

Parish magazine

Killay



St.Hilary and St.Martin

50p

January 2022

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Dear Friends

A New Year with renewed hope

It has been yet another uncertain Christmas, with the rapid onslaught of a new Covid variant (*Omicron*). As I write, we eagerly watch Press Briefings and Announcements from the First Minister and UK Prime Minister. It seems that the world, like never before needs stability and a renewed focus. The Church is a mirror image of the World and, similarly, is needing a new focus and strength of leadership. I began to think, while preparing this piece – I wonder what would God’s hope for this new year in the life of his body, the church, look like?

As we enter a new year, we begin to turn our attention away from the depths of Winter, and look forward to the Spring, and the renewal of our spiritual lives that Easter brings, with the good news of the resurrection.

In the Church, both in the Diocese and in the Province, we desperately crave strong and focussed leadership. We have a new Archbishop in post, a relatively younger man (57yrs). Once the new Archbishop is in post, then our new Diocesan Bishop-elect, Bishop John Lomas can be Consecrated and Enthroned. Bishop-elect John, has a steep learning curve, having served most of his ministry in North Wales. There will be tough times ahead, but with God at the helm, my thoughts and prayers are that difficult decisions, that have been shelved over many years, might now be taken. The Church needs to grow in spiritual depth, have a focussed plan to recover from Covid. It is essential that the Church re-engages with young families, whilst at the same time continues to strengthen it’s traditional worship-base.



I have been looking at the very first edition of this magazine, published in January 1928. The first Vicar, Revd. D. Lynne Davies has this to say..."I am optimistic enough to believe that in a few years Killay will be one of the most desirable parishes for miles around. **Whilst the glory of other parishes will lie in the past ours will be in the future....**Let us remember that every Christian should be a Missionary. It is our duty to take an interest in others, especially strangers to the district, and show them that there is a warm welcome awaiting in Church."

Looking back through these magazines, I see many great things being strived for and often achieved – many deeply Christian souls working hard and numerous strong clergy leading from the front. But nowhere in these magazines did the good

people of Killay have to face a Pandemic, the likes of which we have lived through, and continue to work out. As we seek clarity of vision outside the veil of Covid-19, more so than for many years, our churches need the optimism that Revd. D. Lynne Davies spoke about. The optimism we need must be driven by the Holy Spirit, under the leadership of a new Bishop and Archbishop. May Killay not be a Parish whose glory lies in the past.

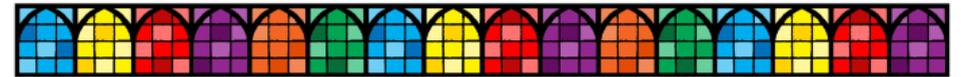
Every Blessing for the New Year Ahead
Your Friend and Vicar
Canon Phillip

COVID-19 (Omicron)

Please be aware in this fast-moving new development, changes could occur to our regular patterns of worship, with very short notice.

Keep yourselves updated with all news bulletins.
We will try our best to give as much notice of any closures as we can.

* * *



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The deadline for articles for February 2022 magazine is Friday 28 January

St Hilary's Church, Killay

Sidespersons:

January

Julie Cole and Diane Holohan

February

Ken James and Sally Bowen

Readers

2nd

Elaine Redmond

9th

Sheila Betts

16th

Alan Clewett

23rd

Lay Led Service

30th

Service at All Souls, Tycoch

Feb 6th

Pat Shinner

Eucharist Assistants

2nd

Mike Powell

9th

Alan Pickard

16th

Catherine Swain

23rd

Lay Led Service

30th

Service at All Souls, Tycoch

Feb 6th

Roy Chapman

Altar Flowers

2nd

Beryl Harris

9th

In memory of Barbara Thomas

16th

Olwen Nicholas

23rd

Margaret Massey

30th

Service at All Souls, Tycoch

Feb 6th

Gillian Hutchinson

Coffee

2nd

Margaret Draisey, Sue Dimplebee

9th

Pam Davies, Gillian Hutchinson

16th

Val Beynon, Christine Williams

23rd

Sylvia Powell, Marian Williams

30th

Service at All Souls, Tycoch

Feb 6th

Barbara Roberts, Sandra Banks



*St Martin's Church on
Christmas Day looking
suitably festive*

*(the last service here before
the new covid restrictions)*



We pray for those who are ill at home, in hospital or nursing homes.

