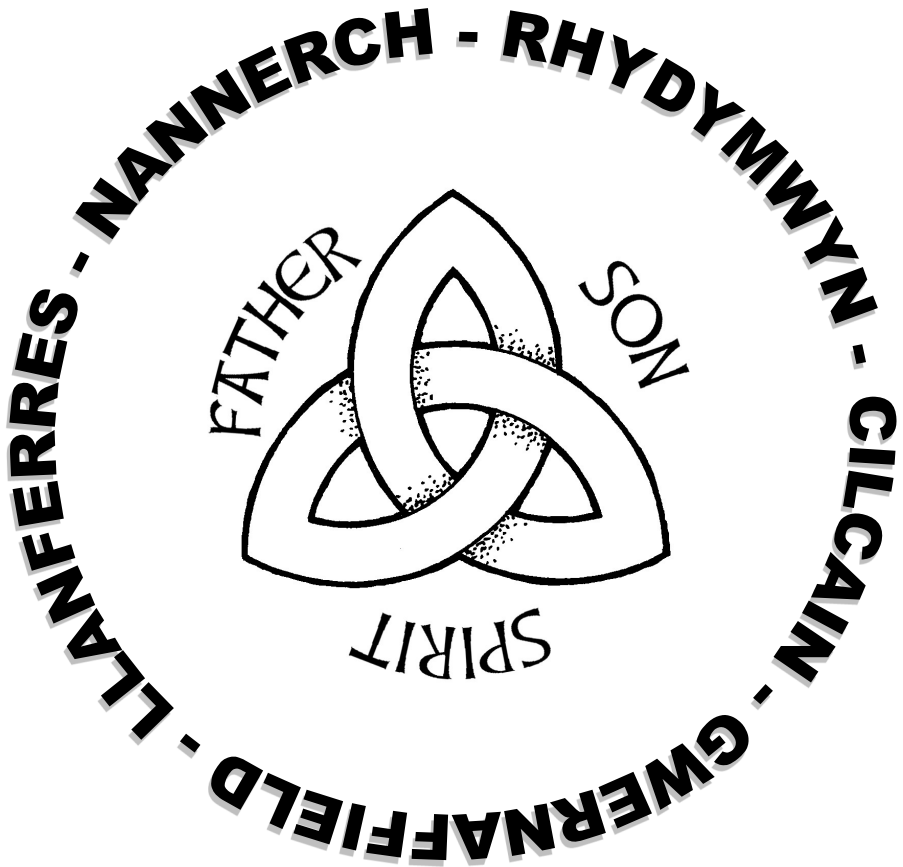


BRO FAMAU GROUP OF CHURCHES MAGAZINE

JUNE 2019



IN THE MISSION AREA OF MOLD

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June 2019

IN THIS EDITION

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- Messy Church
- Who are you Lord?
- Around our Churches
- Prayer Diary June
- Childrens' Pages
- Questions Answered (New item)



Every 3rd Sunday in the
month

4pm - 6pm

Gwernaffield Church Hall

17th June 2019
16th July 2019
18th August 2019

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the mid-fourth century, allegedly here in Wales, was born a man named Pelagius. Pelagius was a theologian of the early church who locked horns with Augustine of Hippo, one of the greatest scholars and thinkers the world has yet seen. It was the belief of Pelagius that humans were capable of living a sinless life all on our own. He thought that if we just tried hard enough, worked hard enough, and got enough right that we could be saved through our own merit.

This belief was quickly and decisively struck down by the church as being a heresy. Heresy is a loaded word these days. When we think of heresy today the image conjured is usually that of someone being burned at the stake or pressed with rocks or some other particularly unpleasant thing. The reality is a good bit more boring than that. While heretics have, through the centuries, often been treated in appalling fashion, a heresy is really just incorrect and damaging teaching about God.

That Pelagius believed something wrong about God isn't all that interesting, the truth of the matter is that virtually all of us believe something wrong about God. But what stands out about Pelagius' heresy is how it applies today. Our society enjoys getting up on a high horse about how the Victorian's behaviour towards those who put a toe out of line is appalling, but what we see in the culture these days is the growing return of aggressive shaming.

There's little that we like more these days than the righteous humbling and public embarrassment of someone who has behaved poorly. There's not much more satisfying than seeing people brought low for their mistakes.

