

CHURCH Magazine

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Greetings to you from myself, my husband Nabeel and our children Malachi, Joel, Joshua, and Salomey. During the Easter season, we pause to reflect on what led Jesus to the cross, and better still, what held Him there. Ever since sin entered the world in the garden of Eden, humankind who had previously walked closely and in harmony with God, now faced a chasm that separated us from God. God being a holy God, cannot live in union with sin. The separation was not God's desire, God created us for relationship with Him. For us to Experience Him. Fellowship with Him. To add, and quite significantly, there is a price for sin. It wasn't just a slap on the wrist and a reminder never to sin again. No. When sin entered the world, it meant we would be permanently separated from God, because the price of sin is death. It meant we could never pay this price, nor could we still have fellowship and be in union with God, and *this*, was His main desire, *is* His greatest desire. That we would walk in close relationship with Him again, both in this life and in the life to come.

Jesus is the answer to this core desire of God. There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin, He only could unlock the gates of heaven and let us in. In Jesus's death and resurrection we see God Himself, come as a man,

paid the passage, and open the gates of heaven to us all. God continues to be grieved as not everyone has taken up the offer. The free will that existed in the garden of Eden, that led to the Fall, still exists today. The difference being, we now have a visible way back to God.

Deuteronomy chapter 30 vs 19 says, *"Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live!"*

Every day, of our earthly life God beckons us towards life. Life for us and for our children. Our sin led Him to the cross, but it was love that held Him there.

Good news, as recorded in Romans 6 vs 4 *"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was."*

Alleluia!

As your Priest, I am passionate that you walk closely in fellowship with God. My vision of this is not a stiff God that is only happy when we pray or read the bible, though there are no substitutes for these, but a God we can talk with, share with, laugh with. When we walk closely with God, the ripple effect is incredible. We were created to love, not

fear, to bless not curse, to hope not worry. The person we become is one with deeper, consistent joy, in the midst of life's challenges, and one who is keen for everyone else to experience the same. We then join the vision of a local church with the sole aim of playing our part to achieve this. This includes those who take care of our church and hall to those who lead worship and everyone in-between. There is room for you. Maybe God has put it in your heart during this season, to increase praying specifically for the church, and that's your calling. I pray you will be faithful in that call. In your prayers please do pray for persons to rise up to lead bible study groups, and small prayer groups. This is key I believe in securing the future of our church. Church is not just a Sunday or holy communion. *Please help.* Feel free to contact me directly if this is something you feel you would like to help with. I am willing to do any training you feel you might need in this regard.

I can hardly believe it has been 8 months since my licensing. So much has taken place. During this time, we have been intentionally praying for growth, while actively reaching out to those in our community. In particular sharing the gospel with our local schools.

We have had Dunvant Primary School in church during March for our lay-led service organised by our lay-worship leaders, Mike Powell and Barbara Roberts.

We then had our Brownies in the hall enjoying home cooked pancakes with all the various toppings. Thanks to Sylvia Powell and a faithful group of ladies comprising of Angela Reed, Cath Swain, Barbara Roberts and Jan Jones. Pancakes were followed by a short talk in the church about the meaning of Shrove Tuesday.

In the lead up to Easter we had Cila and Hendrefoilan Schools in church for the "Experience Easter" sessions. The team that helped put this together was just incredible. Both in constructing stations, leading the sessions explaining each station to the children, and dismantling the stations. Thanks to Jim and Jan Proudfoot, Lisa Powell, Jan Lewis, Carol Conway, Sylvia and Mike Powell, Glenda Penzer, Sheila Betts, Alan and Carole Pickard, Cath Swain, Angela Reed and Diane Holohan.

We have had a full team helping with pastoral events also. Mothering Sunday saw us welcome a few visitors who went away with beautiful flowers organised by Sylvia Powell. On a less happy note, we said goodbye to Huw and Janie Thomas, our beloved organist and his wife who also served us by singing in the choir. Janie's cousin Tudor arranged for a special lunch for congregation members, a few weeks after the funeral, as a way of remembering their special place in our hearts. The event was well catered for and proved to be a lovely time of fellowship, as we sat for 2 hours after

church, as a family in the hall. Thanks to all our volunteers who worked tirelessly to make it as special as it was. They would have spent hours before and after seeing to its success. At the risk of leaving anyone out of this significant team I will avoid trying to name them all.