Our thoughts are also with those who lovingly care for them by day and night.

We pray for: Barbara Davies (Derlwyn) - older church members will remember her attending church with her late husband Glyn, Margaret Harris, Doll Lee, Don Lewis (Cynthia's husband very unwell at present), Eunice Miron, Olwen Nicholas, Jane (Glasson) Parker, Eileen Parsons, Kenneth (in Morriston hospital) and Jan Peebles, Nell Pugh, Rita and Graham Trew; and all others known to Him who need our prayers.

We send our love and thoughts and prayers to Jean Gwilym and family on the death of Glen - such a gentle, gentleman - always a smile and a warm welcome when you called on him and Jean. Glen was always interested in all that went on in St. Hilary's Church and when Jean arrived home after Eucharist on Sunday he would want to know all details. He will be very much missed by all who knew and loved him.

News received that David Vaughan has also died. David's roaring voice in Killay when he saw someone he knew,

will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers with Glenys and his 3 sons and their families also Duvant Choir, Duvant Rugby Club Choir and Duvant Rugby Club and many more organisations David was associated with.

May Glen and David Rest in Peace.

Our prayers also with Sarah and Jeremy Harris and their families at this time. Sarah's father Gerald is ill in hospital in Cornwall.

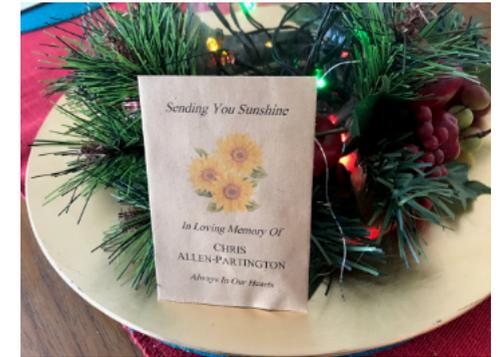
Happy belated birthday greetings to Alan Pickard - reason they are belated - we had to see your birth certificate from Carol to be sure that you were 80 years young. Lots more happy birthdays Alan.

Sally & Jeff Bowen would like to thank you all for your prayers. "After 21 months we are pleased to say Jeff is much better and has recovered well after his illness. The family are humbled by your kindness. Hope 2022 will be a much better year for everyone."

I have received a letter from Chris Allen's family, to thank all who attended her funeral, and to thank everyone who helped and donated food for a "special wake" for their mum.

They were so amazed at the lovely atmosphere and how welcoming they were made to feel.....and to see how loved she was by everyone at St Hilary.

The family have sent me several little packets of sunflower seeds, as these were Chris's favourite flower; and her fellow choristers and I have decided to plant them in the church grounds, so we can all be reminded of Chris when they flower. With my thanks for all who helped to give Chris a 'St Hilary' send off. † RIP Chris



Sylvia Powell

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Is God a stranger in his own world?

When I couldn't find a magazine from 50yrs ago, I set about looking in Vol I. No:1 of the magazine, and came across an article that is just as poignant today, as it was 94yrs ago. Have a read, and see what you think...

"Is He? (a stranger in His own world). The answer depends on us. A human stranger is often one who comes home and is not remembered; one who was loved and knows that love has died; one who is a thirst for friendship and none offers him to drink; one who goes along familiar ways and discovers them deserted by all that made them dear.

Is God a Stranger in His Own World? Does He come home to human hearts that once loved as a child loves, to passionate hearts that threw wide the doors to Him and find no welcome now? For every human heart is God's world; He made it for beauty, for truth, for love, for worship. For worship? Does He come home to those familiar ways that lead through the gardens of sleep into the House of Holiness, where spirit with Spirit may meet, and does He miss the joyous greeting of a crowd of friends looking to Him for all that makes life Life indeed? If He does, then is God a Stranger in His Own World - in his own Church.

