

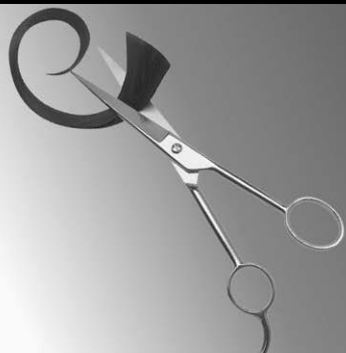
LLANDUDNO

Parish Magazine

Cylchgrawn Plwyf

50p

March 2019



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Services

Holy Trinity Church, Mostyn Street

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Eucharist

10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1st, 3rd &
4th Sundays)

Matins followed by
shortened Eucharist (2nd
Sunday)

Weekdays

9.00 am Holy Eucharist (Wed)

11.00 am Holy Eucharist (Thurs)

Holy Eucharist in Welsh
(Sat)



*Cover photo: Candlemas at Holy Trinity.
See page 17.*

St. Tudno's Church, Great Orme

11.00 am Open Air Service (Sun
from end of May to end of
September)

On the first Sunday of
each month, the service is
followed by a shortened
Eucharist in the church.

**Please check the Calendar for
the month on pages 8, 9 and 10
for any additional services or
amendments.**

**Parish of Llandudno
Plwyf Llandudno**

Registered Charity No. 1131171



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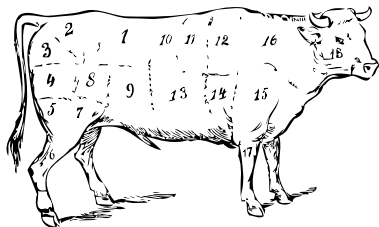
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Calendar for March 2019

Fri 1st	David, Bishop, Patron of Wales / World Day of Prayer	
	10.30 am	World Day of Prayer Service followed by refreshments
	12.00 noon	Holy Eucharist for St. David's Day
	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Sat 2nd	11.00 am	<i>Yr Offeren</i>
Sun 3rd	First Sunday Before Lent	<i>First Sunday in March</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	9.30 am	Junior Church
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Mon 4th	9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group
	2.30 pm	Mother's Union – Circle Dancing
	6.30 pm	Rehearsal for "The Feast of Life" at the Rectory
	6.30 pm	Hand Bell ringing in the Choir Vestry
Tue 5th	Shrove Tuesday	
	10.00 am	Cytûn Julian Group at Stella Maris
	2.00 pm	Fair-Trade pancakes at Ysgol San Sior
	2.30 pm	Parish Fellowship with Mike Harrison – "In the wilderness build me a nest"
Wed 6th	Ash Wednesday	
		The 9.00 am Eucharist will not take place
		The Coffee Morning today is cancelled
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes followed by a Frugal Lunch in the Church Hall
Thurs 7th	10.30 am	Guild of Health and St. Raphael prayers for healing
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	12.00 noon	Lenten Course (film) at the Rectory (see p 12)
Fri 8th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Sat 9th	11.00 am	<i>Yr Offeren</i>
	2.00 pm	North Wales Association of Church Bell Ringers' AGM and ringing at Holy Trinity
Sun 10th	First Sunday in Lent	<i>Second Sunday in March</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	9.30 am	Junior Church
	10.30 am	Sung Matins
Mon 11th	9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group

	6.30 pm	Rehearsal for “The Feast of Life” at the Rectory	
	6.30 pm	Hand Bell ringing in the Choir Vestry	
Tue 12th	2.30 pm	Parish Fellowship with Colin Price – Reflections on Easter	
Wed 13th	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	10.00 am	Coffee Morning inc 200 Club Draw	
	7.00 pm	Lenten Course at St. David’s Hospice in association with the Aberconwy Ministry Area (see p 15)	
Thurs 14th	10.00 am	Guild of Health and St. Raphael meeting	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist with Ministry of Healing	
	12.00 noon	Lenten Course at Rectory	
Fri 15th	7.30 pm	Bell ringing practice	
Sat 16th	11.00 am	Yr Offeren	
<hr/>			
Sun 17th	Second Sunday in Lent		<i>Third Sunday in March</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	9.30 am	Junior Church	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	
Mon 18th	9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
	2.00 pm	Mothers’ Union Diocesan Festival Service at Bangor Cathedral	
	6.30 pm	Rehearsal for “The Feast of Life” at the Rectory	
	6.30 pm	Hand Bell ringing in the Choir Vestry	
Tue 19th	Joseph of Nazareth (transferred to following day)		
	2.30 pm	Parish Fellowship closing meeting for season	
Wed 20th	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist celebration of Joseph of Nazareth (transferred from previous day)	
	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	
	7.00 pm	Lenten Course at St. David’s Hospice (see p 15)	
Thurs 21st	10.30 am	Guild of Health and St. Raphael prayers for healing	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	12.00 noon	Lenten Course at Rectory	
Fri 22nd	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	
Sat 23rd	1.30 pm	Visit of Chester Organist’s Association to hear and play refurbished organ	
	11.00 am	Yr Offeren	
<hr/>			
Sun 24th	Third Sunday in Lent		<i>Fourth Sunday in March</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	9.30 am	Junior Church	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	