Easter Sunday was a joint service that brought together the helping hands of so many. Thanks so much to Rev'd Peter Philips for presiding at Holy Communion and for being an all-round blessing to the East Gower Cluster. Thanks to Jim Proudfoot, Chris Samuels and Nabeel for their efforts musically in the three weeks leading up to Easter Sunday. Managing diaries is not an easy task. Thanks for being flexible. Thanks Chris for continuing to bless us as our organist during this season. We are truly grateful.

We have had news that our new Ministry Area Administrator will be starting on the 9th of April. Archdeacon Peter Brooks and I will be taking her around our cluster of 3 churches to help in her orientation. She is employed by the Gower Ministry Area but will be based at St Hilary's. Thanks to Marian Williams who has taken the lead in organising the office space in anticipation of her starting.

Thanks to the tech team and their wonderful band of trainees (our teenagers) for all your efforts, especially on Easter Sunday. Thanks to our Wardens Mike and Marian at St Hilary's, Alayne and Howard at All Souls, and Sue and

Roger at St Martin's, for all your hard work upfront and behind the scenes. A special thanks to our Treasurers Diane Holohan and Ken Ellis, and our faithful assistant Alan, especially at this time of year when accounts are put together and submitted.

We continue to struggle with getting around to everyone for home communion. Thanks to Alan and Carole Pickard for their help in keeping in contact with folks at home and for offering home communion when they can. Included here is a picture of Gwyneth Prestwood who I visited for Easter and to offer home communion,



who I'm sure you will agree is looking well and is always a joy to visit. Thanks to the others who have welcomed me into their homes for home communion, many of whom have never met me before. Please do keep our household members in your prayers.

To all our helpers in every capacity, thank you, for all your hard work. I pray blessings upon you all, and peace during this Eastertide.

Layfetta x

St Hilary's & St Martin's - Who's Who

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St Hilary's	St Hilary's Church & Church Hall 481a Gower Road, Killay, Swansea, SA2 7DZ
Lay Worship Leaders:	Simon Davies, Mike Powell, Barbara Roberts.
Eucharistic Assistants:	Roy Chapman, Alan Pickard, Mike Powell, Catherine Swain.
Congregational Wardens:	Mike Powell ☎ 208955 Marian Williams ☎ 204175
Treasurer:	Diane Holohan ☎ 296272
Sacristan:	Mike Powell ☎ 208955
Church Committee Secretary:	Marian Williams ☎ 204175
Hall Booking Secretary:	Diane Holohan ☎ 07770 788465 (texts preferred) or 296272
Envelopes/Gift Aid Scheme:	Geraldine Rees ☎ 207916
Organists:	Chris Samuel Martin Draisey (St.Martin's)
St Martin's	St Martin's Church Fairwood Road, Dunvant, Swansea SA2 7PE
Eucharistic Assistants:	Gareth Lewis, Susan Dimblebee
Congregational Wardens:	Susan Dimblebee ☎ 299503 Roger Draisey ☎ 515391
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St Hilary's Church, Killay

Sidespersons

April Diane Holohan, Chris Regan
May Jan & Jim Proudfoot

Elements

7th Lay led service
14th Sylvia & Mike Powell
21st Lisa & Callum Powell
28th Alan Clewett, Spencer Thomas
May 5th Lay led service

Readers

7th Lay led service
14th Alun Bessette
21st Cath Swain
28th Jan Lewis
May 5th Lay led service

Eucharist Assistants

7th Lay led service
14th Alan Pickard
21st Roy Chapman
28th Cath Swain
May 5th Lay led service

Altar Flowers

7th Gillian Hutchinson
14th Barbara Roberts in memory of Roy
21st In memory of Yvonne Bevan
28th Janet Jones in memory of her sister Margaret
May 5th Barbara Thomas in memory of Roy

Coffee

7th Geraldine & Roger Rees
14th Sue Mapp, Sally Bowen
21st Christine Williams, Val Beynon

28th Babs Roberts, Sandra Banks

May 5th Angela Reed, Janet Jones

St Martin's Church, Dunvant

Sidespersons

7th Roger Draisey
14th Sue Dimblebee
21st Gareth Dimblebee
28th Ian Dimblebee

Readers

7th Carol Lewis
14th Margaret Draisey
21st Ann Stone
28th Haulwen Lumsdane

Altar Flowers

7th Mr Bevan in memory of Yvonne
14th Jan & Barrie Huxtable
21st Carol Lewis
28th Ann Stone

Holy Dusters

Carol & Julia

All enquiries:

Christenings, Weddings & Funerals

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The deadline for articles for May 2024 magazine is Friday 26 April

News

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.