The greatest human joy is to be loved for ourselves alone, and if that love be deathless it is the ultimate treasure of the soul. In the garden called remembrance flowers never die. If God can ever know grief it must be when He is not remembered; if there is joy in God's heart, as we know there is in the presence of His angels, it must be when we remember His love for us, His abundant kindness all the days of our life, our unworthiness of His Friendship.

There is an exquisite legend that when we remember our loved ones who have crossed the narrow stream of death, their eyes are opened and they see us once again. For a brief moment they live our little life, and are conscious of our love. Is it not a truth that we who love our Lord have proved so many times that when we remember Him, in word, in deed, in thought, He does come to us and abide with us, no Stranger, but our own familiar Friend. Who knows that often our work is our worship, our worship the expression of that devotion".

**Taken from First Edition of Parish of Killay Magazine
January A.D. 1928 - 'Home Words' insert.**

(no magazine from January 1972 available in Archives).

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Mothers' Union

Tuesday, Dec 7th, was the last meeting of 2021. Due to the uncertainty of the covid pandemic, no Christmas lunch had been arranged. However, a treat was in store in the Parish Centre - a musical extravaganza, devised by Carole, Branch Leader, and Alan, Treasurer. Canon Phillip was invited to join us. The entertainment, a substantial excerpt from a concert given by the world famous musician, André Rieu, with some of his many orchestral members, in the beautiful gardens of his castle home in Maastrich.

A posse of trumpeters played a fanfare while scenes of warmly dressed guests in the snow were shown. As Viennese music played, viewers saw elegantly furnished rooms in the castle decorated for Christmas. A delightfully choreographed scene featured children dressed as chefs, making and baking cookies, dancing round the kitchen with



André. When he has time to relax, he enjoys making large extravagant cakes. Outside, views of the prettily lit snow clad gardens, while pretty girls in sumptuously fur clad dresses sang. André gave a solo performance playing one of his rare treasured Stradivarius violins.

The performance ended, members enjoyed warm mince pies, shortbread and chocolates while raffle prizes were collected.

Carole and Canon Phillip thanked Alan for managing the production, making for a successful afternoon.

There will be no meetings until January 2022. The first meeting will be on January 18th for a Eucharist in the church at 2:00pm.

The A.G.M. will be held on February 1st in the Parish Centre at 2:00pm.



EPIPHANY

On 6th January we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the Wise Men to the baby Jesus. But who were these Wise Men? No one knows for sure. Matthew calls them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia. It wasn't until the third century that they were called kings - by a church father, Tertullian.

Another church father, Origin, assumed there were three - to correspond with the gifts given. Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing - and even embalming.



Certainly Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things. Since the 8th century, the Magi have had the names Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior.

With Epiphany in mind...

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh for the infant Jesus. Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, "Mum, a Wise Woman would have brought nappies."



Music Society

Our December meeting was an early celebration of Christmas. However, we were careful to continue the Covid regulations by the wearing of masks, sanitising etc.

Our first contribution to the proceedings was by Eric Thomas. He read a particularly poignant poem which emphasised the true meaning of Christmas which seems to have been lost in the commercial hustle and bustle of our daily lives.

This was followed by Margaret R. Williams who gave us an insight into the reason why Bryn Terfel has a very soft spot for the Dunvant Male Choir and has sung at several of their concerts — hopefully the next one being in April 2022.

When Bryn was a young aspiring singer, the Choir, spotting his potential, took him with them on a tour of Canada. He was an immediate success. Unfortunately the Canadians had trouble pronouncing his name and he ended up as being “Bryn Truffle”. After the tour he went on to study, became a professional singer and the rest is history.

The musical contribution from Bryn, chosen by Margaret, was the Howard Goodall version of “The Lord’s My Shepherd” —(think ‘Vicar of Dibley).

Next Carole Pickard chose a piece sung by Michael Ball and Alfie Boe. She read the words which mean so much, not only at Christmas. The title of the piece was “O Holy Night”.

