from Mary's point of view. Her Song, or *Magnificat* appears in Luke 1:46-55.

The virginal conception of Christ is clearly stated in the gospels. But after Jesus' birth, Mary fades quietly into the background. During Jesus' public life, she is mentioned only occasionally, as at the wedding at Cana. She reappears at the foot of the Cross (John's Gospel), and is given into John's care. In the early chapters of Acts, Mary is with the Apostles, and received the Holy Spirit along with them on Whitsunday. But her role was not the active one of teaching and preaching.

Mary's significance grew with the centuries. By the fifth century she was called *Theotokos*, The Mother of God, and from the seventh century onwards, she was given four festivals: the Presentation in the Temple (2nd February), the Annunciation (25th March), the Assumption (15th August) and her Nativity (8th September).

Marian devotion has played an enormous role in the church down the years. Mary has been the object of countless prayers, accredited with performing many miracles, and the subject of thousands of artistic endeavours. She has had hundreds of chapels or parish churches named after her. During the Reformation many images of Mary were destroyed. The Second Vatican Council 1962 made an extended

statement on her, stressing her complete dependence on her Son, and regarding her as a model of the Church.

Principal Marian shrines of today include Lourdes (France), Fatima (Portugal), Walsingham (England), Loreto (Italy), Czestochowa (Poland) and Guadalupe (Mexico).

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Enter all the angels, led by Michael

What is an angel? Easy, people think: a shining figure with glorious wings, who appears from time to time to do some mighty work for God or bring a very special message from him.



Well, that's right in one sense (apart from the wings, which owe more to stained glass windows than the Bible). But the fact that not all 'angels' in the Bible are 'glorious' or 'shining' should make us hesitate to categorise them in this spectacular way. After all, the three apparently ordinary men who visited Abraham and Sarah to tell them that she would have a son even though she was long past child-bearing age had none of those outward embellishments. Nevertheless, Abraham recognised them as divine messengers.

The Bible is full of angels, from the early chapters of Genesis to the last chapter of Revelation, and often they had a key role in crucial events. It seems, from just two instances, that Michael was their leader, an 'archangel'. In many stained-glass windows, he's seen with a sword, because in a vision in Revelation he led the angelic host who fought and defeated Satan and his army.

In the Gospels, an angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah in the Temple, to tell him that his elderly wife was to have a son, the forerunner of the Messiah, John the Baptist. An angel – Gabriel – appeared to Mary to tell

her that she would be the mother of the Messiah, the Son of God. An angel appeared ‘in a dream’ to Joseph, the village carpenter in Nazareth, to tell him to go ahead and marry his fiancée, Mary, and later – also in a dream – warned him not to go back to Bethlehem. A ‘young man’, whom we take to have been an angel, was sitting in the empty tomb on Easter morning, waiting to tell the startled women that Jesus wasn’t there – He had risen (Mark 16:5).

Without going into every biblical reference to angels, those should be sufficient to show that the word covers an enormous diversity of experience. So, the Letter to the Hebrews speaks of those who practice hospitality as sometimes ‘entertaining angels unawares’. Sometimes people recognised angels for who they were, and sometimes they didn’t. Angels, quite simply, are God’s agents or emissaries, messengers and ministers of His will. Sometimes they are human; sometimes they seem to be spiritual beings.

Perhaps we could even say that anyone, in any situation, who is at that moment God’s ‘messenger’ to us, or serves us graciously, is an ‘angel’. So, when we say, ‘Oh, be an angel and pop up to the chemist for my prescription’, we may be nearer the heart of the matter than we think!

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Freezer labels

Jane had a system for labelling homemade freezer meals. She would carefully note in large clear letters, ‘Lasagne’, ‘Beef stew’, ‘Chicken casserole’, etc. But every day when she asked her husband what he wanted for dinner, he never asked for any of those meals.

So finally, she decided to stock up with his various requests. Nowadays her freezer is full of dinners with neat little tags that say: ‘Whatever’, ‘Anything’, ‘I Don’t Know’, ‘I Don’t Care’, ‘Something Good’, or ‘Food’.

No more frustration for Jane, because no matter what her husband wants for dinner, it’s there waiting.

25 years ago, on 11th September 2001, the terrorist attacks on America took place.

Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Center's Twin Towers in New York, into the Pentagon, and into a field in Pennsylvania (following a passenger revolt – the intended target was Washington DC). 2,973 people were killed.



