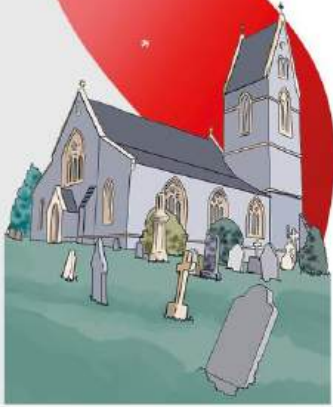




ARDAL WEINIDOGAETH
PENARTH
MINISTRY AREA

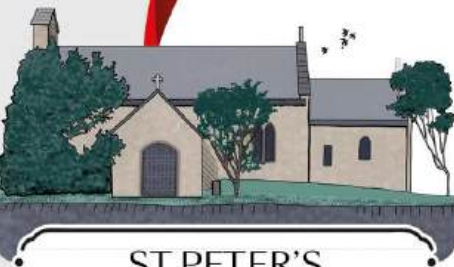
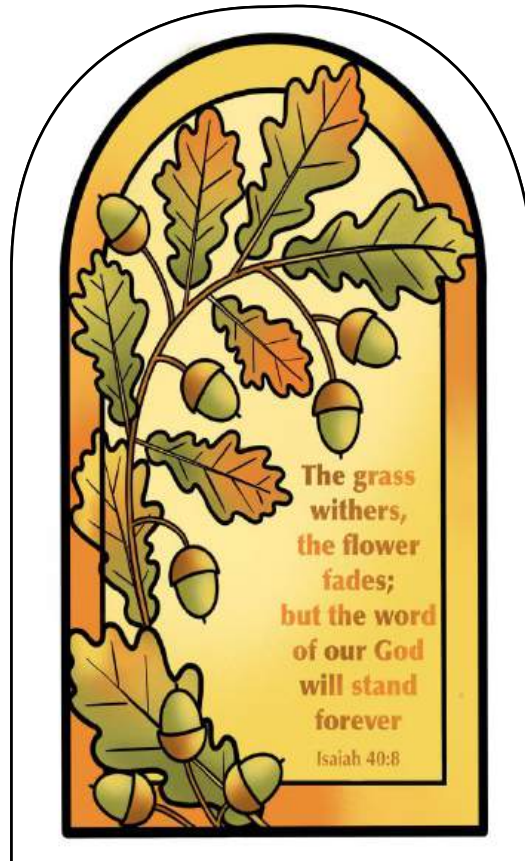
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ST AUGUSTINE'S

MAGAZINE

October 2025

£1.70



ALL SAINTS

REGULAR SERVICES WITHIN THE MINISTRY AREA

Sunday Morning Worship

- 8.00am Said Eucharist at All Saints
9.15am Said Eucharist at Holy Nativity
9.15am Said Eucharist at St Dochdwy's
10.00am Holy Eucharist at All Saints **
10.45am Sung Eucharist at St Augustine's *

** Children's group meets during this service*

*** Children's and youth groups meet during this service*



Sunday Evening Worship

- 3.00pm Service at St Peter's (1st Sunday of the month)
6.00pm Evensong at All Saints (3rd Sunday of the month)
NB 3.00pm during winter months – check time before attending

Midweek Services

- Tues 10.00am Said Eucharist at All Saints
Tues 10.30am Said Eucharist at Holy Nativity (1st Tuesday of the month)
Wed 10.00am Cymun Bendigaid (Holy Eucharist in Welsh) at All Saints
Wed 10.00am Said Eucharist at St Augustine's
Thurs 10.30am Said Eucharist at St Dochdwy's (2nd Thursday of the month)

Our Churches:

All Saints Church, Victoria Square, Penarth CF64 3EL

- Holy Nativity Church, Plassey Street, Penarth CF64 1EH
- St Augustine's Church, Church Place South, Penarth CF64 1BA
- St Dochdwy's Church, Llandough Hill, Llandough, Penarth CF64 2NA
- St Peter's Church, Old Cogan, Penarth CF64 2NA

On 1 January 2025, Penarth Ministry Area became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the UK Charity Commission as charity number 1210418.

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We are a multi Award Winning Dance school and provide dance classes to children of all ages and abilities in a safe, happy, friendly, caring and disciplined environment.

A regular weekly schedule of after school and weekend classes take place in Penarth, Sully and Barry focusing on a range of different dance styles including Ballet, Tap, Lyrical, Musical Theatre, Drama and Creative dance giving children the opportunity to express themselves through artistic performance.

Specialised classes for pre-school and early years including a parent and child class from walking age to 3 yrs.

In 2022 the school joined the Royal Ballet School's Primary Steps on Demand online Ballet Training Programme giving all children the opportunity to experience a ballet class in a creative and fun environment.

