

Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area Magazine



March 2023

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Parish Magazine

The Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area comprises the Parishes of: St Bridget's, St Brides; St Michael and All Angels, Ewenny; St Giles, Gileston; St Cattwg's, Llanmaes; St Michael and All Angels, Llanmihangel; St Illtud's, Llantwit Major; Holy Trinity, Marcross; St Mary's, Monknash; St Donat's, St Donats; St Tathan, St Athan; All Saints, Southerndown; St James, Wick.

This magazine serves them all.

Contributions to be in by 22nd of the month please

Index

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Cover. | 11. Puzzle Page. |
| 2. Diary. | 12. Erskine Clarke. |
| 3. From the Editor. | 13 Erskine Clarke. |
| 4. From Father Craig. | 14. Festival of Prayer. Announcement. |
| 5. Father Craig. | 15. Obituary. |
| 6. Sermons. | 16. Registers. Ewenny Arts Festival. |
| 7. Sermons. | 17. The Meaning of Easter. |
| 8. Better and Better. | 18. Saint of the Month. |
| 9. Better And Better, Llanmaes. | 19. Directory |
| 10. Humour. | 20. John Wesley. |

This Month's Cover

Lent began on 22nd February and ends on 6th April, Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday. This means that the entire month of March is in Lent and that we should have looked to the significance of the period to decide our actions. The 40 days are a time for reflection and solemnity with churches being stripped of ornament and flowers in this season leading up to Easter. Have you given up anything? A recent poll showed that the hardest thing to deprive oneself of is watching Television. Or will you undertake some good deed? If you haven't already done so, think about it.

Clawr y Mis:

Mae'r Grawys yn dechrau eleni ar 22ain Chwefror ac mae'n gorffen ar 6ed Ebrill. O Ddydd Mercher y Lludw tan Ddydd Iau Mawreddog. Golyga hyn fod y cyfan o fis Mawrth yng nghyfnod Grawys eleni ac y dylem edrych ar arwyddocâd y cyfnod hwn i benderfynu ar ein gweithredoedd. Mae'r 40 diwrnod yn amser i fyfyrto â difrifoldeb, gyda eglwysi'n tynnu eu haddurniadau a blodau yn ystod cyfnod tan y Pasg. Wyt ti wedi rhoi'r gorau i unrhyw beth? Gwnaeth arolwg barn diweddar dod l'r canlyniad taw y peth anoddaf i amddifadu'i hun ohono yw gwyllo'r teledu. Neu a fyddwch chi'n ymgymryd â rhywfaint o weithredau da? Os nad ydych chi wedi gwneud hynny'n barod, meddylwch am y peth.

Siân Tesni

The best time to plan a book is while you are doing the dishes.

Diary

Regular Events

Each Monday	Morning Prayer	9.00 am	via Zoom
First Tuesday	Mothers' Union	2.00 pm	St Illtud's
Each Tuesday	Chair Yoga	10.00 am	St Illtud's
	Prayers for the Parish	11.00 am	via Zoom
Each Thursday	Morning Prayer	8.30 am	Zoom. St James
	Clothes Bank	9.00 am	St Athan
	Seasons	2.00 pm	St Illtud's
	Celtic Contemplation	6.30 pm	St Illtud's (from 10 th)
	Bell ringers Practice	7.30 pm	St Illtud's
First Friday	Open Mic	7.30 pm	St Illtud's

March

3 rd Fri	12.00 pm	Lent talk with soup lunch.
7 th Tues	2.00 pm	Mothers; Union.
10 th Fri	12.00 pm	Lent talk with soup lunch.
14 th Tues	7.00 pm	St Illtud's PCC.
15 th Wed	6.00 pm	Choir Practice.
17 th Fri	12.00 pm	Lent talk with soup lunch.
18 th Sat	9.00 am	Churchyard Taskforce.
19 th Sun		Mothering Sunday.
21 st Tues	7.00 pm	MAC Meeting via Zoom.
	7.30 pm	St Bridget's & All Saints LCC.
22 nd Wed	7.00 pm	An Evening of Music for Spring. Ewenny.
24 th Fri	12.00 pm	Lent talk with soup lunch.
24 th Fri to 26 th Sun		Chamber Music Festival. St Illtud's.
27 th Mon	7.00 pm	Healing Service. St Illtud's.
28 th Tues	2.00 pm	St Illtud's Primary School Easter Service.
31 st Fri	1030 am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion.