This year major national institutions in the US will mark the anniversary of that terrible day. In New York, a good number of Christian churches and interfaith groups are planning special services and memorial events.

This will include hourly musical offerings at St Paul's Chapel in New York City, in honour of the chapel's role as a refuge for the first responders.

Other events include a digital experience at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, and various events by the New York City Fire Department, who lost 343 members that day, as well as the 400 members who have since died from World Trade Centre-related illnesses.

There will also be the iconic reading of the names of those who died, and the annual Tribute in Light installation, held at Ground Zero.

In the UK, the 25th anniversary of 9/11 will be remembered by a Memorial Concert held on Friday, 11th September at Southwark Cathedral (7:30 pm to 9:30 pm). A special guest performance by The Outcry Ensemble will present a programme of American and British music reflecting on loss, memory and the human cost of violence.

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Notices!

100 Club Winners!

July 2026

Date	Number	Winner	Church
5th			
12th			
19st			
26th			

Join the Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning on 25th September

Why not consider attending – or even hosting – a Macmillan Coffee Morning? Many are going to be held soon, on 25th September, but you can hold one whenever you like.



About 50,000 coffee morning events are held around the country each year.

The first Coffee Morning happened in 1990. It was a small affair with a simple idea: guests would get together for coffee and donate the cost of their drink to Macmillan. It was so effective that Macmillan did it again the next year - only this time nationally.

Since then, the tradition has grown, until now an estimated 1.2 million coffee mornings have been held since the tradition first began.

These days, Coffee Mornings come in all shapes and sizes. They can range from small home gatherings to large corporate events; school fundraisers to a gathering with a local community group. But they all have one thing in common - they raise vital funds to support the almost 3.5 million people in the UK living with cancer.

More details at: <https://www.macmillan.org.uk>

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. (There is a photograph from St Mary's Whitby to go with this article. If you use it, please credit: Chris06, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons)

‘He gave us eyes to see them’ – the church bells

‘Summoned by Bells’ is the title of John Betjeman’s poetic autobiography, where he describes how bells summoned him to school and to church. Bells announcing the joy of weddings and Sunday services; and also marking out times of sadness and the death of loved ones.



One of the strangest bell-towers is at St Augustine’s Church, Brookland in Kent, north-east of Rye. It was originally built in the medieval period, and now stands as a triple coned, wooden, octagonal tower detached from the church, and clad with shingles in 1936.

The story is that the tower looked down at a beautiful bride about to marry an unpleasant groom: it was such a surprise that the tower jumped off the church in shock. The truth is that the church was built on marshy ground, and a stronger foundation was needed for the bells. And so, the tower was built north of the church.

Like all belfries and steeples, it is an impressive witness to the place of bells in human life and work: as time-keepers, announcing both festive occasions and emergencies, and calling people away from more worldly pursuits to worship. That is why bells have always been blessed at their installation for their true function is to ring out the harmony of heaven.

The tenor bell at Warburton Church in Cheshire is inscribed with the words, ‘I bid you to the house of prayer. St Werburgh’s hallowed name I

bear. Good folk draw near and humbly pray, as prayed that saint in olden day.’ As a little boy, John Betjeman would listen to the bells with his teddy bear, Archibald. ‘I heard the church bells hollowing out the sky, deep beyond deep, like never-ending stars.’ For him, for the people of Brookland, and for all of us, the bells were like stars lighting up the sky with faith and joy and praise.

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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.

How can a Christian be a scientist?

I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered what it was like to have a career in science, and how being a Christian might make a difference. Eventually I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, and I learned that science and faith are a great combination. Dr Francis Collins, former Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA, wrote that it is “possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation.” So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges of a life in science?

Although our beliefs may affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they don’t affect the outcome of the experiments themselves. If a Muslim and a Christian drop the same ball from the same height under identical conditions, it will fall at the same speed. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of her worldview.

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things and coming up with general principles about the way things are. The world has been declared by God to be ‘very good’ (see chapter one and two of Genesis), and exploring it is a way to express our gratitude to Him. Scientific discoveries can also bring a sense of awe and wonder that feeds into our worship.

Some people don’t want to get involved in certain lines of research because of ethical concerns. On the other hand, there are many issues that make Christians want to get stuck into new research that will help care for people and the rest of creation, such as medical research, ecology or developing appropriate technologies.