But this isn't what Jesus is about, it isn't what the church is about, and it isn't what grace is about. Christ came to set us free from the oppression of having to get every, single, thing right. Far from being people who feel superior to others, Christians properly realise more than anyone just how broken and messed up we human beings are! But we find our joy in the assurance that even when we get it wrong, God still loves us more than anything. Our value isn't in what we produce, and our worth isn't in never getting it wrong. We are all loved with an infinite love beyond our comprehension because that's God's nature.

The beauty of our faith is that God's grace abounds for us even when we aren't perfect. If you've been struggling lately, or if you're feeling like you've let yourself or others down, the doors to our churches are always open for you. Feel free to drop in and spend some time in the quiet, or better yet, come by on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Sunday morning where you can hear words of comfort and reassurance spoken, and where you can be reminded that even in the midst of the mess, grace abounds! In this broken and angry world, this is truly good news.

Blessings,

Daniel+



WORSHIP IN JUNE 2019

Sunday 2nd June

Cilcain

Gwernaffield

Llanferres

Nannerch

Rhydymwyn

Seventh Sunday of Easter

11.00 Morning Worship

11.00 Morning Worship

18.00 Holy Communion (Healing Service)

11.15 Holy Communion

09.30 Holy Communion

09.30 Morning Worship

Sunday 9th June

Cilcain

Gwernaffield

Llanferres

Nannerch

Rhydymwyn

PENTECOST

08.00 Holy Communion

11.00 Morning Worship

18.00 Evening Prayer

09.30 Morning Worship

09.30 Family Service

09.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 16th June

Cilcain

Gwernaffield

Llanferres

Nannerch

Rhydymwyn

TRINITY SUNDAY

11.00 Morning Worship

11.00 Holy Communion

16.00 MESSY CHURCH in the Church Hall

18.00 Evening Prayer

09.30 Holy Communion

09.30 Morning Worship

09.30 Morning Worship

Sunday 23rd June

Cilcain

Gwernaffield

Llanferres

Nannerch

Rhydymwyn

First Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Holy Communion

09.30 Family Praise

18.00 Evening Worship

09.30 Morning Worship

09.30 Family Holy Communion

16.00 Family Holy Communion

Sunday 30th June

Second Sunday after Trinity

Mission Area Eucharist 11.00 am
St Mary the Virgin Mold
Rev'd Kathy Stewart Celebrant

Week day Services

Monday 9.30 at St Berres, Llanferres

Tuesdays 9.30 at Holy Trinity, Gwernaffield

Wednesdays 10.30 at St Mary the Virgin, Cilcain



WHO ARE YOU LORD?

This is the question Saul asked when he was struck blind by a bright light and a voice said to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' (Acts 9: 1-9)

On the face of it, it is a silly question, because he addressed the voice by the correct title - who did he expect would answer? We should remember though, that Saul was a devout Jew, and he might have expected the response, ' I am the Lord God, whom you and your ancestors have worshipped.'

Instead he got the reply, ' I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.' Thereafter Saul was laid up in Damascus for three days which gave him time to think. The road to Damascus incident though, or today we might call it the light-bulb moment, was when he asked that question and Jesus answered. But Jesus had been crucified, which even though Saul not being present, was confirmed by official accounts. Saul's occupation up until then had been to pursue and arrest as charlatans those who had claimed to have seen and talked to the risen Jesus. Now the man who had died was calling out to him and indeed answered to being the Lord - he was present in the place of God.

This moment changed the course of Saul's life, and through his ministry influenced the lives of all Christians down to our time, and those in future until God brings the present age to an end. Christianity was brought to our ancestors here, in Ireland and northern Britain in the first or second century, probably by Greeks who had been converted by Paul. (He almost certainly had two names from birth, Saul was a Hebrew name and Paul, or Paulos a Greek name more useful when he was in contact with Greeks and Romans during his Christian ministry.)

Paul seems to take a middle line on whether God and Jesus are actually the same. In one of his letters he says, ' For in him (Christ) the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.' (Colossians 2:9)

In his first letter to Timothy he says, ' For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus,

himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all.' Later in the same letter he appears to say something a bit different. ' Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.' (1 Timothy 3:16) Here ' He ' refers to God from the previous verse, yet he is also talking about Jesus.

Paul describes this dilemma of whether Jesus is God as the mystery of our religion, and it being great. He clearly could not make absolute sense of God and Jesus existing as one.