The connection code for Zoom Streamings will be found in the weekly newsletter.

If you have organised an event and want publicity, please make sure that the Office knows all about it so that details can appear in the weekly newsletter and here in the magazine.

The biggest problems are when people don't realise that they have a problem in the first place.

From the Editor

Dear Friends

There is the lovely story of the man who died and, on his arrival at the Pearly Gates, was taken through his life history. This took the form of a set of footprints in the sand of the seashore. It was explained to the man that the footprints represented his journey through life, with the prints indicating how he was feeling and progressing with running, walking, limping and such like evident in the track. The man listened carefully and said that he understood and could recognise various landmarks in his life, but that he was a little puzzled by the fact that there were two sets of footprints. It was explained to him that one set was his and that the other set was that of Jesus who accompanied him throughout his life. The man considered this information for a while and then asked, "But where was he at that point?" indicating a part of the tracks where there was only one set of prints. Back came the reply, "That was where you had that difficult time in your life. Those prints are Jesus', and he was carrying you!"

I was reminded of this story when Father Edwin recently preached a sermon in which he said that we should not expect our pathway through life to be smooth and easy, but that we should be prepared to travel over rough, stony ground that is difficult to walk on. Jesus will be there to assist us as we negotiate our way through the trials and tribulations of life and guide us on our way.

This, in turn, reminded me of the lovely old hymn, "Father hear the prayer we offer". So many times, hymns express our thoughts in words far lovelier and meaningful than we could choose for ourselves, so here is the hymn:

*Father, hear the prayer we offer, not for ease that prayer shall be,
But for strength that we may ever, live our lives courageously.*

*Not for ever in green pastures do we ask our way to be;
But the steep and rugged pathway may we tread rejoicingly.*

*Not for ever by still waters would we idly rest and stay;
But would smite the living fountains from the rocks along our way.*

*Be our strength in hours of weakness, in our wanderings be our guide;
Through endeavour, failure, danger, Father be thou at our side.*

It says it all, doesn't it?

Yours sincerely, Eric

If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.

From Father Edwin...

St David's Day is always a special time of celebration for the people of Wales. Schools will celebrate with eisteddfodau, churches will keep 1st March as a time of special celebration in their worship, and rugby fans will hold their breath, hoping for a win in the '6 Nations'!

This year, St David's Day has a special significance because it marks 900 years since Pope Calixtus II declared the shrine of St David's in Pembrokeshire to be a major place of pilgrimage. It was decreed that two pilgrimages to St David's were equivalent to a pilgrim's visit to Rome, while three sacred trips to the patron's birthplace were on a par with a sacred journey to Jerusalem.

To mark this anniversary, the BBC will be broadcasting a series of programmes for Radio Wales and Radio 4, between St David's Day and Easter, reflecting on the life, work and witness of Dewi Sant, with different perspectives and experiences from the various places that hold St David dear. I was lucky enough to be sent to Brittany, to record some programmes in a part of the world that celebrates the impact of St David, and also St Non, his mother.

The villages of St Divy (St David's) and Dirinon (named after St Non) have wonderful churches filled with medieval murals that tell an ancient story that is familiar to us in Wales but with a Breton twist. For example, Breton Christians are proud to proclaim that St David was born at Dirinon, with a rock and a holy well marking the spot where St Non gave birth, all those centuries ago. Anyone familiar with West Wales will know that St David's has the same features and traditions, just a short distance from the cathedral. The same French churches also portray David as a great teacher of the faith, raised up on a hill in front of the crowds as he spoke of God's love and grace in the face of opposition, and proclaimed as Archbishop.