Organisations such as Christians in Science and the Faraday Institute gather together scientists who are also people of faith, and others who are interested in the subject. They come from a wide range of backgrounds and express their beliefs in a variety of different ways. What they have in common is the conviction that you don’t have to choose between science and God. As the young people in our churches prepare to return to their studies, online if not in person, let’s encourage them that science (along with many other fields) is a great way to serve God.

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Crafts

A class of schoolchildren were asked, “Are there any crafts in the Bible?” to which one lad put his hand up and said, “The parable of the sewer?”

Friends of Gilfach

We continued with our meetings through August, though there was a mix-up with the initial meeting and apologies to everyone. Our coffee morning and quiz afternoon were well attended. Thanks everyone.

Our meeting in July had Keiron talking to us again about his past work. He talked this time about his time as a security officer in Afghanistan. He was very articulate in what he told us (some of it very scary) but how he came to enrol to do it. After leaving the army he had a job in the NCP parking company and he was good at this as a lot of it was logistics which he had a knack for during his army career, but like all big companies they decide on change even though it was running successfully (maybe the fact that they are now in liquidation is a proven point). The job was no longer the same and didn't suit him. He met someone who was doing security and he found out more about it.

He admits that the wage for doing this job was the main factor as it would pay more than he could have thought of earning, even though he knew the job was dangerous. He was security for American company bosses of large companies with contracts to rebuild the country. A lot of the security for the Americans were the American military, but they were not as well trained as the British soldiers. He told us of some scary scenarios keeping the architects and surveyors safe during their trips to visit the sites they were to improve. One site was a mosque that was to be converted into a school, especially for girls. Of course, they were often attacked by militants who didn't want their girls educated or the Americans there. His graphic detail was scary in the ferocity of the attacks. He told us of Afghans who worked and lived with them betraying them and letting the Afghans in to shoot his comrades. They later found out that they had his family captured and would kill them if he didn't do as they said. Several of his colleagues were killed. The lesson learned was to never trust them and always walk behind them not in front. All his talk was fascinating and scary, and so real from what we see on news reels. He found out later that the mosque was renovated and all the equipment paid for by the Americans were installed for the school and it was wonderful (and that was just one project). A few months later the architect went back to see how it was going and it had all been destroyed with the furniture outside rotting away. The Taliban do not want their girls educated, so all the money spent and lives lost for these projects were wasted. It was a sobering thought.

I would like to thank Keiron for sharing his stories with us - fascinating but scary about a world we would never know about or understand. He is the kind of speaker we like to have as it gives us an insight into another world miles apart from ours. So, if anyone knows anyone like that, please let us know. We pray for all the girls and women in Afghanistan for a much brighter and hopeful future. We count our blessings to live in our safe world in this parish.

God Bless Kath

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 Books of the Bible: Daniel

This month we return to looking at Old Testament books. The book of Daniel describes his life in Babylon during the sixth century B.C., when he served both Babylonian and Persian rulers.

As a teenager, Daniel and his three friends were deported in 605 B.C. to Babylon, where he lived for over 70 years. They were trained as officials in King Nebuchadnezzar's court for three years. Their names and diets were changed to reflect Babylonian culture and take away their Jewish identity. However, Daniel and his friends showed the superiority of their Jewish diet and gained the favour of the king.

Chapters 1-6 are largely narrative, with Daniel and his friends (renamed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego) demonstrating that God is in control. The three friends refused to worship the pagan Babylonian gods and were thrown into a fiery furnace. However, they emerged unharmed because of God's miraculous protection. He also delivered Daniel from a den of lions when he refused to worship the Persian king Darius. Daniel also interpreted several visions and dreams for King Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar. The second half of the book (chaps.7-12) consists of a series of visions, which show that God is in control of history.

