

YOURS FAITHFULLY

December 2023

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Sunday Schedule
09:30, 11:00 & 6:30pm

Wednesday Schedule
Please see detailed
service schedule

Morning & Evening
Prayer at
8am & 7pm Monday to
Thursday via Zoom

Please see detailed
service schedule for
dates, times and
Churches

Please send any
information for the
January newsletter in to
mapenybontinfo@gmail.com
by 15 December 2023.

Dear friends

I'm writing this on 9th November, but already the shops are full of Christmas goodies, the lights are up in the streets, ready to switch on, and our rota for this month is almost ready. Where has the year gone?! Whilst we're all rushing around, getting in our supplies and buying gifts for our loved-ones, I'm sure you'll still be taking time to attend church, but perhaps through the week you might need a bit of help. Try this as you navigate your way through Advent:



Christmas is a paradox...

Christmas is.....outer joy and inner longing, peace and unrest, singing and silence, worship and concern.

Christmas is.....a time for looking backward over our lives, then forward; reviewing the past, planning in the present which projects into the future.

Christmas is.....a tension between hurt and sorrow, forgiveness and healing; gunfire and fighting mingled with listening to 'Silent Night' and songs of 'Peace on Earth.'

Christmas is.....a time for busyness and merriment in the activities around us and a quiet time for opening ourselves to Christ.

Christmas is.....a tensions between materialism, the less important proddings of the outside world, and the movements of the spirit within us.

Christmas is.....a tension between the Christmas spirit and the Spirit of Christmas.

The Christmas Spirit

Christmas spirit isthe frenzy of the holiday merry-go-round of expectations on ourselves and others.

Christmas spirit is.....the busyness and rush of worldly wantings and seekings, with an insensitivity to the real meaning of Christmas.

Christmas spirit is.....forgetting to take time to be, to communicate, to share.

The Spirit of Christmas

Spirit of Christmas is...a growing awareness and deep yearning for a simple spiritual life.

Spirit of Christmas is...a longing for peace that is 'beyond understanding' and yet is attainable.

Spirit of Christmas is....reaching out to others to share that love and peace which unites us, One in the

Christmas is a paradox! Christmas is a choice!

With love and every blessing for a rich Advent and joyful Christmas.

*Love and every blessing
Maggie.*

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Services Schedule

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
Sunday 26th November (Christ The King -The Fourth Sunday of the Kingdom)	9:30am	Brackla	Eucharist	Maggie
		Coity	Non-Eucharist	Pete
		Coychurch	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Laleston	Eucharist	Edward
	11:00am	Merthyr Mawr	Eucharist	Edward
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
		Nolton	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Pen-y-fai	Non-Eucharist	Pete
6:30pm	Zoom	Evensong	Maggie	
Wednesday 29 th November	9:30am	Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Graham
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Graham
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
Sunday 3rd December (First Sunday of Advent)	9:30am	Brackla	Café Church	Pete
		Coity	Eucharist	Roger
		Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
	11:00am	Merthyr Mawr	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Newcastle	Non-Eucharist	Pete
		Nolton	Eucharist	Maggie
		Pen-y-fai	Eucharist	Roger
6:30pm	Zoom	Evensong	Maggie/Roger	
Wednesday 6 th December	9:30am	Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
		Nolton Rectory	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Roger
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie

Services Schedule cont...

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
Sunday 10th December (Second Sunday of Advent)	9:30am	Brackla	Eucharist	Roger
		Coity	Non-Eucharist	Lay Team
		Coychurch	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Laleston	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Merthyr Mawr	Eucharist	Roger
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
		Nolton	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Pen-y-fai	Non-Eucharist	Lay Team
6:30pm	Zoom	Taizé Service	Maggie/Roger	
Wednesday 13 th December	9:30am	Coity	Eucharist	Roger
		Laleston	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Roger
Sunday 17th December (Third Sunday of Advent)	9:30am	Brackla	Café Church	Val or Penny
		Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Coychurch	Eucharist	Roger
		Merthyr Mawr	Non-Eucharist	Pete
	11:00am	Laleston	Non-Eucharist	Pete
		Newcastle	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Nolton	Eucharist	Roger
		Pen-y-fai	Eucharist	Maggie
	4:00pm	Coychurch	Carol Service	Maggie
		Newcastle	Carol Service	Roger
	6:00pm	Coity	Carol Service	Maggie
		Laleston	Community Carol Service with Merthyr Mawr & Pen-y-fai	Roger

Services Schedule cont...