All this poses a problem: which tradition is accurate? Surely Dewi Sant can't be on the side of 'Les Bleus', the French rugby team, when they play in mid-March! I've come back from my short broadcasting pilgrimage, realising that the links of faith between Wales and Brittany are as strong as ever, and I have met and spent time with people in the local church communities in Brittany, who share many aspects of faith that are dear to us in Wales. It was emotional to stand on Breton beaches and feel the connection to people of Celtic times, who may well have set off from the Heritage Coast, more than a thousand years ago, and found the same warm welcome of culture, language, tradition and faith that I experienced.

We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do.

As for the big question: was St David from Wales or northern France? I'm going to stick my neck out and say that I reckon he was a Welsh saint, and that St David's was a place of prayer and pilgrimage that he founded and where he left an indelible mark. Yet I also reckon that St Non, David's mother, travelled to Brittany and probably died there, bearing witness to her saintly son, and establishing a tradition and friendship in faith that still unites our two regions. The programme we made about St Non is broadcast on BBC Radio Wales on Sunday 19th March at 7.30am, repeated at 7.30pm on that day.

Dydd Gŵyl Dewi hapus!

Edwin



Leaving footprints on a Breton beach for Radio 4: did the Celtic saints walk this way?

Lent

Lent is underway, as the journey to Easter gathers pace. For the first time in 3 years, we are able to invite people to gather for some conversation and food during Lent. We will do this on 4 Fridays beginning on 3rd March at St Illtud's Church in Llantwit Major at 12 midday. There will be an introductory talk on the theme of Lent, an opportunity for discussion followed by a soup lunch. All are welcome. We will also be posting a short video after each of the sessions; you can watch this on all of our Facebook pages.

Easter Flowers

We leave the church bare during Lent, but when Easter arrives, we decorate with displays of flowers to show our joy. If anybody would like to contribute to the cost of these flowers, all donations will be gratefully received.

I have always been of the opinion that hard work is simply the refuge of people who have nothing to do.

Sermons of Twentieth Century Parson

An Update

In last February's Parish Magazine I wrote about my father's life and ministry as a curate and vicar in Essex, Devon and Yorkshire between the years 1935 and 1971, and how during this time he composed a multitude of sermons, with well over 1,000 surviving intact and complete. I recounted how in September 2020 I retrieved the sermons from my brothers' loft in York, where they had languished in a trunk for around 50 years! Since then, over the last year I have sorted them out and catalogued them, and I am now well on the way to compiling them into a book. I have selected one sermon for each Sunday of the Church's year, and I am now half-way through writing up the sermons for various Saints' days. The final section of the book will contain other Church festivals and occasions.

In making the selection, I have tried to cover a range of themes and the whole period of my father's ministry, which covered times of great international turmoil and upheaval, such as the Great Depression of the 1930s and the Second World War in the 1940s. However, he only makes scant reference generally to the momentous events of his day. This is because he focused almost exclusively on the Gospel and aspects of the Christian faith. Nevertheless, he does occasionally mention significant world events to illustrate certain themes.

For example, on 3rd September 1939, the day Britain declared war on Germany, my father wrote:

What then has been your reaction to the great tension of the past week or so? What is it now? It is so easy, isn't it, to let oneself get worked up, in Our Lord's words, to let, "One's heart fail one because of fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth". There is no one today who is not fully aware of the horrors and atrocities of modern warfare. But despite all this, despite the dark clouds that are hanging over our heads at this very moment, the man or woman whose Christianity is real, is not one of that type, one that is whose heart fails them in time of trouble or distress. It is simply impossible if he is endeavouring to follow the example of Our Lord and Master.