When we look at Jesus' reported speeches in the gospels there is a similar ambivalence. John's gospel most clearly puts forward that Jesus is God, but in the story of Jesus driving out the traders from the Temple he says, ' Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' Yet when he is challenged by the Jews says, ' Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.' (John 2: 13-22)

By ' this temple ' he means his body as it explains in the next verse; note well that he says ' I will raise it up.' The conventional belief is that the Father raised him from the dead.

I believe Paul's reference to mystery reveals his thinking - that we are encountering something that as humans we do not entirely understand.

I was trained in chemistry when I was young; in that subject, and probably all natural science one may encounter principles that are not rational according to thought at the time but must be taken on board as truth. The example I often use is the electron, a sub-atomic reality that is critically important in modern science. It has been thought about for thousands of years, since the Greeks observed that when amber is rubbed, it attracts other objects, and indeed *e/-ektron* is the Greek word for amber. In 1897 J J Thomson carried out an experiment that showed electrons are particles. Early in the twentieth century Louis de Broglie demonstrated that electrons behave like waves. The scientific community had difficulty with this, because they wanted them to be one thing or the other. A little ditty went around - *On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, God has the electron as a particle, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday the devil uses it as a wave, on Sunday it has a rest.*

They had to accept that it could be both, which was a step forward in human understanding.

It is similar with the relationship between the members of the Trinity. Are they one God or three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? If they are three, they or s/he form a very close community.

Human communities can be close, but in other parts of the earthly creation they are closer, such as a hive of bees, in which the individuals sometimes seem to behave as a unit. The most remarkable earthly communities to me are corals, made up of millions of tiny animals into large structures, which when you see them appear to be underwater plants. Various parts of the structure entice, trap and consume small sea creatures for the benefit of the whole. If created beings can form such a close community, imagine what the Creator community must be!

However, the Trinity is not an exclusive club. The divine member(s) will open their arms to let us in and perhaps like coral structures this recruitment is of benefit to all.

The mystery Paul noted becomes even more mysterious when it comes to the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit inspires action that leads us towards divine understanding. S/he existed from before our creation and is frequently noted in the Old Testament, the firstly in Genesis 1; 2. The Spirit is invisible and sexless. There was an early debate about the source of the Holy Spirit and in the human desire to state things categorically, the Eastern Church decided the Spirit comes from the Father, the Western Church from the Father and the Son. I cannot see that either conclusion helps us, but only the belief that the Holy Spirit is present to give us inspiration.

Perhaps we ought to take the same attitude to relationships in the Holy Trinity. It is a mystery beyond our present ways of thinking, but if we think of them as the best community, into which we are invited, we have a goal in life which will serve us well for all time. We can ask the question, ' Who are you Lord ' and should be satisfied that Father, Son and Holy Spirit are from the same source, which is our ultimate destination.

John Foxlee

Questions Answered

Name Changes in the Bible

Last month we decided to try to answer questions that readers have asked, especially about topics in the Bible. This month I was asked after a service why the disciple Tabitha, whom Peter raised from death (Acts 9:36-42), was also called Dorcas. It brings up the matter of many name-changes in the Bible.

In the case of Tabitha, it is a Jewish name with a specific meaning - ' gazelle.' Joppa where she lived also used Greek, and Dorcas is the Greek name for gazelle.

Many Bible names were changed by God to give their owners a new direction in life. Examples are

Abram to Abraham, meaning from ' high father (of a tribe)' to ' leader of a multitude (a nation)';

Jacob to Israel, meaning ' heel ' (he was born clutching his twin Esau's heel) to Israel ' he who prevails ' (after wrestling with the angel all night.);

Simon, Jesus' leading disciple, to whom he gave the additional Greek/ Roman name Peter, meaning ' rock ', indicating he would be the foundation of the Church.

Other changes are for convenience. St Paul almost certainly had the two names Saul (Hebrew) and Paul (Greek/ Latin) from birth. In his first occupation, as a Pharisee, he was dealing with Jews, in his calling as an apostle to the Gentiles, with Greeks and Romans.

The Middle East was and is a place of multiple languages, and when we think of three of them, Hebrew, Greek and Latin, each with a different set of characters when written. I don't think a different name in a changed context would have caused them any difficulty.

John Foxlee

If there are any other questions that anyone would like to ask, I'm sure there would be someone in our Bro Famau team who would be happy to try to find an answer!



In last month's Messy Church, we started to think of the theme of the 'I am' sayings of Jesus. We focused on Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the Gate, the True Vine and the Way.