	11.00 am	Morning Service at St. Tudno's followed by refreshments	
Mon 25th	9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
	6.30 pm	Rehearsal for "The Feast of Life" at the Rectory	
	6.30 pm	Hand Bell ringing in the Choir Vestry	
Wed 27th	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	
	7.00 pm	Lenten Course at St. David's Hospice (see p 15)	
Thurs 28th	10.30 am	Guild of Health and St. Raphael prayers for healing	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	12.00 noon	Lenten Course at the Rectory	
Fri 29th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	
Sat 30th	11.00 am	Yr Offeren	
<hr/>			
Sun 31st	Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)		<i>Fifth Sunday in March</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	9.30 am	Junior Church	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	
Mon 1st	9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
	1.00 pm	Mothers' Union Passover Meal (All welcome but tickets limited – see page 15 for details)	
	2.30 pm	Bible Society AGM at Seilo Welsh Chapel	
	6.30 pm	Rehearsal for "The Feast of Life" at the Rectory	
	6.30 pm	Hand Bell ringing in the Choir Vestry	
Wed 2nd	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	
	7.00 pm	Lenten Course at St. David's Hospice (see p 15)	
Thurs 3rd	10.30 am	Guild of Health and St. Raphael prayers for healing	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	12.00 noon	Lenten Course at the Rectory	
Fri 4th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	
Sat 5th	11.00 am	Yr Offeren	
<hr/>			
Sun 6th	Fifth Sunday in Lent		<i>First Sunday in April</i>
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	9.30 am	Junior Church	
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	

Letter From the Vicar

Another Story Must Begin

Lent is the 40 days and 40 nights that Jesus spent in the wilderness. He was led into the wilderness by the spirit and there, during a time of prayer and temptation, he had to come to terms with his destiny. Some people will still see this period as a battle with the devil; the drama of how evil seeks to overthrow good, and how good it is and shaking and prevails. Apart from the narrative of the Temptations, we have no clue as to what Jesus felt or

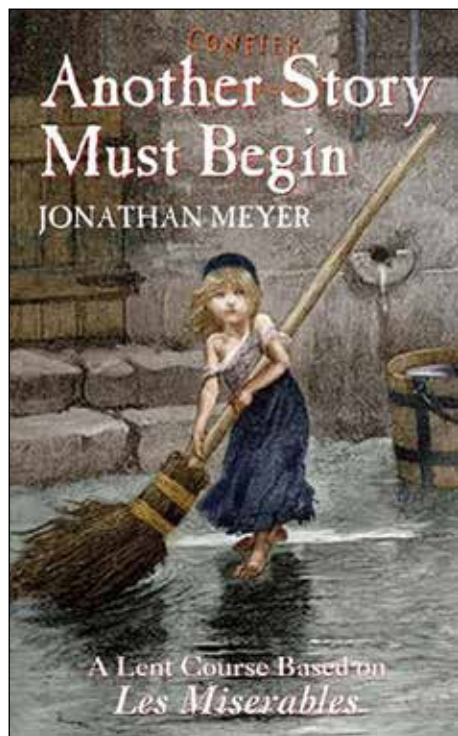


thought. But we can imagine this time of testing and prayer as the way in which he came to terms with his humanity; the way he struggled to accept that it was his destiny to align himself with the ways of God. If fully human, he had to struggle with his conscience, as we do, and with the temp-

tation to resist always taking the easy route. He had to become fully aware of those around him and of their needs. He had to put his ideals in line with his life and the way in which he was going to live it.

We do not approach Lent in a spirit that calls us to be Jesus, but we are called to follow Jesus. During our Lenten journey, we too should seek to try to ascertain what God's will is for us. As we will note during the week on the Bishop of Digne, "conscience is the amount of inner knowledge we possess. To that extent, our Lenten journey should be to understand ourselves better.