Then Alan Pickard chose a song sung by a group called “G4”, recorded in 2005. It was entitled “When a child is born” and reveals the true meaning of the Christmas season.

Our friend Margaret Williams (2) was next. She couldn’t choose between 2 of her favourite pieces, so we enjoyed them both. The first one was sung by a favourite group of Margaret called “Il Divo” whom she has seen several times in Cardiff. It was the enduring favourite of many people — “Silent Night”. The words of this carol beautifully tell the age old story of The Nativity.

Her second choice was sung by another of her favourite singers — Placido Domingo. It was “Mary’s Boy Child” and seemed to be an appropriate tribute to Our Lord.

Then Gillian Hutchinson explained that she and her husband David had joined the Tenovus Cancer Care Choir. It is quite a big choir and it meets in the Lifepoint Centre in Ffynone. In their meetings they are given the music of the songs and also a CD so they can hear the end result of their rehearsals.

Their leader is a lady called Ruth Morris. She is an amazing person who inspires them to give their very best in their concerts. Gillian chose the happy singalong number called “It’s the most wonderful time of the year”.

Our choirmaster Huw Thomas was next with the beautiful carol by Christina Rossetti “In the bleak midwinter”. Huw did not choose the usual Holst version, but one by the English composer Harold Darke with a lovely haunting melody. This version starts with the wonderful clear tones of a boy soprano.

Then I was allowed my favourite Christmas choice. This was “The Shepherd’s Farewell” from “L’Enfance

du Christ” by Hector Berlioz. This is my all time favourite. Some years ago my husband bought me the complete work by Berlioz which is glorious. In my chosen piece the shepherds are saying goodbye to the Holy Family as they leave for Egypt.

Our musical celebration ended with the traditional carol “While shepherds watched their flocks” and the perennial favourite “White Christmas” by Bing Crosby.

We then enjoyed festive refreshment of stollen, mince pies and mulled wine and, of course, tea and coffee. As it was going to be a special birthday for Alan Pickard on the next day, we all wished him a “Happy 80th”.

Babs Roberts.

GWALIA Singers / with Maria & Claire duo

🎵 Cancellation of Christmas Concert / December 2021 🎄

It was a great disappointment when we had to cancel the concert due to the pandemic, however, sometimes you have ‘to bite the bullet’ and think of the best health interests of all! We would have never lived it down if someone had become very ill or even died as a result of being at the concert, whether a performer or in the audience, especially after that really happened in a similar concert in Cowbridge!

..... But out of the gloom and doom came some good, due to the kindness of some ticket holders who donated their ticket money to our Church funds, amounting to some £216....wow....how kind....so all was not lost! I want to thank particularly, Sylvia (Mrs Box-office), who had the difficult task of administrating the return of ticket monies to a wide area...one couple were to travel from London to watch the Concert, but they too donated their ticket money to our Church.

Similar sentiments of thanks to members of Social / Fundraising committee for support throughout in the preparations for the concert.

Mike Powell, Chairman, Social / Fundraising Committee

13 January: Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers

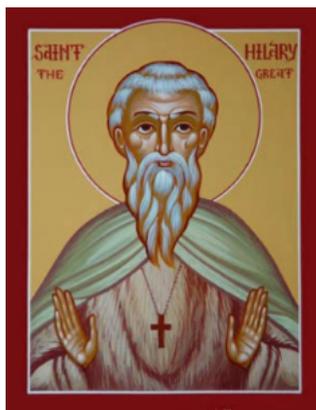
Heroes are not always men or women of action. Sometimes the fight for right over wrong can be even more powerful when done through words and argument.

Hilary was such a champion of the Christian faith. Born into a wealthy pagan family in Poitiers in 315, he first became an orator of Neo-Platonism. Here he learned how to think and argue, but soon he lost confidence in paganism. By 350, Hilary converted to Christianity.