We made sheep masks, and coloured and made gates, and we started a wonderful collage with the vine, the branches, the gate and the shepherd.

We made sheep cakes out of cupcakes and marshmallows, with sheep faces.

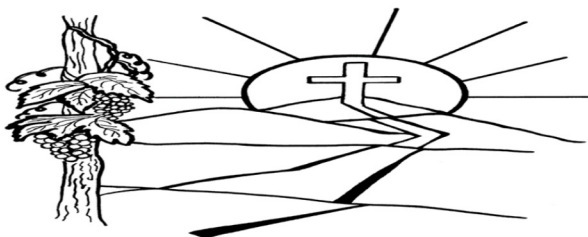
And then the weather was kind enough for us to go outside and start exploring the labyrinth which John had kindly brought for us from the diocese.

We heard the story of the good shepherd, sang a song (I almost got the actions right this time!) and had an excellent meal which included shepherd's pie and sheep cakes!

Finally we played again with the labyrinth and improvised a game of 'cat and mouse' which we all joined in. It was wonderful to see the older boys playing with the little ones.

We had a great time and we are looking forward to next Pentecost Messy Church on 16th June before returning to the theme of Jesus as the Bread of life, the Light of the world, and the Resurrection and the life in July.

Please contact Wendy (07840353690) or Kathy (07500936985) if you would like to come and join in the fun!



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 2:1-12, Mk 9:1-8, Lk 5:17-26

The Pharisees had come to Jesus' home in Capernaum to make sure he wasn't breaking any of their religious rules...

So many came to hear Jesus speak that they filled his house...



and the streets outside.

Four men brought their paralysed friend to Jesus for healing



But the crowd wouldn't let them get close



so they climbed up to the roof and took off some tiles.

They lowered their friend down, right in front of Jesus

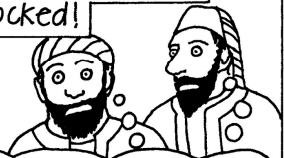


Jesus was so impressed by their faith, he said to the paralysed man



Your sins are forgiven.

The Pharisees were shocked!



Only God can forgive sins...so this fellow is insulting God!

But Jesus knew what they were thinking.



Why are you thinking such wrong thoughts?

Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up, take your mat, and walk'?

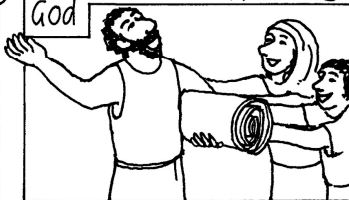


But I want you to know that I do have the authority to forgive sins...

Get up, take your mat and go home!



He got up, picked up his mat and walked home, praising God



The crowd was amazed...



We have never seen anything like this!

PRAYER DIARY FOR JUNE 2019

ON THESE DAYS IN THE MONTH LET US GIVE
THANKS FOR

1 St Justin, Apologist & Martyr, c165

2 Ministry & Calling Sunday

3 Janani Luwum, Bishop & Martyr, 1977

4 International Day of Child Victims of Aggression

5 St Boniface, Bishop, Missionary & Martyr, 754

6 D Day landings in 1944, when so many lost their lives

7 Kids' Club, Rhydymwyn Football Club

8 Musical Evening in Holy Trinity, Gwernaffield

9 Day of Pentecost

*A prayer of St Columba : My dearest Lord, Be Thou a bright
flame before me, Be Thou a guiding star above me, Be Thou a
smooth path beneath me, Be Thou a kindly shepherd behind
me, Today and evermore. Amen*

10 Ephrem the Syrian, Deacon, Hymn Writer & Teacher,
373

11 Bench of Bishops meeting

12 Midweek Communion St Mary's Cilcain

13 St Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doctor, 1231

14 St Basil the Great, Bishop & Doctor , 397

- 15 St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop & Doctor, 430
- 16 **Trinity Sunday**,
Messy Church in Gwernaffield Church Hall
- 17 Morning Prayer in St Berres, Llanferres
- 18 Autistic Pride Day (international event)
- 19 Magazine editorial meeting
- 20 Corpus Christi, Thanksgiving for Holy Communion
- 21 Summer Solstice, longest hours of daylight
- 22 Those preparing to go on holiday
- 23 Afternoon Communion in St John's Rhydymwyn
- 24 Nativity of St John the Baptist
- 25 Gwernaffield Mothers' Union meeting
- 26 International Day against Drug Abuse and
Illicit Trafficking
- 27 St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor, 444
- 28 Ember Day for vocations
- 29 Petertide Ordination in the Cathedral at which Rev Kathy
will be ordained priest,
SS.Peter & Paul feast-day
- 30 Joint Mission Area Eucharist in St Mary's Mold