Julie Cole, Barbara Davies (Derlwyn), Miriam Evans, Enid James (St. Nicholas Court), Doll Lee, Don Lewis (Cynthia's husband), Eunice Miron, Diane Lewis (Hillside Nursing Home), Diana Mowat (Hengoed Court Residential Home), Olwen Nicholas, Betty Nutt, Mary Osborne (Hillside Nursing Home), Rev'd Judith Phillips, Gwynneth Prestwood (Hengoed Court Residential Home), Rita Trew, Gloria and Brian Wilkins and all others known to Him who need our prayers.

Goodbye and Thank You

You may be aware that Gareth and Lynne Lewis have moved back to Cambridgeshire recently. They will both be missed greatly and for many years have been faithful workers for St. Hilary's and St. Martin's, both serving on the former PCC and its various committees for many years, organising stalls in our church fayres, church magazine distribution and helping in any way they could. Gareth has been a faithful member of the Licensed Lay Worship team and a Eucharistic Minister and Lynne was a regular reader at our services in both churches. They would like to pass on their good wishes to all their friends at St. Hilary's and St. Martin's and hope that the church flourishes as part of the new Ministry Area with Layfetta's wonderful work. I hope that they will keep in touch with us in East Gower and on behalf of all of us send them every good wish for the future.

Marian Williams

A 'Tabletop Sale' will be held at St Hilary's church hall on Saturday 27 April. It starts at 2pm and entry is £1. Cost per table is £10. Contact Babs tel: 299160 or your warden.

100 Club March Draw

1 st prize	no.18	Glyn Williams (All Souls)
2 nd prize	no.51	Sue Dimblebee (St Martin's)



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Update from the Gower Ministry Area Council by Peter Lewis

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

This year our annual accounts for 2023 are published for the whole ministry area which includes consolidated accounts and all our individual church accounts. The date of the Annual Vestry Meeting (AVM) can't be set yet as we're having to wait for the auditor to complete their work before we can fix that date. When the AVM date is announced, we need each church to have a congregational committee meeting prior to the AVM to receive their congregational accounts and elect any reps that relate to their congregation. Those elections only need to take place if the current person is stepping down, so you might need to elect a congregational warden, Ministry Area council rep or congregational treasurer. In terms of reports from 2023, each congregation can publish their own reports according to what they would like to include for the local context, but the only reports that will be published in the official ministry area account/report will be brief summaries from each church. A big thank you to all our treasurers for their involvement in this work.

The 'Wonder of Wellbeing Gower' project is now up and running, with events having

taken place in Holy Week and in April's Easter school holidays, check the website wonderofwellbeinggower.org or contact project coordinator, Chloe Thomas, on chloegowerwellbeing@gmail.com.

Our ministry area administrator has been appointed, will start work on 8th April, will be based at St Hilary's. More details to be announced this month. One of their jobs will be to record the numbers of people attending our services/events each week and the administrator will be regularly asking each church congregation for figures from our registers so we have an up-to-date record. This new system is called the membership app and we will be using in all our congregations over the coming weeks.

At our MAC meeting in March, we created our ministry area working agreement, an important document, unique to our Gower ministry area that describes both how ministry area and local churches fit with the Constitution and organise governance, finance, mission and church life. This is published on our website: gowerma.org and paper copies can be obtained from the clergy. Lots of questions about the MA may be answered here...

Our buildings have a 5 yearly review, organised and paid for by the diocese. These quinquennial reports are gradually being undertaken for all our MA churches and reports are being issued.

The Administrator will be able to disseminate information relating to the

reports as we receive them. The Property subgroup of the MAC have a database on contractors that have been used to work on our churches (contact Revd. Peter, details below).

Our ministry area Welsh language service on April 19th will be at St Mary's Pennard at 11am—a place for all levels of Welsh to worship, celebrate and be discipled.

Put June 3rd in your diary, which is our Ministry Area celebration at Oxwich Bay Hotel at 7pm with Bp John. We're inviting all our church folk to come together for a time to share through music, liturgy, story and prayer.

The MAC have an away day on May 28th (10:30am to 4pm) in Llangasty Retreat Centre to help them reflect and plan. If there are free spaces and you'd like to attend to help feed in ideas and support, please contact the Ministry Area Lead.