We offer an all inclusive learning experience and take a holistic approach responsive to young children planning and implementing through creative stories and dance.



Exams, Medal Tests and Performances are held yearly and all students are given the opportunity to showcase their talent.

The school is affiliated with the United Teachers of Dance and a Recognised School with the Council Dance Drama Musical Theatre and the Board of Dance Qualifications and Training.

We are also a member of Early Years Wales and Licensed Teachers for Melody Bear and Melody Movement.

enquiries@antheakingschoolofdancing.co.uk

www.antheakingschoolofdancing.co.uk



EDITORIAL

It's beginning to feel a lot like autumn – and with the changing seasons, this month's issue of the Penarth Ministry Area magazine seems to have a recurrent theme of change.

Rev. Susannah reflects on historic changes in the nomenclature of months, and the importance of being open to change in our habits and in our lives. Paul Evans concludes his series on artistic interpretations of Jacob wrestling, a metaphor for his own transformational journey. Our individual churches have supported life-changing events, not least the marriages of both our Curate and our Reader on the same afternoon! We've said goodbye to Rev. Mark Jones as he moves on to pastures new, and this month's Cornel Cymreig (Welsh Corner) centres on the old folk tale of how a village was transformed by the coming of a stranger. And there's an opportunity to come together to pray for change in what seems like a hopeless situation in Gaza and the West Bank.

Still with change in mind, it's time for me (Mel) to step down as a member of the editorial team to better focus on my other Ministry Area responsibilities, so we are looking for at least one more person to join the team! You need to be IT literate, but all other training and support needed will be provided by other team members. Contact us for a more detailed discussion of what's involved.

Finally, we'd love to receive your feedback, so if you have any comments or suggestions for the PMA magazine, do send them to the editorial team at magazine@penarthministryarea.com.

PMAM Editors: Tom Blenkinsop, Katie Cooper, Mel Griffin and Jan Knight



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FROM THE MINISTRY AREA CLERGY TEAM

Dear friends,

An octopus has eight legs, an octagon has eight sides, and October is the eighth month. Well, no, it's not really – it's the tenth month, of course, now, but it used to be the eighth. Back in the day, the first month of the year was March, so the Romans started with four months named after fun things like the gods Maia and Juno, then they gave up and counted '5,6,7,8,9,10' before going back to fun names for January (the god Janus) and February (the festival Februa). Months 5 and 6 were eventually renamed after Julius Caesar and the Emperor Augustus, but no suitably cool people came along to rename months 7-10.



The awkwardness in the numbering only really came about when people started to see January as the New Year instead of March, but they didn't think it was worth fixing the 'number months' at that stage because people were pretty used to them. To be fair, the French did try to improve things after the Revolution when they introduced a new time system to go with their funky new metric measuring system, with 100 seconds in a minute, 100 minutes in an hour, 10 hours in a day, 10 days in a week, and 30 days in every month. In their system, all the months were named after seasonal features of nature. But it didn't stick, so we still have 6 months named after gods that no one worships, two months named after rulers of a long extinct empire, and 4 numbered months that don't fit their numbers.

Now, fun as the history of time is, I'm not sure that's what you really opened this magazine to read about, but whenever I pause to think about the name of this month, it always reminds me of how often the things that we think of as very objective – like time – turn out to be the products of human randomness and quick fixes that were never revisited. Of course, with something like the names of months, it isn't really worth renaming them all just to make it a bit

more sensible because it doesn't really bother anyone and it would take a lot of work that could be better spent on other things, but it serves as an example of what you can spot when you pause to notice things you take for granted and ask yourself 'why?'

To take a more extreme example, for much of human history, people really did believe that enslaving other people was not just okay but supported by the Bible. Lots of people put a lot of effort into defending it, but many people probably never even questioned it – it's how things had been for as long as they could remember so it must have been right. But 'that's what I'm used to' is not a moral argument – and 'it would be a faff to change it' is never a good enough excuse unless something really causes no harm either way (like the names of months).

I'm really conscious that there are many things that I benefit from today that would have been impossible not that long ago: I got a degree from Oxford (not



possible until 1920), have been ordained as a deacon (not possible in Wales until 1980) and have married a woman (not possible until 2014 in the state and still not possible in the Church in Wales – unless the rules have changed between me writing this and the magazine going to print). I'm therefore always grateful to the people who have come before me, spotted the absurdities and problems in our assumptions and challenged them – some of whom may well be reading this magazine now.

But I'm also really aware that there will be plenty of things that I am currently taking for granted as 'obviously just the way it is' that maybe I should be rethinking. I'm especially interested as a newbie to this Ministry Area, because there are plenty of things that are new to me, things that I'm sure I'll start to take for granted soon but maybe shouldn't – what things are actually necessary, or helpful, or good, and what things are just habits that we've got into for no good reason?