AROUND OUR CHURCHES

LLANFERRES, ST BERRES,

Open the Book

We have been telling stories of Jesus this term. The first was the story of Jesus feeding the crowds with a small boy's picnic (real bread and fish supplied!). The second was a story Jesus told of the prodigal son (the 'big spender!'). Both John and Daniel have been helping enthusiastically and we love sharing the stories with the children and staff of our lovely school.

Mold Foodbank

Thank you to Gay and Noel for taking another delivery to the foodbank. The box is still there at the back of the church for any donations of canned and dried food and toiletries for those people who are in need of a helping hand.

Church Opening

Thank you to the volunteers on the church opening rota. It is great to see the church available for anyone who would like to spend some time of peace and reflection in this beautiful building.

Churchyard

The churchyard is looking beautiful despite the difficulties that the Watts families have faced over the last few weeks. We of course wish Hugo a speedy recovery and thank you all for your hard work.

Nannerch, St Michael & All Angels

Easter Services

Thank you to Kathy for her service on Good Friday. Although there were only a few of us, it was a very moving, peaceful and reflective service .

We had a good crowd on Easter Sunday and thank you to all who decorated the church.

Easter Coffee Morning LYCIG event

Many thanks to Lindsay Wilding for opening her lovely garden for the coffee morning. The weather could not have been better. It was so well attended and we sat chatting and enjoying the wonderful cakes people had donated for most of the morning! We raised over £300 for the church.

Croeso Pawb

Mrs Janet Meaden is now joint headteacher of Ysgol Nercwys and Ysgol Nannerch. She is very keen that Croeso Pawb is continued in Ysgol Nannerch. We are very grateful to her for her support. Our session in June will be in the week before Pentecost Sunday and will consist of activities associated with the Holy Spirit and the Birthday of the Church.

Breakfast Church

There will be a Breakfast Church in June on Pentecost Sunday. The theme this time will be The Coming of the Holy Spirit.

‘Blooming Marvellous’- A LYCIG event

July 6th will see the judging of the entries for the ‘Blooming Marvellous’ LYCIG event in Nannerch. Villagers have been encouraged to plant up tubs, troughs and hanging baskets to enhance the village. Classes will also include; ‘Putting Your Plastic to Good Use’ Container and ‘Give Us a Laugh’ Container. The children’s classes include; a miniature garden, jam jar arrangement and a display in a quirky container.

Afternoon tea will be served in the Memorial Hall from 3-5pm on the day.

Nannerch and Rhydymwyn Mothers Union

Sarah Wheat the Diocesan Engagement Officer spoke to us on her work with Wrexham Night Shelter project run in partnership with Justice Cymru . She really brought home the plight of people very close to us who are living rough. I know we are all in awe of the commitment and dedication Sarah and her volunteers make to improve the lives of these people. If ever there is a true example of faith in action it is here and it certainly made us reflect on our own actions.

In response to a plea from the Faith in Action committee of MU for toiletries for local hospitals, members of our MU made up bags of items which will now be delivered to those needing them.

At our next meeting, May 21st, Nesta Davies of Llewelyn Jones Solicitors is coming to talk to us about Power of Attorney and Family Law.

RHYDYMWYN, ST JOHN'S

Maundy Thursday

Our Maundy Thursday service was full of symbolic meaning. The service was Eucharistic which celebrated our Lord's institution of the Holy Eucharist. It included the washing of feet reinforcing his command to serve one another.

At the end of the service the Sanctuary was stripped bare and the Altar washed just as a body is stripped, washed and prepared for burial. We left the church in silence remembering our commission as Christians - to know, to love and to serve.

Leading your Church into Growth:

In response to the Leading your Church into Growth we are arranging a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Saint Melangell in Llangwnog on Thursday August 22nd. The shrine is reputed to be the oldest Romanesque shrine in Great Britain. We will leave St John's at 9.30am and travel to Llangwnog (1 1/2 hours) to arrive for tea/coffee. We will share cars to make the day as cost-effective as possible. The plan is to have a talk about Saint Melangell and a Holy Communion service in the Shrine church. Other details, including costs, are still being worked out. Please let us know if you are interested in coming by contacting Marion Watts [01352 741350](tel:01352741350) douwat3@gmail.com.