Blessings at Eastertide, Peter Lewis,

Ministry Area Lead

Marking Ascensiontide in 2024

When Jesus ascended into heaven, he had told his disciples to meet and pray, so we're marking Ascensiontide (from Ascension Day 9th to Pentecost Sunday 19th May) together, using the initiative Thy Kingdom Come, a focus on us all praying for 5 people we're praying to come to/grow in Faith. We will be inviting people to follow prayer books or resources online to help shape our prayers during this Season and there will be lots of different approaches to make this an encouraging season of mission and fellowship. As we look to God's Kingdom to

GROW, look forward to using this special time for reflection and empowering.

We begin at Gwernffrwd's St David's 7:30am on 9th May for Mass, followed by Breakfast (additional parking and shuttle transport at Llanmorlais Hall).

From 10th May to 19th May, people are encouraged to 'beat the bounds' by making their own arrangements to walk part of the boundary of their 'parish' area or parts of the Gower Pilgrimage Way and there will be some of our wellbeing project sessions over these days that you might like to join.

We end Ascensiontide with Pentecost choral Evensong in Ilston's St Illtyd (additional parking arrangements will be in place)

Ministry Area Lent Appeal

Most of our congregations have been developing some events during Lent to raise financial support for Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability (abcbd), a UK Anglican charity that improves the lives of children with disabilities across Palestine regardless of faith, race or gender. Their centre in Bethlehem suffered recent attacks by the Israeli Defence Force leaving most of their resources & equipment unusable. In our next edition we hope to be able to publish the total amount raised from our congregations. You can read more at www.abcbdethlehem.org and incorporate their prayer needs in your church services and private prayer.

(Extract from the Ministry Area magazine)

Mothers' Union

At our first meeting in March we were delighted to welcome back Mike Powell, Sacristan, Lay Worship Leader and Congregational Warden for St Hilary's. We listened to prayers and music brought along by Mike. In a calming and inspirational atmosphere we watched and listened to Sissel Kyrkjebo, a Norwegian Soprano, each of her songs followed by a reflection in prayer etc given by Mike. Sissel's musical style ranges from pop recordings and folk songs to classical vocals and operatic arias. Mike was very informative and it was a great pleasure to have him as our speaker.

Our second speaker in March was our own Priest in charge Layfetta. Layfetta gave a thought provoking talk about the origins of the period of Lent. She reminded us that the period of Lent was based on a Pagan origin. She spoke

about the things that people do during Lent such as denial etc. and suggested that the real purpose was about loving God and each other. She related her experiences through life and her journey from Jamaica to London, school, teaching and after much soul searching realised, she was called to be a priest. She emphasized that it was her belief that Lent was not a period of denial but a time of reflection and a pathway to the important festival of Easter.

We would like to thank our members for donating £45.50 to our fundraising for "A gift of dignity" (Make a Mother's Day). Thank you to everyone who continuously supports the Women's Refuges in our Diocese by donating the following items: toiletries, pants, socks, tights for women and children, sanitary products, wet wipes etc. Please NO nappies, toys, books or knitted items.

Future dates: -

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 2nd April | 2 pm, Church Hall – Royal Memorabilia, Sally Bowen. |
| Friday 5th April | 11 am St Mary's, Swansea – Archidiaconal Eucharist, organised by Llanrhidian MU. |
| Tuesday 16th April | 2 pm, Church Hall – "A Family Hero" – Eileen Fletcher. |
| Wednesday 17th April | 1.30 pm, MU Diocesan Council Meeting, Brecon Cathedral – South Transept. |
| Wednesday 1st May | MU Retreat at Llangasty (cost £33) -book with Alan. |
| Friday 3rd May | 11 am St Mary's, Swansea – Archidiaconal Eucharist, organised by Penllergaer MU. |

All are welcome at any meeting or service.

Alan & Carole Pickard.

Music Society

Monday 11th March our Speaker was: Clive Williams, Chapel Minister.

Our chairperson Barbara Roberts opened our meeting, telling us about visiting Gwynneth Prestwood with Nancy and asking us to remember members who are unwell in our prayers.

Barbara then welcomed Clive on what will be his last visit to us as he has retired from doing these presentations. He has shared with us his love of classical music which lifts our spirits and the life and times of composers as real people.

This evenings presentation was something different a Welsh evening to celebrate Saint David, our patron saint Dewi Sant.

Years ago pupils wore Welsh costumes, took part in concerts and had the afternoon off school. Nowadays it is not celebrated as much.

Clive played a selection of tunes on the piano.