By taking different characters from the story of *Les Misérables*, the course will lead through Lent in a traditional way. Fantine represents our fallen state; to reflect on her life we need to contemplate sin and what that might mean in ourselves but also in society. The short section devoted to Cossette seeks to counterbalance a sense of sin and a fall



in nature with the hope for the future. The Bishop marks a deeper journey of formation and the need for us to be open to the new and unexpected; we are challenged here in regards to judging others.

Valjean and Javert represent different ways and choices; the response to our self knowledge or, in the case of Javert, the inability to respond.

The final section redemption and salvation tries to assess how Valjean has arrived at a sense of fulfilment and to reflect on the sacrifices he has to make on the way; throughout, we think about the grace of God to transform lives including our own.

Les Miserables the musical does not provide definitive answers, and different responses would not only be a value but will add a richness to the way we perceive the story. Responses to a biblical or secular text must remain open; they must pose questions for us to answer in our own way and in our own lives just as the story remains open at least to a degree which is pointless to different possibilities and allows us to engage fully, and not, like her bed, to be constrained within a mobile straitjacket.

The backdrop to the novel is the little-known insurrection which took place in Paris on the 6th of June 1832. Since the Revolution of 1789, there were several interactions and periods of civil disturbance, as indeed they have been from time to time throughout Paris' history. The rising of 1832 was easily put down

and did not cause the authorities undue concern. It gave Victor Hugo a powerful setting for his story and a framework in which to make his case for social justice. The novel was published 30 years later, which indicates that the question of poverty was still very much on the political agenda. Any groups following the course will find it impossible not to consider how much this is still a problem in Western society or further field. Hugo put his case forcefully within the national assembly and it is difficult to ignore the political aspects of the novel and the film in today's society. It is not the intention of this course to be political but inevitably these questions may be raised. Groups might like to reflect on the role of the individual and the church as a whole to fight for social justice, and it would be a natural progression to consider liberation theology. The whole question of how the church responds to social injustice has been brought to the fore by both Pope Francis the first and the Archbishop of Canterbury recently. Hugo alludes to the way in which people can be excluded by naming the fictional society to which the young revolutionaries Enjolras, Grantaire, Courfeyrac and others belonged as the ABC society, ABC being a play on the French word *abaisse*, meaning abased and downcast.

In spite of the depressing picture of social injustice, and the way in which Fantine pays for her transgression with an early death, as well as the individual tragedies of Eponine, Gavroche and the

hapless Republicans, *Les Miserables* is remarkable for its profound sense of optimism. A sense of hope and belief in humanity and its future brings us back to Biblical themes and to a resurrection that transcends Our Lenten fast.

Yours in Christ

Andrew

This course for Lent will meet on Thursdays at 12.00 noon in the Rectory, beginning with a showing of the film on Thursday 7th March and then with five sessions in the following weeks looking at Fantine and Cosette, The Bishop of Digne, Jean Valjean, Javert and finally Redemption and Salvation. All are welcome. Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring a packed lunch.

Letter From the Archdeacon

Dear Friends,

Every year, Welsh people all over the world gather on the first of March to commemorate Saint David, the patron saint of Wales. Welsh societies from Pontarddulais to Patagonia, and from Harlech to Hong Kong enjoy lamb and leek soup or cawl, on tables decorated with daffodils. Children all over Wales dress up, either in traditional Welsh costumes or in Rugby shirts. All of this – the food, the clothes and the flowers are part of a celebration, reminders of the story of a man who left such a mark upon his people and nation that even fifteen centuries later, traces of his work are still evident amongst us, in the stones, traditions and aspirations of this land.

There is a lot we do not know about David but his life seems to have been characterised by simplicity and an authenticity that made people want to



listen to him. The overriding passion that drove him seems to have been a burning desire to live in such a way that he would communicate to others the good news of God's love and generous hospitality. He devoted a lot of time to travelling into remote parts of the country, and to spend time speaking and listening to people showing them his faith by example.

David is also remembered for the rules of discipline he taught to the brothers who gathered around him, but although he was strict with himself and with his close community, he was also generous with those who disagreed with him. There is a famous story about Gildas, a church man and a very outspoken critic who was invited to stay a month at David's community and encouraged to "work things out in fellowship" with them.

St. David's life illustrates the fact that storytelling – listening and sharing, can occupy an unrivalled place in the art of communication. He is remembered not simply for teaching people to read and write but perhaps more importantly for helping them to shape ideas to stimulate vision and to trust in the forgiving and welcoming love of God. It is really good at this time of year, as we enter the season of Lent to make space to reflect upon the stories that have shaped our own lives and communities and to think about the stories that our own lives might tell and communicate to others. Are there things we need to work through with God or with others? Perhaps there are hurts or things we have neglected that we could begin

to put right. It might not be something huge or of earth shattering importance, St. David reminds us to attend to the small details of our lives.