100 Club.

We are now selling tickets for this fundraiser at £10 a ticket. There will be 4 draws throughout the year of £50, first prize and £25, second prize. Tickets from the wardens or church committee members.

Village Fete

This annual event is to be held on Saturday July 6th at 1pm, at Rhydymwyn Football Ground. The church will be having a hamper raffle for which donations are very welcome.

GWERNAFFIELD, HOLY TRINITY

Sales Table

There is a sales table at the back of the church with marmalade, books, cards etc. for sale at very reasonable prices to raise funds for our church

Mold Food Bank

Donations are very welcome and can be brought to the back of the church

Mothers' Union

There will be no Meeting in June - Members will be going on the Annual outing - this year it will be a Mystery Trip. New members are always welcome - we meet on the last Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the Church Hall. Please telephone Mrs Gaynor Morgan (Secretary) on 01352 741515 for more information.

Trust 130

From a congregation member - We recently asked for a house/ contents policy quote from Ecclesiastical as they are giving £130 to your church to celebrate 130 years of trading (until 29th December 2019). In addition they give 20% off if you're a church volunteer e.g. sidesperson, reader, someone who opens up/ closes etc. We were very pleasantly surprised as it matched our previous policy within pence! If you'd like to consider it their phone number is 0345 604 6438. More details are on the poster in the porch.

Fundraising for 2019

Our next event will be 'A Musical Evening' on Saturday 8th June at 7.00pm in Holy Trinity Church when we will be entertained by Angela Parker (it is always a delight to listen to her). and young singers and musicians. Tickets are £8.00 including refreshments

Saturday 6th July – 2.30pm – A Strawberry Tea with various stalls and Grand Raffle. - Entrance £3.50

Saturday 7th September – 10.00am– 12.pm Coffee Morning

Saturday 28th September – 7.00pm– Harvest Hotpot Supper

CILCAIN, ST MARYS

Easter Celebrations

In St Mary's Church we celebrated Compline on the Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday evenings of Easter Week. Then on Good Friday we had The Stations of The Cross. This Service is very thought provoking & people took time to study the pictures carefully as they were handed round.

On Easter Sunday we celebrated with our friends in Rhydymwyn Church and it was lovely to see so many people there. Thank you everyone for your hospitality.

Auto Harp & Dulcimer Concert

We had a Lovely Evening in the North Aisle recently where we were entertained by Mike & Rachel Fenton on Auto Harps & Dulcimer. There was a lovely display of these instruments both old & new, and Mike explained carefully how each one worked. The programme was very varied and we all enjoyed joining in with the singing also. One of our newest Parishioners, Jane Wakefield joined in with the playing of the Auto Harp, which was a lovely surprise to us all. Well done Jane & thank you very much for proposing this lovely evening, and thanks to Mike & Rachel for their music & singing. We were also able to buy CDs as a memento of the evening. Thank you to everyone who supported us also.

Community Cafe in the Village Hall This

raised approximately £188.0, with sales of tea coffee & cake. There was also bric a brac & a raffle. It was nice to chat with friends & catch up with those we hadn't seen for some time.

Fund Raising Activity

Our next Fund Raising activity will be a Coffee Morning in the Daniel Owen Centre on Saturday the 25th of May. We would love to see you if you are in Mold.

26th August Cilcain Show & Mountain Race 11—5

28th Sept Daniel Owen Centre Mold 9—11 Coffee Morning

SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS PREVIEWED

Please use these introductions to prepare for worship. If you are a reader at home who is unable to come to church, you might like to use these pages, with your Bible, to join the congregation on a Sunday in the reading of the same passages

Sunday 2nd June - Seventh of Easter

Acts 16:16-34 Paul is now travelling with Silas, Timothy and Luke. They have reached Philippi and we know from his letter that he made many good friends as well as some enemies. A mob riot ended with a prison sentence for Paul and a miraculous escape.

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 This is the glorious conclusion to the Bible. John's visions end with the assurance that God is all, in all; that Christ comes to us as we invite his presence, and he calls us to come to him.

John 17:20-26 Jesus' final prayer before his arrest embraced all who, then and ever since, put their trust in him. May we be one in him, that the world may believe.