The book affirms that God is the sovereign ruler of the world and rewards His faithful servants, as expressed by Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego: *'If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if He does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.'* (Daniel 3: 17,18)

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
6th Sept		THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY <i>after</i> TRINITY
13th Sept		THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY <i>after</i> TRINITY
20th Sept		THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY <i>after</i> TRINITY
21 st Sept		Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
27 th Sept		THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY <i>after</i> TRINITY
29 th Sept		* Michael and All Angels

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



Bendavid Holy Eucharist

31st	Ionawr/January	S. Catwg's Church, Gelligaer
7th	Mawrth/March	S. Matthias' Church, Treharris
11th	Ebrill/April	S. Gwladys' Church, Bargoed
2nd	Mai/May	Holy Trinity, Ystrad Mynach
6th	Mehefin/June	S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach
4th	Gorffennaf/July	Llanfabon, Nelson

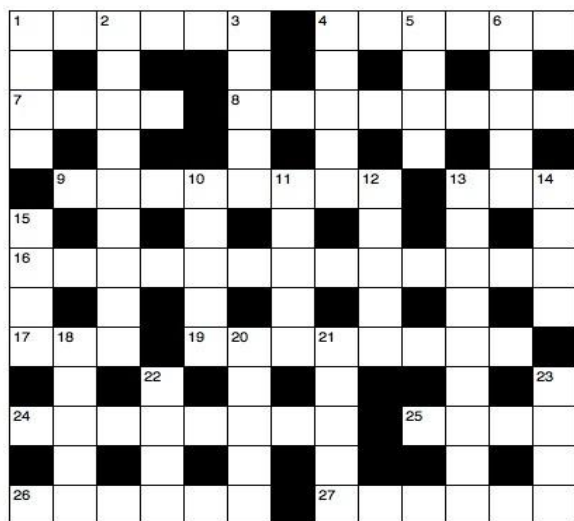
Awst/August Dim Gwasanaeth / No Service

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!



Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
- 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
- 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
- 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
- 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
- 17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
- 19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8)
- 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)
- 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)
- 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)

27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)

2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)

3 O raid (anag.) (5)

4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)

5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)

6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)

10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)

11 Do ten(anag.)(5)

12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)

13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)

14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)

15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)

18 'But I am afraid that just ——— was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)

20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)

21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)

22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)

23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)

Crossword solution - Page 30



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.narishofgelligaer.org.uk>

Sudoku Challenge

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

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Solution can be found on page 39

New pilgrimage route for Conwy Valley

A new 22-mile pilgrimage route linking five churches in the Bro Celynnin Ministry Area has opened, as interest in walking spiritual paths continues to grow.

Llwybr Celynnin is a figure-of-eight trail that follows existing footpaths between Conwy and Llangelynnin, where it joins the North Wales Pilgrim's Way.

Walkers can collect a stamp at each church in a specially designed pilgrim passport, creating a record of their journey through the valley.

The route has been developed amid renewed interest in pilgrimage, including the BBC series *Pilgrimage: The Road to Wild Wales*, which followed seven celebrities along the North Wales Pilgrim's Way.

The route begins or ends at St Mary's Church in the centre of Conwy, which contains surviving parts of Aberconwy Abbey, a Cistercian monastery founded in the 12th Century.

It continues through the Conwy Valley to Llangelynnin Church, an ancient church overlooking the valley and already visited by walkers following the longer North Wales route.

Churches included in the route are St Mary's Conwy, St Mary's Caerhun, St Benedict's Gyffin, St Peter's Llanbedr-y-Cennin, and Llandelynnin Old Church above Henryd.

Bargoed Community Choir – 2nd Annual Summer Concert

On the 2nd of July, Bargoed Community Choir presented their Summer Concert at St. Margaret's Church, under the direction of Ms Ali Shone and accompanied by Ms Sian Davies.



There was a varied programme of music, consisting of traditional Church music – Lead me, Lord, songs from musical theatre – medley from ‘Sister Act’ and songs by Lennon and McCartney and Abba.

The choir were delighted to be joined by students from Heolddu Comprehensive School. These students had all received individual Master Classes from Ali Shone and Sian Davies and sang classical songs, contemporary music and songs from musical theatre.

We were also delighted that our Musical Director, Ali Shone (a trained classical singer) entertained us by singing Handel and Gershwin and finished by singing the old favourite, ‘A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square.’

Our thanks go to Mrs Nerys Davies, (Headteacher of Heolddu Comprehensive), for being our compere for the evening and also Heolddu PTFA for providing refreshments. Thanks also to everyone for supporting us.