And, on 22nd June 1940, when it seemed a German invasion was imminent and a month before the Plymouth blitz began, he wrote:

With all that has happened so quickly during the past few weeks, bringing sensation after sensation, untold anxiety and a whole series of

reverses, so that the enemy even now is only on the opposite shore, it has not been easy for many of us to keep cool, calm and collected:

- a) Some of us, I do not doubt, have been full of fears; fears of what might happen to our beloved country or fears for someone serving it or even fears for one's own self.*
- b) Others have found it hard to keep their anger down as news comes through of the cruel and barbarous acts of the enemy.*

But we can be a great help at this time indeed, a source of strength to others, if we ourselves try to keep calm, displaying no signs of panic or fear or bursts of anger, but rather, if we are truly Christians, praying for our enemies. But I am confident that there is only one way in which we can keep ourselves quiet and composed. St John of the Cross, one of the greatest masters of the spiritual life, once said, "In order to perfect the tranquillity of the house of the spirit, no more is needed than the confirmation of the powers of the soul in pure faith". 'In pure faith'. All our spiritual energies are to be made real by the act of pure faith, such as:

- a) Our love for our neighbours is to become a real love, because of our faith in God.*
- b) Our will to do what is right is to become a real will, because of our faith in God.*
- c) Our tranquillity in time of difficulty, trial and temptation is to be a real peace, because of our faith in God.*

In another interesting example, a couple of days earlier in 1940, my father composed a sermon for St. John the Baptist's Day, which he preached at St. George's Church, East Stonehouse, Plymouth. This was one of the last sermons to be delivered in this church as it was completely destroyed by German bombs in 1942.

I am hoping to complete the book and get it published in the near future. Look out for further updates!

Dr. David Ellis

THANK YOU

I would like, on behalf of all those who attended, to thank Amanda and her helpers for arranging such a joyous celebration for the start of Lent. The Pancake Party was a great success with good food, good company and a good quiz! Such a joy to be all together again exercising the little grey cells, faith and fellowship at its best.

Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.

Bigger and Better

I do not suppose that many of our readers also read the “Church Times,” or vice versa, and keep up to date with the wider Christian world. When the Normans conquered England, in three years, then Wales, in two hundred, they ordered that the countries should be divided into parishes, and in each parish, there would be a priest. This happy situation continued until modern times, and some of our elders may remember it here. The welcome acceptance of women priests has done much to relieve the shortage of clergy, but the problem remains.

The Church of England in England has been exploring the situation for some years, and one answer was reported recently in the Diocese of Leicester, by merging the current 234 parishes within five years into 20 or so “minster communities,” each with about four or five priests. This would create a surplus of clergy and help the financial situation. Naturally, there has been no proposal to reduce diocesan staff or expenditure. In any reorganisation, however well meaning, not everyone is happy. One letter-writer protested, “Christ sent out his disciples to preach and heal, not to form sub-committees.

The Church in Wales has had the same problems, with the added complexity of two languages. Here in Llantwit Major, we have experienced amalgamations over a long period, as have our friends in Cowbridge. A difficulty is that larger groupings require additional staff, and internal and external promotions – curates, vicars, rectors, readers, administrators, committee members.

In 1972 a new vicar arrived, David Jenkins, and so did Marcross, Monknash and Wick, with Stephen Pare as priest-in-charge, a sign of changes on the way, but soon David was retitled as rector and Stephen as vicar within the Rural Benefice of Llantwit Major. In 1989 Llanmaes and Llanmihangel, already closely linked, joined us, with a new vicar, Vivian Ginn. During this time two promising curates came into the benefice. In 1984 Peter Leonard, who in time became warden of Ty Teilo, wrenched himself away from town planning and medieval villages, and in 1989 Michael Komor arrived, with trombone, as curate, to remain as vicar until 2000. He was also Diocesan Webmaster, so obviously he was going places.

They were followed by two of the contingent of women clergy, Dawn Hellard in 1991 and Catherine Haynes in 1996. They were warmly welcomed, and soon showed what had been lost by the intransigent opposition to women priests.

There is no issue so small that it cannot be blown out of all proportion.

