

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER for
St. Illtyd's Ilston, St. John the Baptist Penmaen, St Nicholas
Nicholaston, St. Mary's Pennard, St. Teilo's Bishopston
Churches in the Gower Ministry Area
(Reg Charity No C10 1210801 Website gowerma.org)
Sunday 1st February 2026 Epiphany 4

Contacts

Priests

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LIFE WITH JESUS IS BETTER THAN LIFE WITHOUT HIM

God of Mission Who alone brings growth to your Church, Send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our actions, And power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment to you, And in service to our local community, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday 1st February

9.30am St Illtyds Ilston Eucharist

9.30 am St Teilo's Bishopston Morning Prayer

11.00am Pennard Hall Service

11.00am St Nicholas Nicholaston

Wednesday 4th February

9.45 am St Mary's Pennard Eucharist with Mothers Union

Thursday 5th February

9.30am Lamplighter Celtic Communion

Sunday 8th February

9.30am St Teilo's Bishopston Eucharist

10.00am St John's Penmaen Eucharist

11.00am St. Mary's Pennard Eucharist

February's prayer for peace.

Lord,

We seek your tranquillity now in a world of unrest.

Your power heals nations, ends conflicts,

promotes justice and brings global unity.

Fill the earth with your peace and presence we

pray. Amen

Sunday 1st February Epiphany 4 In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Ministry Area of Llwchwr we also pray for the Church of England and those who follow Jesus in Tajikistan

Dear St Teilo's Congregation Heating

Despite our best efforts we are unable to provide supplementary heating for the church on Sunday and indeed at any Sunday or service going forward, we will therefore stay with our service in church on Sunday at 9.30, which will be a shortened service as described below

"The service will be said with no hymns and a shorter reflection. Coffee will be served at the end to warm up!"

On following Sundays the service will be in the Church Hall in the Glebe until we are satisfied that the weather is warm enough for services again in the church. Unfortunately the gas supply repair will take several months to complete due to the extent of the work to be undertaken together with the requirement that we comply with all the administrative and H & S regulations

So its wrap up warm again this Sunday

Margaret Eason, widow of former Rector of Bishopston Brian Eason has passed away her funeral will be on at 11.00am 20th February at St Teilo's .

May she rest in peace

The funeral of **Susan Christine Bradley** will take place on Wednesday 4th February with a service to celebrate her life at St Mary's Pennard at 2.00pm following a private family cremation

St Teilo's Flower Rota

1st February Megan & Sue

8th & 15th February Susan Tercero

Please note that the toilet at St. Teilo's is still temporarily unavailable

Dear All,

The Lamplighter is in need for some additional grant funding and we have been pointed in a number of directions

What we are looking at requires the help and input of someone with experience of writing good grant applications. If you or you know of someone who might be able to help then please contact me peterbrooks@cinw.org.uk 01792232928 Peter

Dear Friends, Last week you would have had attachment with your bulletin with regards to prayers you may wish to join with me in saying in our churches and in your own private prayers. Prayer is an important part of our faith and the more of us who pray for things we truly need for our churches then we will indeed see wonderful things happen. Some of these prayers will change month by month and I will of course inform you. Peter

Tearfund With the continuing problems in Israel and Gaza Tear Fund is in need of our support as they are part of The DEC in addition to our monthly contribution of £60 people can give their contributions to Sue Waite or put them directly into the Tearfund account. Sort Code: 30 90 89 Account No: 37039368

Ministry Area Bible Studies

The Ministry Area will be running two Alpha Courses this coming Lent. There will be an online version commencing 3rd February at 7.30 pm and the connecting details will be sent out shortly

There will be an in person at Killay Church commencing February 23rd and again more details to follow

We will be hosting the Church in Wales Lent Course from 18th February 7.00 pm each week at the Lamplighter,

It is called 'From Pancakes to Palm Crosses' and features the story of Easter as seen through our Cathedrals.

This is a provincial course that will take us on a pilgrimage across Wales, visiting each of our six historic cathedrals for each week of Lent

This is a course designed to be completed in study groups, with discussion questions and videos provided, but it can also be completed alone.

Each video has a choice of English and Welsh subtitles, and all written materials are bilingual. Each video is 10 minutes long, and provides discussion questions for a study group session that will last a recommended time of one hour.

We hope you enjoy this course and use it to draw closer to God during this season of reflection!

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/evangelism/len-t-2026-from-pancakes-to-palm-crosses/>

The Presentation of Christ

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, your beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A reading from Malachi (3.1-5)

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight — indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 24.7-10

The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

Lift up your heads, O gates! be lifted up, you everlasting doors! and the King of glory shall come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle.

The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

Lift up your heads, O gates! be lifted up, you everlasting doors! and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

A reading from Hebrews (2.14-18)

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.

Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Luke (2.22-40)

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life, for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**