Lynne Thomas and Jenn East

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

St. Margaret's Reading Rota

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



October's Magazine 2026

Please can you forward any news, articles etc, to me by Sunday 21st September, for inclusion in the October'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	
6 th	Kath / June	4 th	Kath / June	1 st	Kath / June
13 th	Lynda Bartlett / Sue	11 th	Lynda Bartlett / Sue	8 th	Lynda Bartlett / Sue
20 th	Lynda Trollope / Enid	18 th	Lynda Trollope / Enid	15 th	Lynda Trollope / Enid
27 th	Jeannette / Audrey	25 th	Jeannette / Audrey	22 nd	Jeannette / Audrey
				29 th	Kath / June

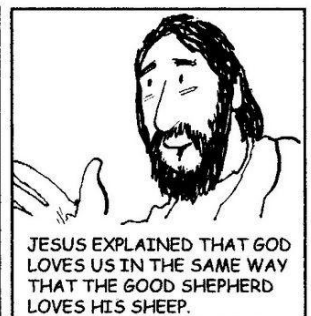
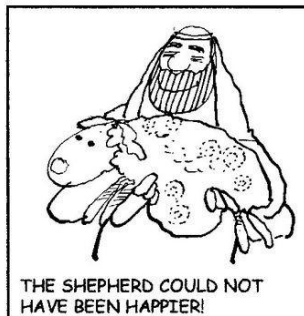
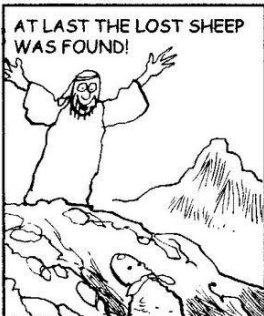
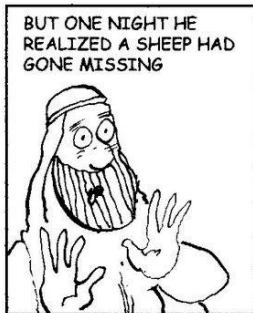
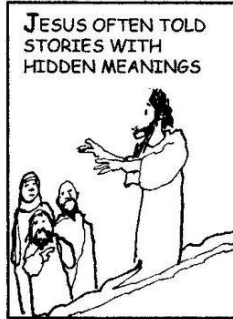
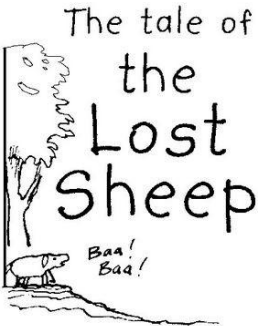
Sundays Bible Readings for the Month of Sept 2026

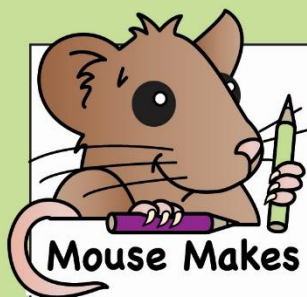
The Season of TRINITY

		Continuous	Related
Week 1	Sunday 6th Sept	Exodus 12. 1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13. 8-14 Matthew 18. 15-20	Ezekiel 33. 7-11 Psalm 119. 33-40 Romans 13. 8-14 Matthew 18. 15-20
Week 2	Sunday 13th Sept	Exodus 14. 19-31 Psalm 114 or Canticle: Exodus 15. 1b-11, 21 Romans 14. 1-12 Matthew 18. 21-35	Genesis 50. 15-21 Psalm 103. [1-7,] 8-13 Romans 14. 1-12 Matthew 18. 21-35
Week 3	Sunday 20th Sept	Exodus 16. 2-15 Psalm 105. [1-6,] 37-45 Philippians 1. 21-30 Matthew 20. 1-16	Jonah 3.10 – 4.11 Psalm 145. 1-8 Philippians 1. 21-30 Matthew 20. 1-16
Week 4	Sunday 27th Sept	Exodus 17. 1-7 Psalm 78. 1-4, 12-16 or 78. 1-7 Philippians 2. 1-13 Matthew 21. 23-32	Ezekiel 18. 1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25. 1-9 Philippians 2. 1-13 Matthew 21. 23-32

*The monthly readings are taken from the Church in Wales – Word of the Lord 2011 copyright ©
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For our Younger Generation.





Mouse Makes



READ
John 15:1-17

How many
times does Jesus
use the word
FRUIT?

What does
Jesus command?

To _____
one another.
John 15:12,17

THE TRUE VINE

Who is the vine?