With the introduction of St. Athan and Gileston with Melanie Prince, it seemed the packet was full. Nine churches – too many to manage. After David Jenkins, Keith Smalldon, John Webber and Huw Butler had had the problem of keeping the churches united and working as one mission. When Edwin came here, could he have imagined further expansion? But someone, presumably in Llandaff, thought to fill a space on the map between our RBLM and the west end of the Vale, with an intriguing new name, and Ewenny, Southerndown and St. Brides Major joined the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Ministry Area

One significant name is missing from the above, Philip Morris, who was never a full member of the staff here, though he was licenced to preach. For twelve years after 1987 he was Diocesan Missioner, which meant he had to roam the diocese as required, but he and Sheila chose to live in Llantwit Major until he became Archdeacon of Margam. However, they and Sheila played a full part in church life, and they were welcomed back on retirement.

Viv Kelly

Llanmaes

A film is shown monthly in Llanmaes Village Hall; the profits from ticket sales are split annually between St. Cattwg's Church Fund and a local Charity. The Charity we chose to benefit in 2022 was Headway which is a Charity that works to improve life after brain injury. In 2021 we supported the Llantwit Major café. The Charity we will be supporting throughout 2023 will be Vale Plus - an organisation that supports adults with additional learning needs by providing an extensive programme of learning activities.

A huge 'thank you' to all who come to the Hall to view our films. Without them none of this would be possible.

Jackie Wright



I had nothing to offer anybody except my own confusion.

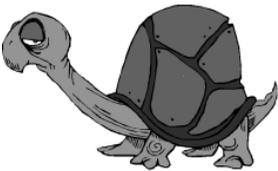
Humour

"If there are any idiots in the room, will they please stand up", said the sarcastic teacher to his new class. After a long silence, one boy rose to his feet. "Now then young man, why do you consider yourself an idiot?", enquired the teacher with a sneer. "Well, actually I don't," said the boy, "but I didn't want to see you standing up there on your own."

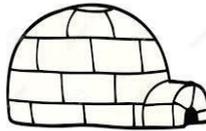
A Russian truckdriver has to stop at the back of a long queue on the motorway. He sees a policeman walking down the line of stopped vehicles to have a brief talk to the drivers. As the policeman approaches the truck, the truckdriver rolls down his window and asks, "What's going on?" The reply came back from the policeman, "A terrorist is holding Putin hostage in a car. He's demanding 10 million roubles, or he'll douse Putin in petrol and set him on fire. So, we're asking drivers for donations." "OK, how much do people donate on average." "About a gallon."

One Mother's Day morning two children ordered their mother to stay in bed. As she lay there looking forward to breakfast in bed, the smell of bacon floated up from the kitchen. But after a good long wait she finally went downstairs to investigate. She found them both sitting at the table eating bacon and eggs. "As a surprise for Mother's Day," one explained, "we decided to cook our own breakfast."

During a recent password audit, it was found that a man was using "MickeyMinniePlutoTiggerPopeyeGoofyHumphreyRudolphLondonParis" as his password. When asked why he was using such a long password, he said that he had been told that the password had to be at least 8 characters long and include at least one capital.



Can't stop to talk, I'm rushing for a bus.



Can't understand why Amazon won't deliver to us.



When will they start to collect my green waste again?

The duty of comedy is to correct men by amusing them.

Puzzle Page

Crossword No 123

	1	2	2	3				4	5	
7										9
10						11				
12								13		
	14			15			16		17	
18						19				20
21		22				23		24		
25								26		
	27						28			

Across

- 1 Influence
- 4 Avoid
- 10 Sedate
- 11 Altered
- 12 Authorise
- 13 Shelf
- 14 Love
- 16 Devious
- 21 Ape
- 23 Courier
- 24 Fit
- 26 Similar
- 27 Gem
- 28 Animal

Down

- 2 Panicked
- 3 Bestow
- 4 Secrecy
- 5 Unfastened
- 7 Flower
- 9 Snake
- 11 Peer
- 15 Hermit
- 17 Carthorses
- 18 Break
- 19 Velocity
- 20 Sort
- 22 Grain
- 24 Vassal

Answers

Slave.

Across: 1 Affect, 4 Shun, 10 Staid, 11 Emended, 12 Empower, 13 Ledger, 14 Adore, 16 Shady, 21 Mimic, 23 Postboy, 24 Seizure, 26 Alike, 27 Jewel, 28 Best.