The most important story of all for Saint David was that of Jesus who, above all others, shows us what a truly Godly welcome and costly forgiveness looks like. As we seek like David, to be faithful followers of Jesus, we might listen to David's example and ourselves strive to be joyful and generous, to keep the faith and to do the little things that we can that communicate God's love to others.

I hope that this Lent will be a time of hope for you.

Mary

News and Notices

Services for March and Early April

March 1st, St. David's Day and World Day of Prayer

There are two services in Holy Trinity on Friday 1 March. At 10.30 am, there is a service celebrating the World Day of Prayer: this will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. At 12.00 noon, there will be a Eucharist commemorating St. David, Bishop and Patron of Wales. Please note the unusual time for this service.

Ash Wednesday, 6 March

On Ash Wednesday, 6 March, there will be a Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes at 11.00 am. This will be followed by a Frugal Lunch in the church hall. There will be no 9.00 am service this day and the coffee morning is cancelled.

St. Joseph of Nazareth, 19/20 March

The Feast of St Joseph of Nazareth (normally on 19 March) will be transferred this year to Wednesday 20 March. A Eucharist will be said at 9.00 am in the Memorial Chapel.

Sunday Service at St. Tudno's, 24 March

A Morning Service will be held at St. Tudno's Church on 24 March at 11.00 am. The service will be followed by refreshments.

1 April, Mothers' Union "Last Supper"

On Monday 1st April, the Mothers' Union is planning to hold "The Last Supper" at 1.00 pm. This is a Christian interpretation of the Passover and will be limited to 48 tickets but not limited to the members of the Union. All attendees will be asked to contribute £3 for a ticket. Those wishing to attend who are not members of the Mothers' Union should contact Mike Harrison.

Lenten Courses

In addition to the Lenten Course to be held on Thursdays at noon as highlighted by the Vicar on page 11, the Parish Magazine understands that an additional Lenten Course will be held at St. David's Hospice on Wednesdays at 7.00 pm, beginning on 13 March. This course is being held in association with Aberconwy Ministry Area. The details had not been finalised when the Parish Magazine went to print so please check before attending.

Bishop Andy's Tenth Anniversary

With the Cathedral of Bangor being unavailable, we were delighted to wel-



Bishop Andy's 10th Anniversary Evensong at Holy Trinity Church.



came the Bishop of Bangor, the Right Revd Andrew John, clergy (including the three Archdeacons) and people of the diocese to Holy Trinity for a special service to celebrate the 10th Anniver-

sary of the Bishop's enthronement. The preacher was the Very Revd Cathy Jones, the Dean of Bangor. A combined choir from Holy Trinity and the Cantamus Chamber Choir sang Evensong.



Bishop Andy and Vernon Morris.

After the service glasses were raised to toast the Bishop.

Candlemas

The 10.30 am Eucharist service on 3 February at Holy Trinity included Candlemas celebrations and we were delighted to be joined by members of St. Padarn's Institute, the training organisation for ministry in the Church of Wales, who were taking part in a residential weekend in Llandudno.

Visit of Chester Organists' Association

On Saturday 23 March, the Chester Organists' Association will be visiting Holy Trinity church between 1.30 pm and 3.30 pm to hear and play the re-furbished organ.



Candlemas service at Holy Trinity.

Mothers' Union

Our Mothers' Union Meeting on 4 February was led by Angela, who read prayers followed by the Mary Sumner Prayer. We had bible readings from Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, finishing by saying the Lord's Prayer together.

Mrs Glenis Roberts told us the story of her childhood in Llanddona, Anglesey, describing how primary schools were then called 'elementary' schools and houses were lit with paraffin lamps and candles. She told us about her home, which included a crogloft bedroom with moveable stairs. There was a store shed outside for the laundry, where the 'dolly tub' was kept, and a well in the garden as there was no running water. All this brought back memories for many of us. Mrs Roberts told us about her church and Sunday School, and many other aspects of her childhood, including some of her mischievous moments.

Revd Jane proposed a vote of thanks, saying that it was testimony to the high regard in which Mrs Roberts is held in Holy Trinity that so many MU members were in attendance.

Jenny Bicknell

Children and Young Families

The Committee met in January to agree and plan for the Candlemas Workshop which took place on Sunday afternoon, 3 February. We enjoyed

a happy and busy afternoon with 22 children, parents, carers and friends taking part in the crafts and activities.