Already well known and loved in Poitiers, Hilary was made bishop only three years later. His oratorical skills in defence of Christianity were badly needed: it was a time when the Western Church was under severe attack. The heresy of Arianism, which denied that Jesus was divine, was spreading everywhere. Hilary became the outspoken champion of biblical orthodoxy, defending it at both the Synod of Bitterae in 356 and the Council of Seleucia in 359. Although briefly exiled to Phrygia in Asia Minor by the Emperor for his stand, Hilary continued to defend Jesus' divinity, and was praised by both Augustine and Jerome as 'the illustrious teacher of the churches'.

When Hilary returned from exile to Gaul, there was great rejoicing. He continued to write many doctrinal and historical works. He also became the first known writer of hymns in the Western Church, stressing Trinitarian themes and the unique relationship of Christ to the Father.

There are three churches dedicated to Hilary in England. His feast day begins the Hilary Term at the Law Courts and at the universities of Oxford and Dublin.



Knock knock

The passenger tapped the taxi driver on the shoulder to ask him something. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the pavement, and stopped inches from a shop window.

For a second everything went quiet in the car, then the driver said, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the daylights out of me!"

The passenger apologised and said he didn't realise that a little tap could scare him so much.

The driver replied, "You're right. I'm sorry, it's not really your fault. Today is my first day as a taxi driver. I've been driving a hearse for the last 15 years."



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Happy New Year!



January is, of course, the time to take down the decorations and put them away for next year. In many churches however, the Crib scene is left up until the beginning of February - the Feast of Candlemas. That celebrates the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

It's yet another moment of 'illumination,' and has a number of meanings.

The date 'set' for Candlemas is the 2nd February each year and it marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox.

It's the day when we celebrate Mary and Joseph taking their baby, Jesus, to the Temple. The custom was set down in Leviticus chapter 12, where the parents presented the child to the Lord, and received a blessing from the priests. It was a picture of the sacrifice of the first-born son, giving him to the Lord.

Any ideas on a third meaning?

As you take down your decorations, think about where you will store them ready for use next Christmas - and also, how carefully you will put them away.

Will the string of lights be a tangled mess of knots when you take them out of their wrappings or will you be able to hang them straight on the tree? One of the biggest concerns is where to put the figure of baby Jesus. It's usually so small in a Crib Set that it is easily lost and then the Crib Set rather loses its meaning!

This month

Have a think about where you put Jesus after Christmas. Not the figure but the 'real' person. He's easily left in a virtual crib as a baby in our minds, just like the wooden or plastic figure in our attics or under the stairs. If we keep Him as that lovely sweet-smelling-cute baby we miss out on His teaching and miracles, we will fail to understand and engage with His massive love and compassion for each of us on the cross - and most importantly His resurrection.

Death is not the end.

Not for Him.

Not for us.

And not for our loved ones.



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Ladies Guild

The Guild Christmas lunch took place on 8th December at Norton House, attended by thirty two Guild members, the food was well prepared and tasty, although a couple of members found it a bit cold. Gwynneth produced a quiz to entertain us but it proved rather taxing after a glass of wine! It was a pleasant afternoon, enjoyed by all. Thank you Gwynneth for making all the arrangements.

In place of our traditional "nine lessons and carols" with Mothers Union, an outdoor service, combined with Siloam, of carols and readings took place on December 15th followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Our first meeting, (Covid allowing) will take place on 12th January 2022, programme to be arranged.

Best wishes for a "Happy and Healthy New Year" to all!!

Pam Davies

Our church family is a circle of strength and love. With every new connection, the circle grows. Every joy shared adds love. Every crisis faced together makes the circle stronger.



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How to beat the internet

Churches across the country are now squaring up to the same challenges – and opportunities – that many local shops and businesses have faced for years.

It's all about the internet, and how it changes everything.

In the pre-Covid world, services were held in churches, and people went to them. Or not.

Throughout the lockdowns, most churches went online. Services were recorded or streamed from church buildings, kitchens, lounges or even, sheds.

Some looked amazingly slick and professional. Most simply reflected the gifts and technical skills that the church could muster.

The move online brought other changes. Local people dropped in online to high-profile churches in the UK or overseas. Worshippers from around the world started 'attending' services across Britain.