_____ "
John 15:1

What does Jesus
ask us to do?
"Go and bear

_____ "
John 15:16

What happens
to the branches
that do not remain
in the vine?
Thrown into the

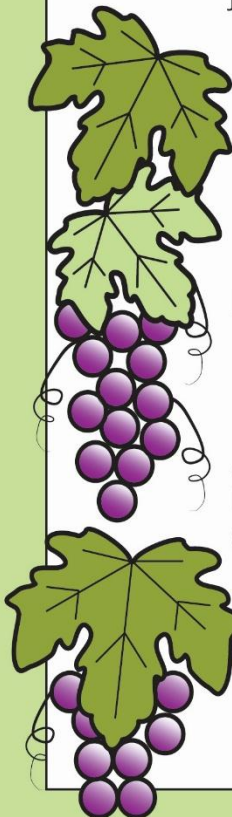
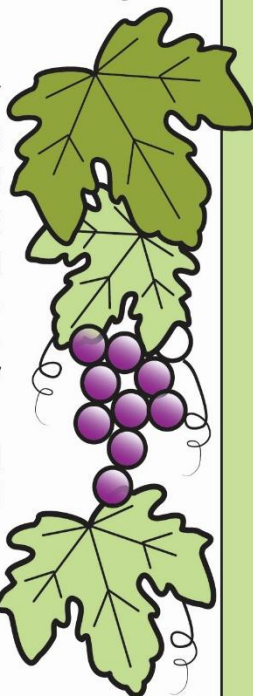
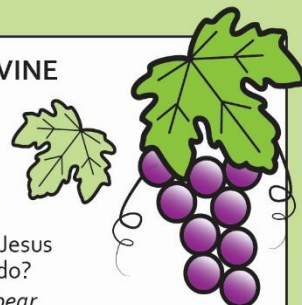
_____ and _____

John 15:6

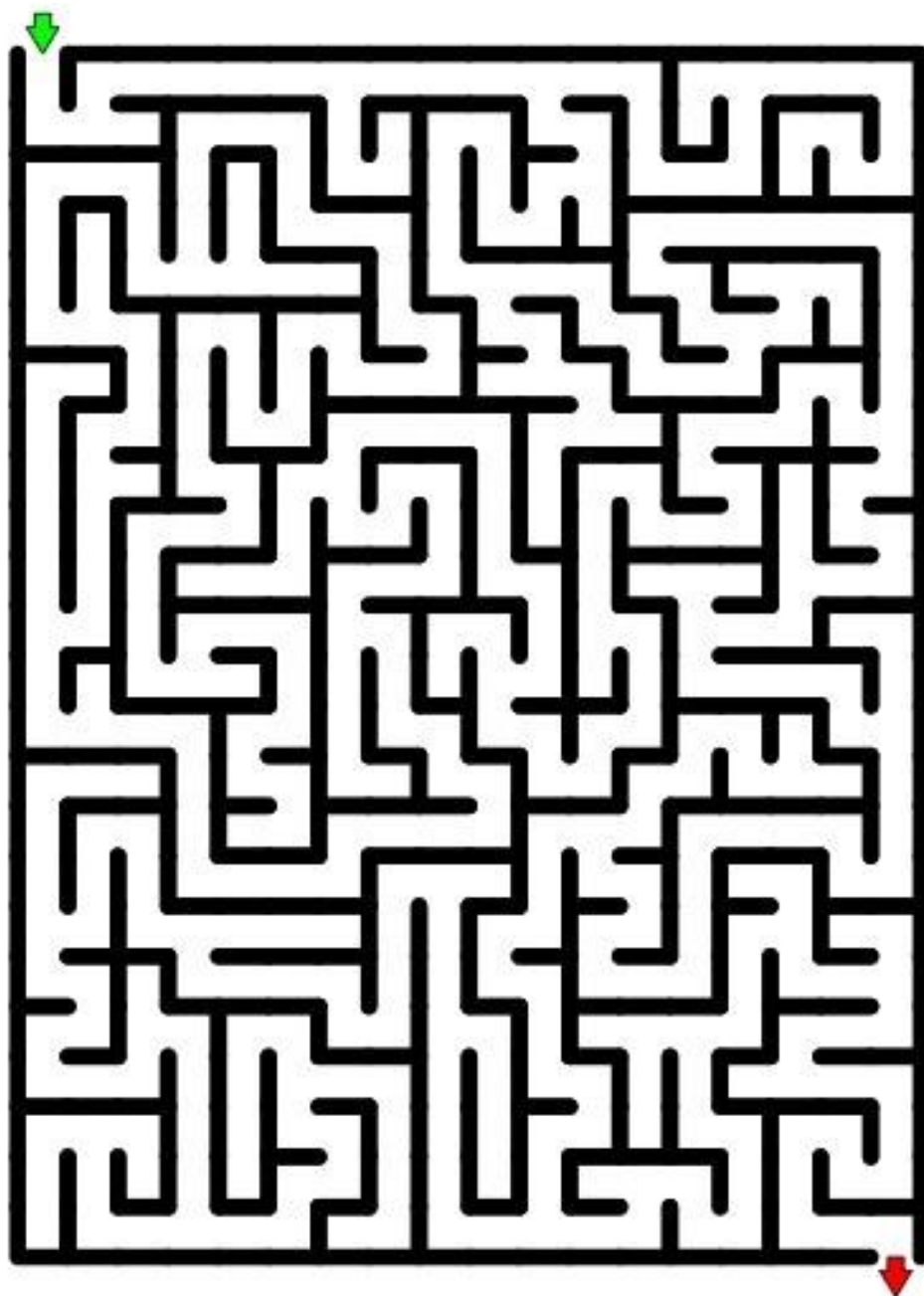
How many
times does Jesus
command us
to **LOVE**
one another?