Now don't get me wrong; habits can be good, change just for change's sake can be a lot of energy for no benefit, and sometimes we can do great things on autopilot, but, if you'll allow me, I'd love to challenge you in this eighth/tenth month to ask yourself why you do the things you do – and question yourself a bit on some of the habits and opinions you take for granted. Or even better, ask the person next to you: 'Why do we think this?', 'Why do we do that?', 'Is this habit actually helpful for me and for the people around me?'

You may find that you end up changing some of the things you do or say – or you may not. But even when you don't end up changing anything at all, you'll hopefully get a deeper insight into the things you already do and what's good about them, so you can not only question the bad things more easily, but also appreciate the good things more deeply.

Grace and peace,
Susannah (on behalf of the clergy team)

PRAYER VIGIL FOR PALESTINE



Sunday 5th October
6 to 9 pm
All Saints Church

Join us for all or part of the vigil period
to pray for:

- an end to the suffering in Gaza
- the work of the aid agencies
- the release of all hostages
- a lasting peace in the Middle East

FEATURES

Recalling the Home Front

Debbie Court updates us on a recent celebration of the end of World War II

On Saturday 6th September, St Augustine's Church was the scene of a nostalgic and, at times, moving afternoon when we all stepped back in time to celebrate the ending of World War II.

Organised by the Churchyard maintenance team and the Friends of St Augustine's, we remembered the efforts of the ordinary people of Britain as they coped with the highs and lows, hardships and heartaches of living through a time of war.

Our Ministry Area congregations lent us all kinds of memorabilia, photos, costumes and historical recollections to produce a hugely interesting exhibition inside the church whilst outside, the sunny weather allowed us to view a reconstruction of a Victory Garden and enjoy a guided walk around the war graves in the churchyard.



Adding to the festive feel of the event, great fun was had clambering around in a WWII American jeep (provided by Alan and Andrea Harvey) and even chatting to Sir Winston Churchill himself (AKA actor Patrick Legge) while we were served homemade cakes and preserves by ladies in 1940s costume!

To finish the afternoon, we enjoyed a concert of wartime songs and memories performed by soprano Zoe Milton-Brown, Robert Court and members of the Churchyard maintenance team and congregation. Songs made famous by Vera

Lynn conveyed feelings of hope, sadness and longing through the difficult war years and showed us how they provided a link between those fighting far away and their loved ones here at home. Our wonderful cast read a series of memories from real people who lived and survived life on the home front - some were funny, some horrific and others moved us to tears.

All in all, it was a lovely event that, just like the 'spirit of the blitz', united people from all areas of our church life and the community.



Be united with other Christians. A wall with loose bricks is not good. The bricks must be cemented together. – Corrie ten Boom

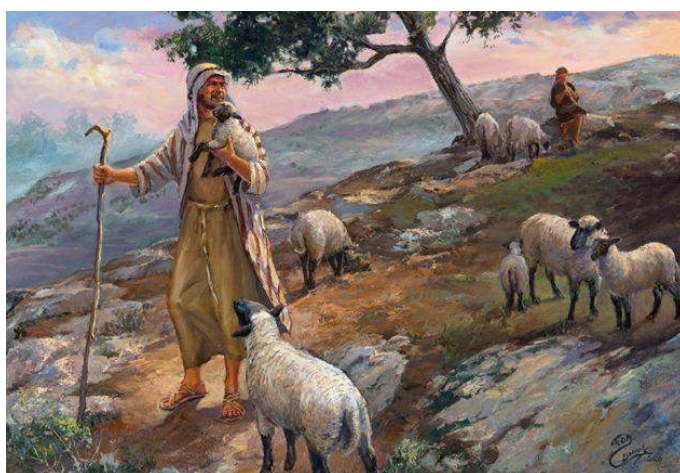
Pastoral Care

Rev. Susannah explains its importance and how you could get involved

You may have seen Elizabeth's notice in the pew sheet recently offering an opportunity to join the Pastoral Visiting Team in the Ministry Area – this article is essentially a longer version of that, hopefully explaining a bit about what pastoral care is, who might benefit from it, and to help you work out if God might be calling you to get involved in it.

The classic way to start an explanation of pastoral care is to remind people that 'pastoral' comes from the word for 'shepherd' but I confess that I have seen disappointingly few sheep while doing pastoral care so far, so maybe it's not the most helpful image...

Particularly because it implies that pastoral care is something that only the shepherd/vicar would do, but pastoral care also means all those times when people look after each other 'sheep-to-sheep' so to speak! Most of the time, most of pastoral



care is pretty much the same as you might do for friends without thinking – it's about listening, asking questions, and generally showing people that you care about them and what they're going through.