Sunday 9th June - Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 In Jerusalem, many pilgrims had come for the great Pentecost harvest festival. As Jesus had promised, the Holy Spirit of God came upon the gathered company of disciples with great power. They found themselves impelled to proclaim the resurrection gospel to everyone who would listen.

Or,

Genesis 11:1-9 The ancient legend of the Tower of Babel is the last of the symbolic passages in Genesis that try to explain how God's good creation came to be spoiled. Humankind always aspires too high, and God keeps us in our place by making our language a babble, so we do not understand one another.

Romans 8:14-17 Paul has been contrasting law and freedom, right and wrong. The logic leads him to a favourite phrase: God's Spirit makes us God's adopted children. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to bring us into that intimate relationship with God our Father in Heaven.

John 14:8-17 [25-27] Jesus tells his disciples that because of his intimate relationship with God the Father, we who have faith in him will receive the Holy Spirit's power to continue his work in the world.

Sunday 16th June - Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Ancient writers called wisdom a Person of God, who was with him when all things were created. Wisdom comes forth from God, and her voice is to be listened to.

Romans 5:1-5 The love of God the Father, shown in Jesus Christ his Son, is brought to us by the Holy Spirit. So we can have peace and hope by our faith in the Holy Trinity.

John 16:12-15 In his final teaching to his disciples Jesus tells the deep truth of God as a trinity in unity. Whatever belongs to Jesus also belongs to God the Father, and this is revealed to us by the Holy Spirit.

Sunday 23rd June - First after Trinity

Isaiah 65:1-9 This reading very specifically explains why Jesus' actions in today's gospel cause such outrage. Isaiah rails against those who provoke God, he says, by frequenting such unholy places as graveyards and eating forbidden foods such as pork. To the Jew a cemetery is the home of demons, all death is defiling, and pigs are taboo.

Galatians 3:23-29 The Jewish Law was good and necessary, says Paul, but only until the time when Jesus Christ came to unite us to God and make all of us his children, Faith alone now justifies us.

Luke 8:26-39 Luke shows us Jesus' power at work not just for Jews, but in gentile territory too, where a graveyard and pigs represent all that is unholy. A demented and violent man is brought to wholeness.

Sunday 30th June - Second after Trinity

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 When Elijah called Elisha to follow him, he allowed time for him first to put his affairs in order, whereas Jesus - as we will hear - required an immediate and urgent decision by those he called to be his disciples.

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Paul has destroyed the arguments of those who wanted to keep the Jewish Law. He now warns that this freedom does not mean giving free rein to our desires, but a life of love for every neighbour with every action guided by the Spirit.

Luke 9:51-62 Luke's gospel now sets Jesus on his way to his destiny in Jerusalem, though we will hear of many encounters on the way. He and the men and women with him are not always welcomed. Some who are first attracted are not prepared to leave everything for his sake.

FEEDBACK:

The magazine panel would welcome your comments about our magazine. It could be on the size, layout, articles, children's pages or even crosswords versus Wordsearch. Please let us know using the email address
brofamauchurches.magazine@outlook.com



**Based in Cilcain, Nr. Mold,
covering North Wales and Chester**



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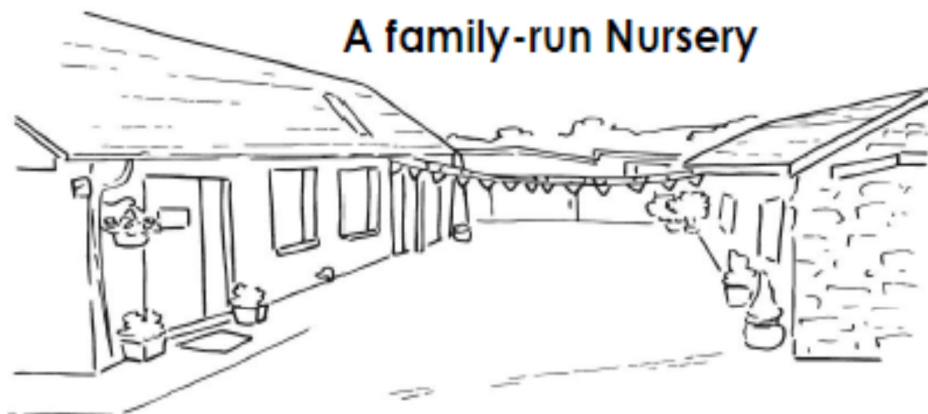
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