H T H R O W N A W A Y
I R A B I D E W I S B
D U F R U I T F U L U
N E R A J S I A M J R
C V U N F C U T V P N
L J I C W I T H E R S
E O T H O P J E S U S
A Y V W R L C R O N V
N G A R D E N E R E I
O S F J E S I S W S N
E R E M A I N F I R E

JESUS • I AM • TRUE • VINE • FATHER
GARDENER • FRUIT • FRUITFUL
BRANCH • PRUNES • CUT • WITHERS
CLEAN • THROWN AWAY • FIRE • BURNS
REMAIN • ABIDE • DISCIPLES • JOY



Complete the Maze.



Colour in!



From the Register

Christian Funerals

July 2026

6th

Eileen Blunt RIP

8th

Lyn Moore RIP

10th

Anthony Osborne RIP

23rd

June Jones RIP

August 2026

21st

Wayne Thomas RIP

25th

Mandy Greenway RIP

28th

Eileen Evans 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.***

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

*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

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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Family History Research: Carolyn Corbin Tel: 07983677360

Email. carolyncorbin63@aol.com

Mothers' Union:

Branch Leader Kath Llewellyn. Tel: 01443 829658

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.

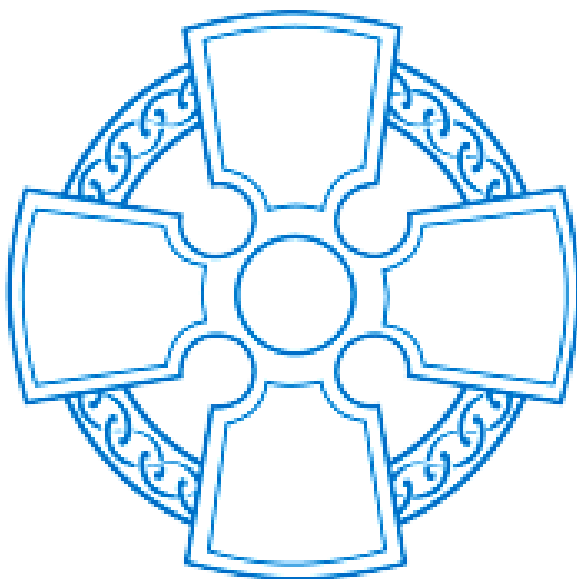
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2	6	9	4	5	1	7	8	3
4	5	3	8	2	6	1	7	9
9	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	8
6	8	7	1	3	9	4	5	2

L	A	B	O	U	R	A	U	T	U	M	N
O	L	A	G	E	U						
S	T	A	Y	D	A	R	K	N	E	S	S
E	M			I	E	D	I				
R	E	A	S	O	N	E	D	A	C	T	
A	R	O		O		O	V	E			
P	R	E	S	B	Y	T	E	R	I	A	N
E	S		E	E	I	I	I	T			
S	A	T	R	I	D	I	C	U	L	E	
S	F	S	S								
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V	E		A	V				L	E		
C	E	L	T	I	C	I	N	T	E	N	D

Answer to **Sudoku** on page 19

Answers to **Crossword** on page 17

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