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
Wednesday 20 th December	9:30am	Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
		Nolton Rectory	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist NB	Roger
		Nolton	Archdeacon John Lewis School Christmas Service	Maggie
		(NB no other 11am services today)		
Saturday 23 rd December	10:30am	Coity	Nativity from scratch	Nader/Maggie
Sunday 24 th December (Fourth Sunday of Advent)	9:30am	Brackla	9 Lessons and Carols	Pete
		Coity	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
	11:00am	Nolton	9 Lessons and Carols	Pete
		Pen-y-fai	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Merthyr Mawr	Eucharist	Maggie
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Roger
	4:30pm	Coychurch	Nativity/Christingle	Pete/Maggie
	7:00pm	Newcastle	'Midnight Mass'	Maggie
	11:00pm	Pen-y-fai	'Midnight Mass'	Roger
11:30pm	Coychurch	'Midnight Mass'	Edward	
Monday 25 th December The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day)	9:30am	Brackla	Eucharist	Tim
		Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Laleston	Eucharist	Tim
		Merthyr Mawr	Eucharist	Roger
		Nolton	Eucharist	Maggie
Wednesday 27 th December	No Services			

Services Schedule cont...

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
Sunday 31st December (The First Sunday of Christmas)	11:00am	Nolton	Joint MA Service	Maggie
Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	9:30am	Coity	Eucharist	Graham
		Laleston	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Graham
Sunday 7th January 2024 (The Baptism of Christ) (The First Sunday of Epiphany)	9:30am	Brackla	Café Church	Pete
		Coity	Eucharist	Roger
		Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
	11:00am	Merthyr Mawr	Non-Eucharist	Val or Penny
		Newcastle	Non-Eucharist	Pete
		Nolton	Eucharist	Maggie
		Pen-y-fai	Eucharist	Roger
	6:30pm	Zoom	Evensong	Maggie
Wednesday 10 th January 2024	9:30am	Nolton Rectory	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Roger
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
Morning and Evening Prayer at 8am and 7pm, Monday to Thursday via Zoom Please contact Rev'd Maggie Thorne for the Zoom links you need.				
Sunday clubs run at Brackla, Coity and Pen-y-fai. Please contact Rev'd Maggie Thorne for details.				

Collects and the Sunday readings for the month

Date	Collects	Readings
<p>Sunday 26th November (Christ The King -The Fourth Sunday of the Kingdom)</p>	<p>Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95. 1-7a or 95. 1-7 Ephesians 1. 15-23 Matthew 25. 31-46</p>
<p>Sunday 3rd December (First Sunday of Advent)</p>	<p>Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Isaiah 64. 1-9 Psalm 80. 1-7 [, 17-19] 1 Corinthians 1. 3-9 Mark 13. 24-37</p>
<p>Sunday 10th December (Second Sunday of Advent)</p>	<p>Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Isaiah 40. 1-11 Psalm 85. [1, 2,] 8-13 2 Peter 3. 8-15a Mark 1. 1-8</p>

Collects and the Sunday readings for the month cont...

Date	Collects	Readings
Sunday 17th December (Third Sunday of Advent)	O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 or Cantic: Magnifi cat (Luke 1. 47-55) 1 Thessalonians 5. 16-24 John 1. 6-8, 19-28
Sunday 24th December (Fourth Sunday of Advent)	Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	2 Samuel 7. 1-11, 16 Cantic: Magnifi cat (Luke 1. 47-55) or Psalm 89. 1-4, 19-26 or Psalm 89. 1-8 Romans 16. 25-27 Luke 1. 26-38
Monday 25th December The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day)	Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit: through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	(Midnight Mass) Set III Isaiah 52. 7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1. 1-4, [5-12] John 1. 1-14 (Morning) Set I Isaiah 9. 2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2. 11-14 Luke 2. 1-14, [15-20]

Collects and the Sunday readings for the month cont...