As usual we are dependent on the support from all our lovely helpers who prepare, organise and support each of the following activities:

- The children iced their initials on buns and then placed a candle for Jesus in the centre, helped by Pat.
- Gaynor and Ray helped the children make stand-up paper candles, printed with the words "**Jesus Light of the World**".
- Charlotte (one of the mums) had a special wax-making kit that made it possible for the children to make real candles.
- Sandra and Vicky helped the children make candle head-bands.
- Sarah (one of the mums) made paper lanterns.
- We had a tunnel, supervised by Mary, that had "dark and light" experience with twinkly lights.
- There were some activities in Church as well. William, Shirley and Rob helped the children find pictures of sources of light hidden in church and talked about them in the context of "Jesus – the light of the world."
- There were also sayings from the bible about light that the children helped to put in order – a challenge!
- Mike and Roz finished the activities

in the church with an action story, prayer and song.

- We all enjoyed a delicious tea at the end of the afternoon.

Junior Church continues to thrive, and we have over 40 children on the register with nearly half attending on a regular basis.

It is encouraging to see the children and their parents / carers enjoying worship and we pray that this will continue to develop, thanks to Andrew and Mary who lead it.

It is good that we have a rota of helpers at 9.00 am to prepare the chapel and be there to welcome and support our young families.

The Mothers' Union remembers our children and families in prayer at all of

their meetings and we would like to encourage the other parish organisations and parishioners to do the same.

Sandra Davies

St.Tudno's Church

A morning service with Eucharist was held at St.Tudno's on Sunday 27 January, which was led by Revd Martin Pritchard. Despite the stormy weather there was a congregation of 15 stalwarts. Daphne Balchin played the keyboard for the hymns which included "O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness" and "As with Gladness Men of Old". The theme of the address was how as individuals we should work together as one body. Hot drinks and cakes were enjoyed, to fortify everyone before they braved



The "water spout" at Pen Trwyn.

the fierce wind. The view of the sea from outside church was spectacular, including waves shooting crashing on the rocks at “fishermen’s ledge” at Pen Trwyn and forming the “water spout” (technically an ocean geyser), which rarely has the weather conditions to be seen.

There will be a service at St. Tudno’s at 11.00 am on Sunday 24 March and a free taxi will depart from Holy Trinity at 11.00 am. Please note there is no heating at St. Tudno’s but the service will be followed by hot drinks and cakes. During March St. Tudno’s will be open weekends, Wednesdays and occasionally other days, weather permitting. From 1 April the church will be open every day.

Shirley Georgeson
Christine Jones

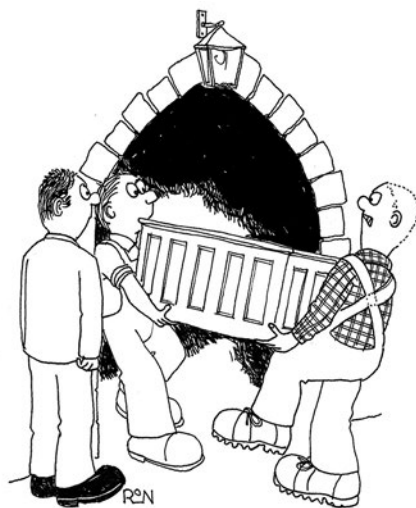
Mystery Model

Can anyone help up identify the make of the china model of St. Tudno’s Church shown in the photo? We have been approached by two ladies who think these models were sold in about the 1990s and wonder whether it was a local manufacturer. The model is possibly about 6” long and the photo shows the north side of St. Tudno’s, which is correct in its features. For those reading the print version of the magazine (the version published on the website is in colour) the model has white walls and a tile coloured roof, while brightly



coloured out sized flowers are dotted around and on the roof of the church. If you have any information on the model please would you contact me (contact details in the print magazine or via the “Contact Us” form on the website). Many thanks.

Christine Jones



It was Lent, so they took it back

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150 Club

The draw for January was held during the coffee morning on 6 February 2019.

The prize fund was £150 and the following three winning numbers were drawn:

1st	Number 017 Joyce Crosby	£90
2nd	Number 104 Susan Seddon	£40
3rd	Number 113 Christine Jones	£20

Congratulations to all the winners.

Since the club was started, we have now paid out £9200 in prize money.

I wish to thank everyone that have joined in with use for this event and hope that you can support us in the future.

An updated list of all the winners will be displayed on the notice boards in the Church hall and inside the main Church entrance.

The next draw will take place on Wednesday, 13 March 2019.

Should you want more details of the 150 Club, you can find forms at the back of the Church or in the hall.