Saint David was a Welsh Bishop regarded as Patron Saint of Wales. His mother was Non who was born in the fifth century and his grandfather was believed to be King of Ceredigion. He was renowned as a teacher and preacher and was a vegetarian. A white dove became his emblem after one landed on his shoulder. He founded monastic buildings and churches in Wales and Brittany. There are sixty parish churches



in Wales named for Saint David. David died March 1st 589 A.D and was buried in the Monastery that Saint David's Cathedral stands on. His shrine is visited by pilgrims and before he broke with Rome, Henry VIII visited the shrine on two occasions. The shrine was improved in 2012.

There were Benedictine and Cistercian Monasteries at Neath and Margam where the monks farmed the land and drank only water and ate bread. Evenings were spent in prayer. It was a simple life with extreme self denial. Their symbol was the leek.

Wales was small in size but had a mighty influence with some of the earliest seats of learning. Welsh is one of the oldest languages in Europe. There are 647 castles in Wales and it is sometimes called the castles capital of the world.

Clive played "Men of Harlech"

He then spoke about Owen Glyndwr, the Tudors and Richard Ap Meryk sponsoring the Cabot exploration of what is now the USA.

We were all sorry that Clive has retired. He has been every year for about 30 years. His presentations are always uplifting and with his personality, humour and musicality we will miss him. Angela gave the vote of thanks. Barbara presented gifts for Clive and his wife.

Phyllis Rott

Gower MA, Methodist Chapels and Friends Good Friday Walk of Witness

It was a great pleasure to join this annual Good Friday event in Reynoldston once again this year. We began at the Lower Green with ponies for company and began by singing. 'Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom,' which was repeated as we reached each of the four stations. Each of the readings was taken from Mark's Gospel. Members of the congregations of SW Gower read about the Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus followed by a moving reflection, 'At midnight in a Garden.' We sang, 'The Servant King' as we processed with the cross into St. George's Church where Rev'd. Peter Lewis welcomed us, and North Gower took the lead based on the Trial of Jesus and Peter's Denial. Once again, the scripture reading was followed by two prayers, Peter Denies Jesus and Prayer After Denial. We were all given a square of paper to fold, then tear to represent the wounds inflicted on Jesus as we listened to the readings. Each of us placed our torn paper crosses in front of the altar as we left singing the hymn, 'When I survey the wondrous cross.'

We continued to the Methodist Chapel where Rev'd. Andy Walker led us. Here we listened to the events when Jesus appeared before Pilate and a reflection entitled, 'Prayers for Good Friday,' before singing the hymn, 'Light of the World,' to a guitar accompaniment before

continuing to the Upper Green for station 4. This final station was led by East Gower and South East Gower, my reading was The Crucifixion and Archdeacon Peter Brooks led a reflection, 'Meditation on the Cross,' before we joined in singing our final hymn, 'There is a green hill far away.' We were all invited back to the Methodist Chapel for hot drinks and Hot Cross Buns.

All such events need a great deal of organisation, and I would like to express our thanks to Rev'd Peter Lewis, Archdeacon Peter Brooks, Fr. Tim Ardouin, Fr. Nigel Doyle, Canon Roger Donaldson, Rev'd. Nigel King, Rev'd. Layfetta and Rev'd Andy Walker for all their hard work making this such a special event. Special thanks to all who served the refreshments.

Marian Williams



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Experience Easter - based on five of the main events of Holy Week.

Local schools visited All Souls and St Hilary's churches



At All Souls during the last week of the school term we invited Sketty Primary School to come and take part in our Easter Experience. During the day we shared the gospel with over 300 children.

With St Hilary's providing the same event the week before ... that's nearly 500 children for the East Gower Cluster over 2 weeks.

Huge thank you must go to all who helped source the props, set up the stations and ably delivered the gospel on the event days. To quote Layfetta - 'A massive thank you to all our congregation members who never say no, just "bring it on!" Appreciate you loads!'

And at All Souls we were blessed with the gift of 2 beautiful donkeys, Andy and Dennis (and Mike the handler), who joined us for the day and added to the excitement of the visiting children.



Alayne Jenkins

Experience Easter - at St Hilary's Church



Palm Sunday



Washing the feet of his disciples



The Crucifixion



The Last Supper



a School visit



The Empty Tomb on Easter Day

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MAIN HALL KITCHEN



MINOR HALL

MINOR HALL

- Comfortably holds up to 40 people seated
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MINOR HALL KITCHEN



MINOR HALL

LOCATION

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- on main bus route, a few minutes' walk from Killay Square.