Date	Collects	Readings
<p>Sunday 31st December (The First Sunday of Christmas)</p>	<p>Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3 Psalm 148 or 148. 7-14 Galatians 4. 4-7 Luke 2. 15-21</p>
<p>Sunday 7th January 2024 (The Baptism of Christ) (The First Sunday of Epiphany)</p>	<p>Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant that we who are born again by water and the Spirit may rejoice to be called your children; 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</p>	<p>Genesis 1. 1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19. 1-7 Mark 1. 4-11</p>

Psalms for the month

Date	Psalm	Readings
<p>Sunday 26th November (Christ The King -The Fourth Sunday of the Kingdom)</p>	<p>Psalm 95. 1-7a</p>	<p>O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.</p> <p>O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.</p> <p>O that today you would listen to his voice!</p>
<p>Sunday 3rd December (First Sunday of Advent)</p>	<p>Psalm 80. 1-7</p>	<p>Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!</p> <p>Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.</p> <p>O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves.</p> <p>Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.</p>
<p>Sunday 10th December (Second Sunday of Advent)</p>	<p>Psalm 85. 8-13</p>	<p>Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.</p> <p>Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.</p>

Psalms for the month cont...

Date	Psalm	Readings
Sunday 17th December (Third Sunday of Advent)	Psalm 126	<p>When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, ‘The Lord has done great things for them.’ The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.</p> <p>Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.</p>
Sunday 24th December (Fourth Sunday of Advent)	Psalm 89. 1-4	<p>I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, for ever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established for ever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.</p> <p>You said, ‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: “I will establish your descendants for ever, and build your throne for all generations.”</p>
Monday 25th December The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day)	Psalm 98 (Midnight Mass)	<p>O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory. The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.</p> <p>Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.</p> <p>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.</p>

Psalms for the month cont...

Date	Psalm	Readings
<p>Monday 25th December The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day)</p>	<p>Psalm 96 (Morning)</p>	<p>O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.</p> <p>Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the Lord in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth.</p> <p>Say among the nations, 'The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.'</p> <p>Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.</p>

Psalms for the month cont...

Dates	Psalm	Readings
<p>Sunday 31st December (The First Sunday of Christmas)</p>	<p>Psalm 148. 7-14</p>	<p>Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!</p> <p>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!</p> <p>Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!</p> <p>Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!</p>
<p>Sunday 7th January 2024 (The Baptism of Christ) (The First Sunday of Epiphany)</p>	<p>Psalm 29</p>	<p>Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendour.</p> <p>The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.</p> <p>The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.</p> <p>The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.</p> <p>The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'</p> <p>The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!</p>

For your Prayers

Please pray for:

Vernon Knill
Dilys Leyshon
Lucy Walker
Barbara Keirl

And all those who are sick whether in body,
mind or spirit.

Baptisms

There are no baptisms this month.



Weddings

There are no weddings in December or January.



Please continue to pray for Ukraine

God of all people and author of peace,
we pray for all who are involved in the current confrontation in and surrounding Ukraine.
May the nations of the world, their governments and leaders
base their decisions upon your wisdom in all that makes for peace.
Loving God, we recognise that conflict brings tragic loss for all involved,
and so we pray that eyes and hearts may be opened to those things that unite
us in our common humanity.

Amen



Prayer for Gaza and Israel

Dear God,

We cry out to you on behalf of the people seriously affected by the conflict in Gaza and Israel. Our hearts break at the devastation and suffering that we see, and we know it breaks yours, too.

We ask that you would stretch out your mighty hand to bring an end to this war.

We cry out for people who have been injured or traumatised, who have lost loved ones or their homes. Please provide everything they need and be their comfort, their hope, their healer, and their safe refuge.

We pray for your peace to reign. We look to you as our Saviour and the hope of the world.

Amen.

Ministry Area Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the opportunity to work together as a Ministry Area. May we engage with each other with faith and encouragement and manage each situation with wisdom and mutual respect. May we serve with integrity, creativity and purpose and speak with openness and gentleness. May we offer our gifts, time and finances with generosity and face each challenge with courage and the desire to grow through it. May we all be drawn deeper into our relationship with you and be known as your disciples. Help us to tell our joyful stories, increase our capacity for good and extend your kingdom in this place. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

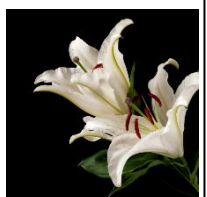
RIP:

Mary Jones
Glenys Davis

Karen Oatley
Margaret Jones

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory.

