

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 4th October 2026 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

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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.

Dear Friend's

This prayer will appear each week on the front of our bulletin and will replace the Lycig growth prayer.

Its a reminder that in our acts of worship each week the churches of Gower will be praying for each other following on from our day of prayer last Wednesday 9th in all churches. We will use the prayer and simply insert the correct church depending which church we are in.

A Pilgrim's Prayer for the Gower Ministry Area

O Lord be our companion.

Our guide at that crossroads,

Our breath in our weariness,

Our protection in danger,

Our refuge along the way,

Our shade in the heat,

Our light in the darkness,

Our consolation when discouraged,

And our strength in our intentions.

So that with your guidance,

we may arrive at the end of our journey,

safe and sound enriched with grace, virtue, joy and hope.

Let us pray that all the churches on Gower may journey together

and here we pray foras they pray for us

We ask this in the name of Jesus our companion on the way Peter

Services this week

Sunday 4th October

9.30 am St Illtyds Ilston Eucharist Harvest

9.30 am St. Teilo's Bishopston Morning Prayer

11.00am Pennard Hall Service

11.15 am St Nicholas Nicholaston Morning Prayer

Wednesday 7th October

9.45 am St Mary's Pennard Eucharist with Mothers Union

Thursday 8th October

9.30 am Celtic Communion Lamplighter

Friday 9th October 11.00am Gŵyl

Gynhaeaf/Welsh language Harvest

Thanksgiving, St Mary's Pennard, 11am Friday 9th October. Croeso i bawb/Everyone welcome!

Sunday 11th October

9.30 am St Teilo's Bishopston Eucharist **Harvest**

Service Gifts will be sent to the West Cross Food Bank a list of their needs is printed below.

10.00am St John's Penmaen Morning Prayer

11.00am St. Mary's Pennard Eucharist and Christening

**Sunday 4th October In the Diocesan
Cycle of Prayer**

we pray for College and University Chaplains Sam Aldred Chaplain of University of Wales Trinity St Davids we also pray for Igrjea Episcopal do Brasil and those who follow Jesus in Maldives

The funeral of the late **Mary Griffiths**, sister to Tony and sister in law to Jen Griffiths (Ilston) will take place at Swansea Crematorium at 3.00 pm on the 6th October.

Sadly we have heard of the passing of **Robin Kirby** husband of Carolyn

Funeral arrangements to follow

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

Here is a current list of what we need at West Cross Foodbank.

Tinned Custard Instant, packet pasta,
Pasta/cooking sauces, Smash, Baked beans,
Tinned potatoes
Tinned Spaghetti, Pulses, Milk, Biscuits, Salt and pepper small pots Washing up liquid, Shampoo, Soap
Drop off to Lamplighter or Church at Sunday Service or Linden Church Monday 11-30-2.30, Wed 9.30-12, Fridays 10-3.

Lamplighter Fundraising Concert

We have a fundraising concert, raffle and cheese & wine evening on Saturday 10 October. It will be at St Teilo's Church Hall & the doors will open at 18:30.

"Echoes in Harmony" will be providing the entertaining concert on the evening. Your first glass of wine or soft drink is complementary with your ticket.

Tickets, that are only £10 each, are available from either St Teilo's Church or from The Lamplighter.

Sunday 4th October 2026
18th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son 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 Isaiah (5.1-7)

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80. 7-15

Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You made room around it, and when it had taken root, it filled the land.

Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

The hills were covered with its shadow and the cedars of God by its boughs. It stretched out its branches to the Sea and its tendrils to the River.

Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

Why then have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes? The wild boar out of the wood tears it off, and all the insects of the field devour it.

Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

Turn again, O God of hosts, look down from heaven and behold; cherish this vine which your right hand has planted, and the branch that you made so strong for yourself. Let those who burnt it with fire, who cut it down, perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

A reading from Philippians (3.4b-14)

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the

law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Matthew (.21.33-46)

Glory to you, O Lord

'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'

They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

All praise and thanks, O Christ, for this sacred banquet, in which by faith we receive you, the memory of your passion is renewed, our lives are filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory given, to feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen.**