Down: 2 Flapped, 3 Endow, 4 Stealth, 5 Undid, 7 Aster, 9 Addr, 11 Earl, 15 Recluse, 17 Dobbins, 18 Smash, 19 Speed, 20 Types, 22 Maize, 24

Word Ladder

Go from one word to the next by changing only one letter.

BENCH	SEAT
BEACH	SHORE
LEACH	PERCOLATE
	RESTRAINT
	MINIMUM
	ANIMAL
	BRAG
	INCREASE
	PERCH
	COOK
COAST	SHORE

Bench, Beach, Leach, Leash, Least, Best, Boost, Boost, Roast, Coast.

Miniquiz

- 1 Which magnetic element is the most used and cheapest metal?
- 2 The "Deadly Webcap and the " Fool's Webcap" Are species of poisonous what?
- 3 Which Norfolk residence did George V call "the place I love more than anywhere in the world"?
- 4 What is the largest broadcasting organisation in The world?
- 5 The watchmaker Robert Hubert was hanged after he confessed to starting which 1666 event?

Answers

London.

1 Iron, 2 Mushroom, 3 Sandringham, 4 BBC, 5 Great Fire of

For the very first time, the young or seeing history being made before it is censored by their elders.

Who on earth was Erskine Clarke?

“For what church item was Erskine Clarke best known? “Might be a good question in a church quiz, as the response from most people might well be “Who on earth was Erskine Clarke? I gave the answer to this question in volume one of my History of the Parish Magazine when I quoted Archbishop Rowan Williams celebrating *the parish magazine in its modern form marking a 150th anniversary of Erskine Clarke’s launch of the parish magazine in 1859.*

The Revd. John Erskine Clarke was the Vicar of St. Michael’s Church, Derby when he began the first parish magazine inset, and in 1863 he founded “The Children’s Prize” later known as “The Prize”, and in December 1866 produced “Chatterbox”, a weekly paper for older children. As if this wasn’t enough, in 1871 he started a weekly newspaper called “Church Bells”. In 1872 he became Vicar of St. Mary’s Church, Battersea, where he stayed for 37 years. During that time he did an amazing number of things to help the poor and destitute as well as ministering to a large proportion of the local population. (Those of you who are internet connected might like to look him up on Wikipedia.). Towards the end of his life he became an honorary chaplain to Queen Victoria and later to King George V before he died in 1920.

It wasn’t long before other clergy began to follow his idea of a parish magazine, and eventually others began producing insets to go with their parish news. By 1885 there were something like 22 different insets from which to choose, including Home Words and The Sign, while on the covers of the magazines would be details of the parish clergy and the times of the services.

I have a Llantwit Major Parish Magazine for November 1952 which follows this same pattern all those years later, with Home Words as the inset, and one from Usk, where I served my second curacy, from January 1959, almost exactly the same, with The Sign as the inset. One item in the Llantwit issue, as I said in volume one, was the baptism of the Vicar and his wife’s first child, Christopher Wyndham Thomas on the 18th September.

By 1974 there were few parishes without a parish magazine, either on their own, or sharing with other parishes in a Deanery, all with an inset and almost exclusively produced by the clergy. It was very unusual for a magazine to be produced by one of the laity. By then Llantwit’s Magazine had an inset produced by the Church in Wales in 1972, called Welsh Churchman, with a circulation of 54,000 a month and an estimated readership of 150,000. The editor was a University Chaplain, who eventually became a Bishop.

Women are much less likely to be colour blind than men.

In 1975 the third editor was a clerical member of staff at St Michael's College who eventually became the Archbishop, and by 1992 the editor was the Vicar of Fairwater, Cardiff and his wife, Christal Tilney, to use her pen name.

By today's standards these insets were incredibly dull and hard to read, with long theological articles in very small print. The Welsh Churchman probably lasted as long as it did because Chrystal could pick interesting historical subjects, and had an excellent turn of phrase. Those of us who can remember meetings of the Church in Wales Governing Body at Llandrindod Wells will agree that she described the final session there with considerable wit and accuracy.