CHURCH HALL ACCESS

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St James the Least of All

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

The Rectory, St James the Least of All

On why a church should always resist change



My dear Nephew Darren

I am not the least surprised you have got yourself into trouble; innovation is never to be encouraged. New ideas tend to cause revolutions. The move from incandescent lightbulbs to energy saving ones may ultimately change the Church.

Change is something everyone claims to be in favour of – provided it has no measurable effect on their own lives. I remember as a young curate once suggesting that at the Harvest Supper, tables might be enlarged so that eight people could sit together rather than the traditional six, thus helping more people get to know one another. The response would have been similar if I had suggested we travel to London to murder the Prime Minister. I was firmly told that tables for six had been perfectly adequate for parishioners in Queen Victoria's day. For the rest of my curacy, I was regarded as a revolutionary, to be watched carefully.

So, at your last visit to our church, to suggest that our 11am Mattins might be moved to 10.30am, in order to encourage those who wanted to have more of the day free to themselves, certainly lobbed a hand grenade among the post-Service coffee cups. The only person who was mildly in favour was Colonel Wainwright, who quickly realised that it would give him an extra half-hour at the gin and tonics before lunch.

Should you ever feel that people lack imagination, you should watch them in action when they find reasons for resisting an unwelcome suggestion. One said that the time couldn't be moved, since it would then be too early for the local bus – omitting to mention that none of our congregation travel to church by bus and that the service doesn't run on Sundays anyway. Another pointed out that it would confuse those who didn't attend church – not explaining why if they never attended, it mattered what time the Service was. A third, rather touchingly mentioned that it wouldn't give the rector time to enjoy his breakfast after the rigours of the 8am Service.

Your suggestion did, however, serve one useful purpose; it brought our congregation together in united opposition. They may not necessarily always know what they are for, but they certainly know what they are against. For that, I thank you.

Your loving uncle

Eustace

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- Welsh medium Tots group – weekly in term-time
- Foot Clinic – fortnightly throughout the year
- Polling Station for City and County of Swansea and General Elections

Church Groups

- Mothers' Union – fortnightly on 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month
- Tots group – weekly on Monday in term-time
- Bowls Club – weekly on Friday evening or Saturday when there is a clash with WBS
- Music Society – monthly on 2nd Monday evening of the month
- Luncheon Club – monthly on 1st Wednesday

Church Hall: St Hilary's

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St Martin's Church is available for hire. It can accommodate about 35 people.
If you are interested, please contact Church Wardens.



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Dunvant
SA2 7PE

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

The deadline for articles for the May magazine
is on **Friday 26 April 2024**.

The magazine is printed and published by St Hilary
and St Martin Churches in the Gower Ministry Area,
Diocese of Swansea and Brecon, Church in Wales.

The views in the articles reflect the views of the
individuals contributing the items and are not
intended to represent the official views of the
Ministry Area or the Church in Wales.

www.eastgower.org

*If you have any news or photos you would care to share
please contact Roger Rees*



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St Martin's Church



Mothering Sunday was established in the 16th century. Held on the fourth Sunday in Lent, exactly 3 weeks before Easter Sunday, it was originally a date to honour and give thanks to the Virgin Mary, also known as Mother Mary. Such celebrations required people to visit their 'mother' church, the main church or cathedral in a family's area.

Then have a meal with the family, and give flowers to the mother, which was usually violets.

On Mothering Sunday St Martin's held a delightful and uplifting Lay led service conducted by our very own Babs Roberts.

Here are some of our parishioners with their flowers on Mothering Sunday



Memorial Buffet at St Hilary's Church hall.
We said a sad goodbye to Huw and Janie Thomas, our organist and his wife who also served us by singing in the choir. Janie's cousin Tudor arranged a special memorial lunch for congregation members



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Mothering Sunday flowers at St Hilary
Many thanks are due to Sylvia Powell for once again sponsoring and designing the flowers and carriers again this year. What a beautiful sight to see them all in front of the altar!

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

APRIL	ST HILARY'S KILLAY	ST MARTIN'S DUNVANT
4 Thursday	No midweek service	
7 Second Sunday of Easter	11.00am Service of the Word <i>Followed by coffee</i>	9.00am Eucharist
11 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
14 Third Sunday of Easter	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	10.00am Family Worship Lay-led
18 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
21 Fourth Sunday of Easter	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	9.00am Eucharist
25 Thursday Mark, Evangelist	11.00am Eucharist	
28 Fifth Sunday of Easter	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>

*The magazine of St Hilary & St Martin churches
in the Gower Ministry Area, Diocese of Swansea and Brecon.*

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