People who had not attended church for years, or not at all, came across services online and were surprised at the variety on offer. They joined online services at different times to when they had been available live – and some watched while drinking coffee in bed.

Those who through disability had not been able to attend services could now join online alongside those who used to go, physically, each week.



But now, as post-Covid normality largely returns, many churches are facing tough decisions about their online offerings.

Do we go back to services only being held in church? Or do we continue with online offerings as well? Where technically possible, the answer must be yes – to keep going both online and in church.

Yet if churches want to encourage more people to come through our doors – and we do – we need to look at what's on offer. That means working on the warmth of welcome and the quality of worship and practical teaching.

More importantly, it's about bringing people into the presence of a God who loves them, affirms them and wants the best for them. It's about being part of a community of people who are seeking to follow God, who fail, but go on trying.

It's about church as a place where people can feel welcomed, at home, safe, and valued. A place where they are known and loved.

And, when all that is in place, it beats anything the internet can offer.

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St Paul, the first Christian intellectual

This month, on 25th January, the Church celebrates probably the most famous conversion of all. At least, what happened to a young man called Saul on the road to Damascus has become a byword for all instant conversions - what is known as a 'damascene' moment. Saul was a devout Jew, a Pharisee, a student of Gamaliel and a fierce critic of the followers of Jesus, then a very new sect on the religious scene.

On his way to Damascus to start a purge of Christians in that city, he was blinded by a bright light and heard a voice saying, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' He asked the identity of the voice, and was told: 'Jesus, whom you are persecuting'. Stunned by the experience, he followed further instructions which led him to a Christian man in Damascus, who prayed with him. As he did, Saul's sight was restored.

The experience convinced Paul that Jesus - crucified in Jerusalem four or five years earlier - was in fact the Messiah and had risen from the dead. After a period of instruction, Saul was baptised and took the name Paul. At first, some Christians were wary about the reality of his conversion, but over a period of time he was accepted and indeed eventually recognised as an 'apostle', a 'special messenger' of Jesus Christ.

His intellectual stature and leadership gifts quickly marked him out, and within a few years he became a leading figure in the emerging Christian Church, preaching and founding churches all over the Middle East, largely of Gentile converts. He was eventually martyred in Rome, probably in 65AD.

Paul was the first intellectual of the Christian Church, the man who was able to set the events of the life and teaching of Jesus, and especially His death and resurrection, into a coherent theology, with its roots very clearly in the Jewish faith of his own upbringing.

Many people think of Paul as a rather negative, narrow misogynist, but even a quick reading of his letters actually reveals a person of great warmth, who evoked enormous affection and devotion from others. 'You would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me!' he writes to the Christians at Galatia. As for the charge that Paul disliked women, even a quick read of his letters will reveal how large a role women played in his churches. In terms of the first century, St Paul was a dangerous liberal! So, all in all, the amazing Paul of Tarsus deserves a bit of celebrating on 25th January.



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Church membership role to be wiped

The Anglican church keeps a list of its members in what's known as the Electoral Roll. Every five years, this list has to be wiped clean. This should have been done last year, but due to Covid-19, this process was put off to 2022. Names may be entered on the Electoral Roll if you are a lay person over the age of sixteen years, if he or she:

- (i) is a regular Communicant.
- (ii) is not a member of any religious body which is not in communion with the Church-in-Wales.
- (iii) is resident in the parish, or if not resident, has habitually attended public worship for a period of six months.
- (iv) has signed a form of enrolment.
- (v) does not have his or her name entered on the Roll of another Parish in Wales.

Electoral Roll forms are available at the back of your church, or for more information, contact Cath Swain on Tel: (01792) 298166.

Please be aware that EVERYONE has to complete these forms by the end of the month, to enable an accurate record of membership to be held. If you are not on the Electoral Roll, then you cannot hold any Office in the Church, and you are unable to vote at Annual Vestry Meetings. Remember – unless you complete a form, your name will NOT appear on the Electoral Roll.