I have enjoyed working with Eric on the Magazine, and we will miss his distinctive style when he retires. We have been very blessed with our lay editors over many years now, and the fact that the Magazine has not needed an inset to make it a viable size speaks for itself. In an article from Hampshire Archives and Local Studies, 'Community insights from parish magazines', the author describes them as an ideal source for local and family history, so perhaps the work started by Erskine Clarke has not finished yet.

David G. Brunning



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- The festival is suitable for beginners and the more experienced.
- For further information and a booking form contact the Office in Llantwit Major or Moira Spence at tybara@btinternet.com.

Announcement

I took over from Sue Brooks, the previous editor, in 2012, her last magazine being the April edition. May 2023 will mark the end of the eleventh year of my tenure and for various personal reasons, including failing eyesight, I have decided that that will be the end. That means that there will only be the April and the May editions to come before someone else takes over.

I have enjoyed producing the magazine and some people have been kind enough to say that they have enjoyed reading it! The whole exercise has given me great satisfaction and while I will miss it; I will have much more spare time to devote to other personal tasks. My thanks go to all those who have contributed in any way, remembering especially Bill Henderson who helped to set it up in the first place and Canon David Brunning who has served me excellently over the years as proof-reader as well as all those who have written articles.

One consequence, of course, is that we are now looking for a person (gender neutral) to take over. I am fully prepared to help the newcomer to ease into the job by helping as much, or as little, as they want, so please get in touch with Fr Edwin, me, or the Office; your offer will be greatly appreciated.

Eric Sparks

I am the character you are not supposed to like.

Obituary

Ian Eric Colston 1934 – 2023

Ian Eric Colston was born 15th March, 1934. After evacuation to USA and Canada, he came back to school in Scotland, National Service in the Navy, and university at Cambridge and wound up with an MA in Estate Management. He worked for Valuers and Estate Agents eventually setting his own firm in Llantwit Major. His interests were many and varied, being actively involved in Education, Commerce and several charities: a member of the South Glamorgan, the Cardiff and the Llantwit Major Chambers of Trade; founder member of Llantwit Major Rotary Club and a member of the Royal British Legion, helping to organise the annual Remembrance Day Service and becoming their Chairman. Ian committed himself to service in many aspects of life in the community becoming a Deputy Lieutenant of the county.

Ian had a long and happy marriage for over 68 years to Pat, bringing up a family of Alistair, Elspeth, Sarah and Tim with grandchildren and great grandchildren. He died on 8th January this year unexpectedly and peacefully with his family with him. The funeral was attended by the Lord Lieutenant and Deputy Lieutenants and the church was packed to overflowing as people came to pay their respects to a man who had lived his life to the full. He will be missed and mourned by many.



Have the courage to say no. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys to having a life of integrity.

From the Registers

Burials

- 2nd Dec. Hubert Charles Griffiths aged 89 years Llantwit Major
7th Dec. Bessie Tarlton, aged 92 years, Llantwit Major.
9th Dec. Phyllis Challenger, aged 97 years, Llantwit Major.
23rd Jan. Elizabeth Ann Miles, aged 65years, Llantwit Major.
24th Jan. Keith John Powell, aged 90, Llantwit Major
23rd Jan. Gladys Irene Sansom, aged 102 years, Brocastle.
25th Jan. Sylvia Evans, aged 82years, Rhoose.
27th Jan. Doris "Robbie" Wiltshire, aged 93 years, Barry.
28th Jan. Josephine Cutter aged 100 years, Cowbridge.
9th Feb. Megan Jan Pryce, aged 88 years, Ogmore by Sea.
10th Feb. Ian Eric Colston, aged 88 years, Llantwit Major.

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The meaning of Easter

The facts of Easter are easily told. Jesus, with his followers, the disciples, came to Jerusalem and started to preach. The Jewish authorities saw him as a threat to their power and sought to eliminate him. They bribed Judas Iscariot to betray him, and this he did. The Roman governor, Pontius Pilate recognised that whatever he did would be wrong and took the easy way out by allowing the Jews to deal with him. Jesus was first humiliated, tortured, and then nailed to a



cross and crucified - the Roman, barbaric and agonising method of execution.