Amen.



Eco Church & Forest Church news

Forest Church

AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT
WILD CHRISTIAN
connecting faith, nature and climate

A festive poster for a Forest Church event. The background features a stylized forest with green trees and a yellow sun or moon. Red Christmas lights are strung across the scene. The text is overlaid on the image.

Forest Church
Light in The World
Saturday 16th Dec
Meet at 3.30pm
Merthyr Mawr,
St Teilo's Church

Contact: Rev Maggeie 01656652247 or
Philippa 07553928088

November

Have yourself a Greener Christmas.

What ways can you make sure your Christmas is both a celebration of Christ's coming and better for His creation? Check out A Rocha UK's twelve tips for a greener Christmas: arocha.org.uk/our-twelve-tips-for-a-greener-christmas

December

Recycle right this Christmas (and beyond!) Since more waste ends up in landfill over Christmas than during the rest of the year, it's a great time of year to review and improve your own recycling set up at home.

Different boroughs offer different recycling provisions, but you can find out exactly what you can recycle at home by entering your postcode here: recyclenow.com/recycling-locator

For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at:

arocha.org.uk/wild-christian



Christmas Fayre

DONATIONS IN AID OF ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY AND ST TEILO'S

FREE TEAS/COFFEES & MINCE PIES

- Cakes & Preserves
- Bottle Table
- Raffle, Mystery Bags
- Craft Stalls
- Christmas Wreaths
- Guess the weight of the cake

St. Teilo's Church, Merthyr Mawr, CF32 0LS

Saturday 2 December 10:30AM - 3PM

Ukraine – Host Families Urgently Required

The situation in Ukraine continues and more host families from Bridgend are urgently needed for refugees. If you have a spare room, or know of anyone who has, and could help in this way, please contact Maggie (usual email), or Christoph Auckland (Outreach and Social Justice Lead for the Diocese) on christophaukland@churchinwales.org.uk

Pilgrim Course:

The Pilgrim Course will continue on Sundays at 5:00pm 26th Nov. Zoom links will be sent prior to the date.



If any new pilgrims would like to join, contact Maggie for further details.

Plea:

Is there a calligrapher in the MA who could update our memorial books across all the churches?



Please contact Rev'd Maggie if you can help.

St Crallo's 100 Club

For a number of years, St Crallo's has run a 100 Club to raise funds for the church. There are four annual draws with the opportunity to win a cash prize.

(1st-£60, 2nd-£30, 3rd-£15, and a bumper Christmas prize of £100)

If anyone would like to purchase a number for themselves or family, please contact

Alison Craven (cravenpanda@aol.com) or Sue Martin (susan.martin61@googlemail.com) for more details by Fri 15th Dec 2023.

Churches Together – Nativity

Through Churches Together in Bridgend over the past years before COVID, there was a Christmas Nativity in the Tabernacle where all the churches came together. Tabernacle will move forward to do the Nativity Play again this year and invite schools to come watch the Nativity play. The minister there extends an invitation to anyone from our congregations who would be interested to join with them. If you feel moved to help, please contact Dylan Rhys by email: dylan89rhys@gmail.com .



Bridgend Repair Café

Do you want **something fixed for free, your bike safety checked or some sewing repairs carried out?**

Bridgend Repair Café is a volunteer organisation that helps fix household items for free, **for anyone**, in a friendly environment at the following locations and dates (ample parking):

Saturday 28 th October	Bryncethin Community Centre
Saturday 18 th November	Bryncethin Community Centre

All from 10am to 12.00 mid-day

Bryntirion & Laleston Community Centre, Mount Pleasant, Bridgend CF31 4EF
Bryncethin Community Centre, Ogmor Terrace, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9YF

We will have fixers for a range of items including:

- ✓ **Bikes** an 'M safety check'
- ✓ **Electrical items** e.g. toasters, kettles, vacuum cleaners
- ✓ **Clothing** e.g., jeans, bags, shirts (Repairs of all types of textile products- not general alterations but **we will repair or alter/adjust school clothing**)
- ✓ **IT** e.g. PCs, laptops (hardware and software)
- ✓ **Costume Jewellery**
- ✓ **General** e.g. toys, ornaments, small furniture

Bring your items to us and we'll try our best to fix it! Free Tea and biscuits while you wait!