100 CLUB

This is a regular scheme of subscription to the parish, with monthly draws made, plus one additional Christmas Draw of £100. The scheme only has 100 numbers, currently there are several numbers available. If you would like to find out more about this regular opportunity to win a small prize, whilst contributing to YOUR church at the same time – contract Roger Draisey (St.Martin's) Tel: 515391 or Sian Gwynn (St.Hilary's) Tel: 204758. Remember, you have to be in it, to win it!

Annual subscriptions for Parish magazines delivered to you are now due.

This year due to Covid there were four monthly editions, ending December 2021.

Four monthly magazines at 50p each - £2 total

St James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

On parish accounts, teapots and Labrador retrievers



The Rectory, St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Your annual accounts – all 146 pages, bound in their plastic covers and laid out in faultless detail – really are most impressive. I was rather envious to note you have a clergy 'discretionary fund'; if I were to be given such a thing, my cellar of claret would improve immeasurably – although that is perhaps the reason why I am not given one.

The size of your office expenses makes me wonder if you have a staff rivalling that of the European Community. I suppose that at least you are doing your bit for job creation. Our dear Miss Marigold, who spends two hours a week randomly filing pieces of paper, mistyping rotas and failing to re-order stationery, is only rewarded by being the first to find out who are booking marriages and having their babies baptised – and if they do not happen in that order, that will be another piece of information remembered for future use. All this is information beyond the price of jewels in village communities.

Our accounts have more by way of charm than they do of accuracy, generally consisting of one sheet of handwritten paper. There are only ever three copies for circulation, as that is the limit of Colonel Denster's carbon paper. It seems to be an unalterable tradition that they never balance, until we find the following year that the missing £20 was found months later under the teapot on the mantelpiece. One footnote to this was the occasion when the Colonel suspected an unaccountable £5 had been eaten by his Labrador. Our greatest expenses by far are categorised as 'miscellaneous', which is a catch-all for everything that our treasurer is unable to recall where it really went.

The thousands paid on church maintenance and diocesan fees are nodded through without comment – but if the money spent on Easter lilies or packets of tea for the Summer Fete increases by anything more than 50 pence, there will be much agonised debate and speculation about whether this is an indication of money laundering.

I see that your accounts were professionally audited. Fortunately, it does not matter too much about the accuracy of our own, as I have an arrangement with our auditor who lives in the village: if he refuses to sign them off, then I refuse to baptise his grandchildren.

Your loving uncle, Eustace



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- Health & Wellbeing Academy **Swansea Uni**
- St Phillips Community Centre **Central**
- Olivia's Beauty **Brynmill**
- St Thomas Church Hall **St. Thomas**
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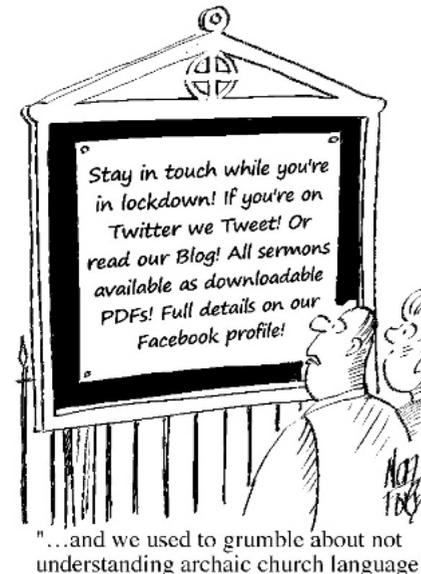
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...Rodney, I've been meaning to have a word with you about your carbon footprint!

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New Year Prayer 2022

Lord of all creation,
Lord of all the years,

Thank you for steering us through the fragmented landscape of two pandemic-riddled years. Here we stand at the beginning of a new year, not knowing what lies ahead. Our only security lies in you, Lord.

Please take our hands and guide us, day by day, into January and beyond. We will not be afraid, Lord because you have promised never to leave us, never to forsake us. And you keep your promises. We are safe.

2022, here we come... expectantly,

In Jesus' name,
Amen



By Daphne Kitching

Free travel

Living on earth may be expensive, but it includes an annual free trip around the sun.

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A great big "thank you" to everyone for their generous donations to this year's Mr X appeal.