Terry Dewar (Promoter)

Sunday Rota

Sunday 7 April

Reader	Ruth Hodgkinson
Sidespersons	Linda Blundell
	Wendy C-Stewart
	Cath Lloyd
	Sue Stafford
Eucharistic	Stan Whittaker
Ministers	Maggie Leitch

Reader	Rob Georgeson
Sidespersons	Linda Blundell
	Wendy C-Stewart
	Cath Lloyd
	Doug Pritchard
Eucharistic	Angela Pritchard
Ministers	Terry Dewar

Sunday 14 April

Reader	Edna Weaver
Sidespersons	Ron Illidge
	Sandra Davies
	Annabel Jones
	Angela Pritchard
Eucharistic	Marion Heald
Ministers	Judith Williams

Sunday 5 May

Reader	Ray Stythe-Jones
Sidespersons	Sue Stafford
	Joyce Smith
	Angela Pritchard
	Sandra Davies
Eucharistic	Stan Whittaker
Ministers	Maggie Leitch

Sunday 21 April

Reader	Angela Pritchard
Sidespersons	Joyce Crosby
	Marion Heald
	William Maidlow
	Pat Ridler
Eucharistic	Cath Lloyd
Ministers	Geoff Howard

Sunday 28 April

Attendance Figures for January 2019

		Eucharists to January 5th	14
January 6th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	17
The Epiphany of Our Lord	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	81
January 7th	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist for Mothers' Union	18
		Other weekday Eucharists	38

January 13th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	10
The Baptism of Christ	10.30 am	Sung Matins	70
		Shortened Eucharist	25 + 42
January 19th		Cytun Holy Eucharist	
		Other weekday Eucharists	
January 20th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	14
Epiphany 3	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	82
		Other Weekday Eucharists	36
January 27th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	14
Epiphany 4	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	67
	5.00 pm	Evensong Celebrating the Right Revd Andrew John's 10th Anniversary as Bishop of Bangor	98
		Other weekday Eucharists	35

Robert's Corner

A few thoughts about newness and change

Some people get the impression that a church congregation is the local, religious branch of the National Trust. In fact, an outsider might remark, "I thought your founder said he would make you lot fishers of men, women and children (ie, people who people who attract fresh joiners, both adults and youngsters) but you seem instead to be curators of an aquarium."

It is strange that Christians – us! – Have often got the image of always referring what is old and resisting change, when the thrust of so much in the Bible (and not just in the New Testament) – and certainly the heart of Jesus's teaching – is to do with enthusiastically embracing change and adopting radically different priorities and a lifestyle that

will increasingly challenge conventional habits and assumptions.

A pub quite near to where I grew up was (perhaps still is) called "The World Turned Upside down", and I think of its colourful sign with an outline world map having Antarctica, Australia and South America at the top and Canada, Russia, and Greenland at the bottom. So much of Jesus's own behaviour and of the gospel songs in Luke such as the Magnificat are about fundamental change and (yes, still) new ways of living. If we were really to adopt and follow the examples given to us there, our world really would be turned upside down. Do we rather satisfy ourselves with just minor achievements in our conduct and relationships, in other words with merely tilting the globe only very slightly?

In many ways, we older people should surely be skilled, even expert, in coping with, even welcoming change – because we have the experience of so much change and newness during all the decades that we have lived? A hymn that has always spoken powerfully to me is John Keeble’s “New Every Morning is the Love”, (which picks up telling insight from the book of Lamentations). Amongst other things it shares with us, this hymn’s opening lines appeal to me because of their down-to-earth-ness. The writer and we singers are grateful to God, in fact we see evidence of God’s love, because of our being blessed in waking up and getting up at the start of each new day.

A hymn I am afraid I am far less keen on is the superficially modern one “Lord for the Years” (tune of the same name), – not least because of a phrase in its last verse: “past put behind us”. Have there been any sillier words included in a hymn? Not only is it unwise to put the past behind us, it is impossible. We do best to draw upon what has gone before (even if painful or shameful) to give us strength, a resource for the present and the future. Incidentally, hoping to be provocative, I am also unenthusiastic about this hymn’s tune noticing that it cribs, whether consciously or not, from “O Strength and Stay” (tune *Strength and Stay* by the Rev Dr JB Dykes), a Victorian erstwhile favourite, seldom sung these days.

So, thinking about how we ought to draw fresh energy and motivation for

today and tomorrow, we can learn from the evergreen, ever new, wisdom of Psalm 84, verse six. Miles Coverdale’s 1535 translation, as used in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, much of which I would happily discard in the wastepaper bin, gives us “Who are going through the veil of misery use it for a well; and the pools are filled with water.”