To make sure we have an appropriate fixer for your item, it would be really helpful if you could email bridgendrepaircafe@gmail.com with basic details of your item before the relevant Saturday or just turn up and take a chance!

General News cont...

Lectionary Books

Several of our churches require lectionary books. As the cost of printing is high, we hope to issue general CiW booklets which have the words of the Eucharist, but no readings. Many of you like to follow, so we suggest that you take note of the readings published in the newsletter and use your own Bible (some are available in the churches) or, if able to use an online version, 'Oremus Bible Browser'. The psalms will be published in the newsletter for ease of congregational participation.

Rev'd Maggie

MA News – Lay Chair

I had an awkward event this week. A call from a hirer in Nolton Hall to say that the fire alarm has gone off for no reason. Mmmm, unlikely, there is always a reason. The alarm company, Gem, were great. Sent an operative in time to reset the alarm and check the building for the next group, the Brownies. Before leaving the operative expressed the opinion that the most likely cause was of the alarm sounding was someone vaping near a smoke alarm inside the building. One to look out for I think, especially if you have halls or premises with smoke alarms.

Just a reminder too, that we are still looking to fill one or two positions within the Ministry Area Council; A Heritage sec to the MA, (fabric), an assistant for treasurer Sandra, and a treasurer for Nolton.

So, with Christmas fast approaching this is my last Newsletter entry for the Ministry Area Council. I am delighted to hand over the office of Lay Chair to Jenny and look forward to supporting her ministry. I pray that the whole Ministry Area will get behind Jenny as you did me and move our organisation forward together.

If I had to leave one thought it would be "Togetherness", Our MA will succeed with God's help and togetherness in our efforts on his behalf.

I wish you all well, pray for togetherness and of course, bid you all the very best for the Christmas season.
Andrew

Welsh Government – Road Safety Strategy - consultation

The Welsh Government wants to our views about road safety, so they can understand our priorities and how to make roads safe for all.

I don't know about you but I have a few thoughts on what should be done around 20 MPH zones, E-Bikes, E-Scooters etc. so please take the time to make your feelings known.

Consultation ends on 31st January 2024

<https://www.gov.wales/road-safety-strategy>



Giving:

For details on how to give, please contact Sandra Arnott (Treasurer to the Ministry Area) sandra.arnott49@gmail.com or 862211.

Also, here is the link to our easy-to-use online Campaign Page:

[MA Penybont ar Ogwr Donation Page](#) or scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet.

For your interest, there's also a card reader in church, allowing you to donate via debit/credit cards.

Those in CNB who are used to giving through the envelope system will find envelopes in Coity Church.

Please contact Karen Phillips on 651338 or 07944 627519 if you'd like to be included in this scheme.

Please be as generous as you possibly can in your giving as we are very worried that with escalating fuel costs, the Church might be affected detrimentally yet again.



Bridgend County Borough Council News

Free town centre car parking for Christmas shoppers

Bridgend County Borough Council has confirmed that free parking will remain available at two council-maintained town centre car parks to support traders and encourage people to shop local during the Christmas period.

Drivers will be able to continue to park for free for the first three hours at the Rhiw multi-storey car park in Bridgend, and between noon and 3pm at John Street in Porthcawl.

With free parking also available at the Llynfi Road multi-storey in Maesteg and the Penprysg Road car park in Pencoed.



Bridgend County Borough Council News

Give blood and save lives

Appointments are available at:

- 20 November- Sainsbury's- Sarn (CF32 9ST)
- 29 November- Bridgend Masonic Hall (CF31 2AP)
- 7 December- Asda Bridgend (CF31 3AU)

Please be advised that if you have recently had a Covid-19 vaccination, then you must wait two days before making a blood donation.

[Book your appointment today to help save lives.](#)



Welsh Blood Service

General News cont...

Ministry Area Social Media Pages

MA Webpage



[Ministry Area of Penybont ar Ogwr – Celebrating Christian worship for over a thousand years \(cnb-parish.org.uk\)](http://cnb-parish.org.uk)

Facebook Pages



[Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla with Coychurch](#)

[Laleston St David's Church](#)

[Merthyr Mawr](#)

[Penyfai](#)

[Newcastle \(St Illtyd\)](#)



May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas.

Pob bendith a Nadolig Llawen bawb!