Thirty children will be delighted to receive their gifts!

5th Sunday:

Sunday 30th January is a Fifth Sunday.

There will only be one service that day.
It will be at All Souls Church in Tycoch
and will begin at 9.30am.

All are very welcome.

St Hilary's Church

481a Gower Rd, Killay
SA2 7DZ

St Martin's Church

Fairwood Rd,
Dunvant
SA2 7PE

*Everyone is welcome to
our services, full details
of which are on the
back page*

The deadline for articles for February 2022
magazine is on **Friday 28 January**

The magazine is printed and published by the Parish
of Killay in the Clyne Trinity Ministry Area, Diocese
of Swansea and Brecon, Church in Wales.

The views in the articles reflect the views of the
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*If you have any news or photos you would care to share
please contact Roger Rees*



Tel: 207916



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Carol concert under the moon and stars at Killay

.....and folk came from north, south, east and west...from Derlwyn in the north to Upper Killay in the south; from Hendrefoilan and Tycoch in the east to Penyfro, and Dunvant in the west. The shepherds were busy in Parkmill, and the Kings delayed on the busy Gower Road.....but they did send two very important high ranking Lords from Wimmerfield and the Guildhall....our very own Lord Mayor and her Consort.....Mary and Jeff...or should that read.... Mary and Joseph!

All were attracted to the starry lights surrounding the church of St Hilary on a mild and dry December night.(Thanks to Derek the weather man!)

And so back to reality. It was seven o'clock, two weeks before Christmas, and our Vicar, Canon Phil, presiding on his last Christmas at St Hilary before retirement, and the stage was set, thanks to Simon (times two) and Ian....lovely lights....chairs...a lit Christmas tree....loudspeakers....a choir and organ...and an opportunity for some sixty or so folk to sing outside without the trappings of face masks....hallelujah...half a dozen carols and a beautiful reading.

Looking around those present it was a joy to see people singing with gusto. Mary, our Lord Mayor spoke to say how glad Jeff and she was to be present at St Hilary in their home territory. We too

were glad to see them as they have helped St Hilary with financial help many times in the last five years.

At the closure, Canon Phil thanked everyone for attending, (from St H, St M, and All Souls),and particularly Mary and Jeff, the first from Killay South and North to attain the high honour of first citizens; to the choir and organist, Huw, and to the members of the Mission and Outreach committee for their planning and organisation of the evening and especially the ladies for the refreshments of mulled wine, tea and coffee and seasonal mince pies. We thank Canon Phil for presiding also.

..... And so it came to pass that a happy and holy time was had by all....and for the first time in an atmospheric, out of doors location...but this time there was plenty of room outside away from Covid limitations. Hopefully the pioneer for future carol concerts....perhaps next time we could consider an 'outreach' concert with our choir and the Salvation Army band in the Precinct....now that's food for thought to 'reach out' into the community to bring alive EMMANUEL...God with us. Amen.....

*Mike Powell
Warden Emeritus
Dec/2021*





Church Services: *St.Hilary's & St.Martin's*

JANUARY	ST. HILARY'S KILLAY	ST. MARTIN'S DUNVANT
2 <i>Second Sunday of Christmas</i>	11.00am Eucharist Followed by coffee	No Services at St.Martin's due to covid restrictions <i>all are welcome at St.Hilary's</i>
6 Thursday - <i>The Epiphany</i>	11.00am Eucharist	Booking essential Please contact Marian tel: 204175
9 <i>The Baptism of Christ</i>	11.00am Eucharist Followed by coffee	
13 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
16 <i>Second Sunday of Epiphany</i>	11.00am Eucharist Followed by coffee	
20 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
23 <i>Third Sunday of Epiphany</i>	11.00am Family Worship - Lay led Followed by coffee	
27 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
30 <i>Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</i>	9.30am Eucharist All Souls, Tycogh	9.30am Eucharist All Souls, Tycogh

*The magazine of the Parish of Killay; St. Hilary & St. Martin churches
in the Clyne Trinity Ministry Area, Diocese of Swansea and Brecon.*

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