Many criminals received the same fate, indeed two were crucified at the same time as Jesus, but this occasion was significantly different. Jesus died and was buried. The disciples thought that their mission had failed but were astonished when Jesus appeared among them three days later, alive and well. He continued to teach them and prepare them for their ministry, which was to spread the word to all peoples, Jews and Gentiles alike.

This then is the great significance of Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar. Jesus knew from the outset that he was going to die. He also knew what the manner of his death was going to be and did not shrink from doing what God, His Father, wanted Him to do. He could have easily avoided pain and suffering. This was God's sacrifice. That He allowed His only Son to die in order that we might come to Him. It is His gift to us, the world, that we celebrate His death, and His resurrection.



shrink
God, His
Him to
easily
all the
This was
That he
that we,
was his
might
Jesus' life,
His death,
and

Be careful what you wish for, you might just get it.

Saint of the Month

12 March: St Paul Aurelian (6th century)

On 1st June 2000 Cantorion Illtud from Llantwit Major had the privilege of singing for Ascension Day Mass in St Pol de Léon Cathedral in Brittany and also giving a 'grand' concert in the Cathedral, welcomed as 'Chorale du Pays de Galles'. This was part of our tour of the churches in Brittany associated with St Illtud's monastic school, which included Dol Cathedral and Lanildut.

The information board in St Pol de Léon states that St Paul Aurelian, the patron saint of the town, was born at Boverton. I am not sure what their sources were for stating that, but certainly it seems that Paul "while still of tender years" was sent "to the school of a certain master, who was a burning and a shining light" which his ninth century biographer Wrmonoc says was "Illtutus, a man of noble birth and great learning".

A number of the *Lives* of Llanilltud saints mention Paul joining with Illtud in driving back the sea to provide more fertile land for the monastery. Paul is also said to have driven away seagulls, who were damaging the ripening crops of the monastery, by herding them into a barn as though they were sheep.

Paul for a time lived as a hermit away from Llanilltud, and in due course was ordained priest. He left Llanilltud for Cornwall to strengthen the Christian faith there, before moving on to Brittany where he established a number of monasteries, including the one at what is now St Paul de Léon. The local lord, who had given Paul the land for the monastery, asked King Childebert I of Paris to make Paul a bishop. As the first bishop of the diocese of Léon, Paul is regarded as one of the seven founding saints of Brittany, along with St Samson. As a result of the influence of Samson and Paul there are 27 churches dedicated to St Illtud in Brittany, though there is no historical evidence that Illtud travelled there.

Paul died on 12 March 573 on the Isle of Batz, where he had retired, and was buried in St Pol de Léon Cathedral.



Philip Morris

I paid no attention whatsoever to any bodies, praise or blame. I simply follow my own feelings.

Benefice Directory

Parish Clergy

Rev'd Canon Edwin Counsell 01446 794503
The Rectory, High Street, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SS
edwin.counsell@ghcp.church

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Penny Snowden 01446 775402
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Parish Office Alison Weston 01446 792439
9am -2.30pm St Illtud's Church, Church Street,
Mon – Fri Llantwit Major. CF61 1SB.
office@ghcp.church

Website <http://www.llanilltud.org.uk/>

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Heol yr Ysgol
St Brides Major, Bridgend, CF32 0TB

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Llantwit Major, CF61 1AP
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Contributions to be received by 22nd of the month.

About eleven, I read prayers and preached in Llantwit Major church to a very numerous congregation. I have not seen either so large or so handsome a church since I left England. It was sixty yards long, but one end of it is now in ruins. I suppose it has been abundantly the most beautiful as well as the most spacious church in Wales.

John Wesley,
26 September, 1777.



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Jane Hutt

**Member of the Senedd for the Vale of Glamorgan
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Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any
concerns or need help.

Peidiwch ag oedi cyn cysylltu â mi os oes gennych unrhyw
bryderon neu os oes angen help arnoch.

Contact / Cysylltu

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