So, overall, I think, I hope, what I am suggesting is that we all wholeheartedly apply Jesus’s words (in Matthew, chapter 13) about the learner in the kingdom of Heaven needing to be like householders who take and use from their store things both new and old.

Robert Pearce

STRENGTH AND STAY. 11 10, 11 10. JOHN BACCHUS DYKES, 1823-76
Slowly, with breadth

1. O Strength and Stay up - hold - ing all cre - a - tion,
2. Grant to life's day a calm un - cloud - ed end - ing.

Who ev - er dost thy - self un - moved a - bide,
An eve un - touched by shad - ows of de - cay,

Yet day by day of the light in due gra - da - tion
The bright-ness of a ho - ly death-bed blend - ing

From hour to hour through all its chang - es guide;
With dawn - ing glo - ries of the e - ter - nal day. A-men.

3 Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ, thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living,
Now and to endless ages art adored. Amen.

Ascribed to St. Ambrose, 340-97
Tr. John Ellerton, 1826-93
and Fenton J. A. Hort, 1828-92

From the Parish Pump

A Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Generous God,
I come before you on this Ash
Wednesday.
Bless me with the faith I need to
journey with you through these
coming weeks.
I will seek you in prayer and in action.
Open my heart and mind to be
generous in my giving this Lent,
to you and to those around me,
known and unknown.
I will seek you in prayer and in
reflection,
and seek, too, your transforming love.
This I pray in the name of Jesus
Christ,
whose cross brought forgiveness and
new life.
Amen.

Archbishop endorses new Lent course

People across Wales are invited to explore their faith and deepen their spirituality in a new course for the weeks leading up to Easter.

Generosity and inheritance are the themes of a Lent course, which is thought to be the first of its kind produced by the Church in Wales and is endorsed by the Archbishop of Wales.

The course is designed to be followed



“I think the Archdeacon has the state of some of the church roofs on her mind.”

either by groups in churches or by individuals at home. It guides them through Bible readings, reflections and prayer, encouraging them to share their stories and thoughts on generosity and inheritance in relation to a different topic each week. These include the environment, the economy, justice and peace, openness to others and neighbourhood.

The course begins on Ash Wednesday – March 6 – the start of Lent and will continue through the six weeks of Lent to Holy Week and onto Easter Day. It can be followed beyond Easter with reflections for two other key times in the Christian year, Ascension Day (May 30) and Pentecost (June 9).

The Inheritance of Lent course was

commissioned by the Church's GenRus stewardship group and written by the Revd Janet Fletcher, spirituality officer for the Diocese of Bangor.

The Archbishop, John Davies, says, "Lent is a very important time in the Christian year, giving us a chance to focus on and deepen our faith as we prepare for the celebration of Easter. I am delighted to endorse this course and I hope it will help people pray, read, ponder and act as the people of God across the Province. I hope that it will enable them to focus upon some key themes that affect our lives today from a specifically Christian perspective, making the faith more real and better connected to issues of daily life."

The Bishop of Bangor, Andy John, who chairs the GenRus group, adds, "I hope the themes we have chosen for this course – inheritance and generosity – will help us understand more about our life as Christians and inspire us to seek God further. We believe the gift of faith is our inheritance and we are called to be a generous people. This course will help us explore what that means as we live out our lives every day."

Christians injured in India as extremist mob invade a prayer meeting

Three Christians suffered serious injuries when a mob of 25 extremists attacked a prayer meeting in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh on 7

February.

The mob broke into the pastor's home in Chapar village, Sultanpur district, and began insulting worshippers before slapping them and hitting them with sticks. Bibles were also set on fire.

"They did not even spare women," said Sajan K George, the president of the Global Council of Indian Christians (GCIC), who spoke out condemning the violence.

"Intolerance towards Christians in Uttar Pradesh is spiralling upward and religious freedom is pulverised by fanatical elements."

Indian Christian praying in wrecked church building. Densely populated India is home to around 64 million Christians

The Christian leader said, "[the attack] is a shame on secular India" and added that the police, "did not allow Christians to file a complaint against the attackers nor let the injured get medical certificates for their injuries". Highlighting that the situation is likely to deteriorate in the run up to the general elections expected in May he added, "Fanatics are whipping up hostility against Christians for political gain."

Persecution of Christians and other minorities has been on the rise in India since Narendra Modi, whose home constituency is in Uttar Pradesh, became prime minister in 2014. There was a sharp escalation of persecution incidents against Christians in 2017,

when around 736 were recorded by the Evangelical Fellowship of India (of which 351 were violent), compared to 348 persecution incidents recorded in 2016.

Nigerian pastor murdered and his family kidnapped

A pastor was murdered and his family kidnapped after gunmen opened fire on their car on 7 February in Zamfara state, northern Nigeria.

Pastor Anthony Idris Jatau's car skidded off the road in the attack, and he and his family were dragged out. The pastor's body was found two days later, on 9 February, but the whereabouts of his wife, three children and two sisters-in-law are unknown at the time of writing.

According to a local source, the kidnappers are holding the children in separate locations and have demanded a ransom for the family's release.

Pastor Jatau, his wife and family were travelling to take up a new ministry when they were attacked

The source said, "Everybody is sad at the moment and afraid for the lives of his family members. Security agencies are aware of the case but there is nothing yet."

Pastor Jatau, who survived an earlier kidnapping in September 2006, was travelling from his ministry in Sokoto to a new posting in Katsina, about 250 miles away, when the attack happened.

Zamfara is notorious for kidnappings and attacks by Fulani herdsmen militia groups, who have terrorised Christian farming communities. Barnabas Fund patron Baroness Cox, who raised the issue of Fulani attacks in the House of Lords on 17 July 2018, says the militants are now so well armed that some believe they may be fighting a proxy war for Boko Haram, the Islamist militia that wants to drive out Christians from northern Nigeria.

Pastor kidnapped by Buddhist forces is reported dead in Myanmar

A pastor kidnapped at gunpoint by Buddhist militants in Myanmar (Burma) on 19 January is believed dead, according to regional reports, although Barnabas' contacts in the region say that his body has not yet been found.

Pastor Tun was reportedly killed alongside several others held captive in Rakhine state by militants thought to be members of the "Arakan Army" (AA), an emerging ethnic Buddhist military force in conflict with the Myanmar Army.

Pastor Tun was a spokesman for his village and his Christian missionary work made him a target. Witnesses describe the AA as "truly brutal" and concerns are mounting that more abductions of Christians are likely.

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The Churchyards in February



Daffodils.

It was lovely to see the spring bulbs coming into flower at Holy Trinity and St. George's. At Holy Trinity the bulbs added to the colour in the troughs and daffodils, crocuses and snowdrops brightened the grass. At St. George's clumps of snowdrops and crocuses were blooming in the trees and



Daffodils at Holy Trinity.



Crocuses.



Snowdrops.

amongst the grass, while a few early primroses continued to appear. At St. Tudno's, the first signs of spring wild flowers were the patterned heart shaped leaves of lesser celandine in the

grass and a spread of daisy plants in bare areas. New leaves of heartstongue fern unfurled in the sheltered, shady areas provided by some of the graves.

Christine Jones



Primrose.



Daisy Plant.



Heartstongue fern.



Lesser celandine.

The Bishop's Ministry Fund contribution for 2019 is £85059 (over 6% increase)

This sum of money or "quotia" (formerly the "Parish Share") is paid by the parish contributing to the costs of clergy stipends across the diocese.

If you have not already and are a payer of income tax or capital gains tax, please consider revising your method of regular giving so the Parish can more-easily pay its dues in the following way: please declare regular giving and donations as 'Gift Aid' so HM Customs and Revenue might refund to us the tax you paid on earning your gift.

If you make a donation of £10, the Parish receives an extra £2.50 at no cost to you.

Please contact Stan Whittaker, the Gift Aid Secretary. (Tel: 596796)



Coffee Time

Cryptics (*thanks and courtesy Barbara Cartwright*)

All begin with F

1. Couples starting fresh aperitifs, perhaps, served cold. (6)
2. Move wings in panic? (4)
3. Society member to release mother and child. (9)
4. Thief's unusual obsession. (6)
5. One who installs machinery is more suitable. (6)
6. Underworld dealer at the border of garden? (5)
7. Tree remained, we hear, given early treatment. (5,3)
8. Soft soap for cloth. (7)
9. Layout for floor covering. (6)
10. If sterile, grounds needs right sort of compost. (10)

Results for
February

1. Cheese
2. Rioja
3. Sushi
4. Tonic
5. Asti
6. Bacon
7. Tabasco
8. Cane sugar
9. Martini
10. Ribena



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Bodysgallen Hall

Garden Volunteers



Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol
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Bodysgallen Hall became part of the National Trust by donation in 2008, and is an award-winning hotel, restaurant and spa set within 220 acres of historic gardens and parkland; the original outlying watchtower of the main hall was built in the 13th Century as a lookout for nearby Conwy Castle.

We welcome volunteers in the beautiful and exclusive gardens to assist with our work of continued restoration and maintenance (some of which are designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest).

If you would like to try gardening or estate woodland work, join our team of volunteer gardeners.



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