As a church, we do a lot of things and there are a lot of different aspects that make up the whole picture of who God is calling us to be as a community: pastoral care is just one of these, and it's something that anyone can do if they are a good listener and care about people. Pastoral visiting sits somewhere between friendship and counselling in terms of how formal the arrangement is and how trained people are. There are times in all our lives when we could benefit from a bit of extra friendship or community – whether that's because we're particularly lonely, or because there's a bit of extra stuff going on in our lives, or simply because we can't make it to church any more physically. Sometimes that includes joining in with the Sunday community by receiving communion at home, and sometimes it's more about the chatting and fellowship.

Here in the Penarth Ministry Area we're trying to develop our pastoral care provision, both so that we can help more people to feel less lonely or more heard, but also to help more people explore their skills and gifts in caring for others.

I know that I can only explain things so much in writing and it can feel a bit daunting to get involved in something without knowing what it involves – or you might not be sure if it's for you – so we're following in the footsteps of the hospitality industry and offering a 'trial shift'. This really just means that you



would tag along with someone who's been doing pastoral visits for a while to see what they do and get a feel for whether it might be a good fit for you. If you wanted to pursue this idea after that, there would be some admin to do

(DBS checks, references, safeguarding training) and then you would be paired up with someone else to go and visit a few people every month or so.

If you think you might be interested – please do get in touch with Elizabeth (treasureet@btinternet.com) or me (susannahgriffin@cinw.org.uk) to find out more.

But of course, becoming a Pastoral Visitor is only one element of how we care for and love each other as Christians – and many other elements, like talking to new people at a service (and I mean people who are new to you, not just people who are new to the church!), or praying for other people, or building up friendships with people we already know are just as important, and are things that we are all part of, regardless of our role or situation. We all have our part to play as sheep in God's flock.

Dear Lord,

So far today, I am doing all right. I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, or cursed. I have not charged on my credit card or eaten any chocolate. However, I am going to get out of bed in a few minutes, and I will need a lot more help after that.

Amen.

Jacob Wrestles: A Metaphor for Life and Faith

Paul Evans concludes his reflections on the Jacob and Esau story

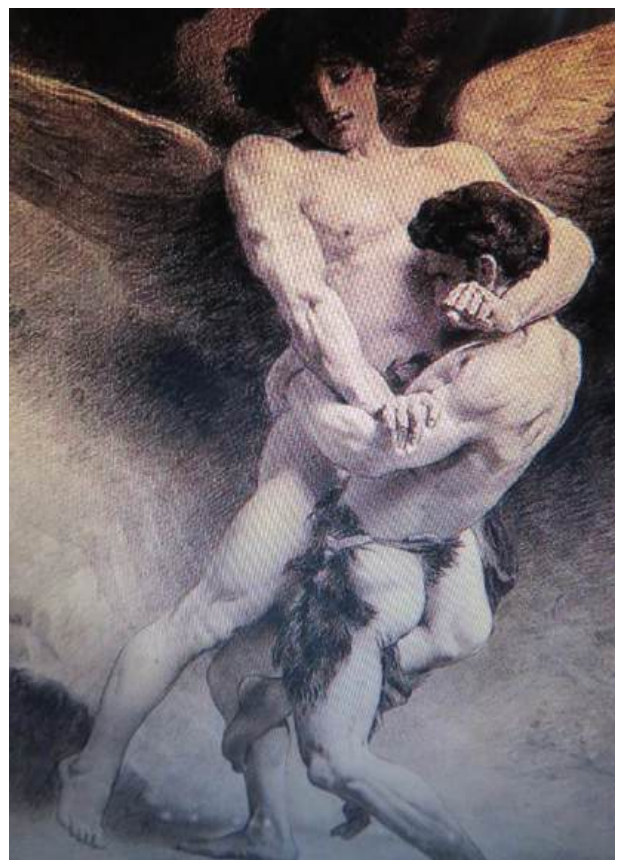


As I continue to study the strange episode in Genesis 32:22-31 where Jacob wrestles with an unidentified adversary the night before his long-feared reunion with his twin brother Esau, it becomes clear that the symbolism of *wrestling* resonates with many people who, in response to the story, reflect upon their own life and faith. Whether Jacob is wrestling with God, Esau's guardian angel, or with his own fears and conscience, this strange encounter has been the inspiration for many artworks.

Rembrandt's interpretation suggests something altogether more peaceful

than a wrestling match. The angel appears serene and compassionate, patient and maternal, and the image conveys no sense of strain or struggle. Jacob does not look into the angel's eyes. Guilt and shame have kept my head turned away from the gentle light of God's love, but in the colours and soft light of the image I find a forgiving, not a judging, God and the possibility of peaceful deliverance from my physical and spiritual struggles.

Bonnat's anatomically precise interpretation is quite different. The clinch is forceful and straining; yet there is a knowing benevolence in the face of the angel. There is a hint of homoeroticism in



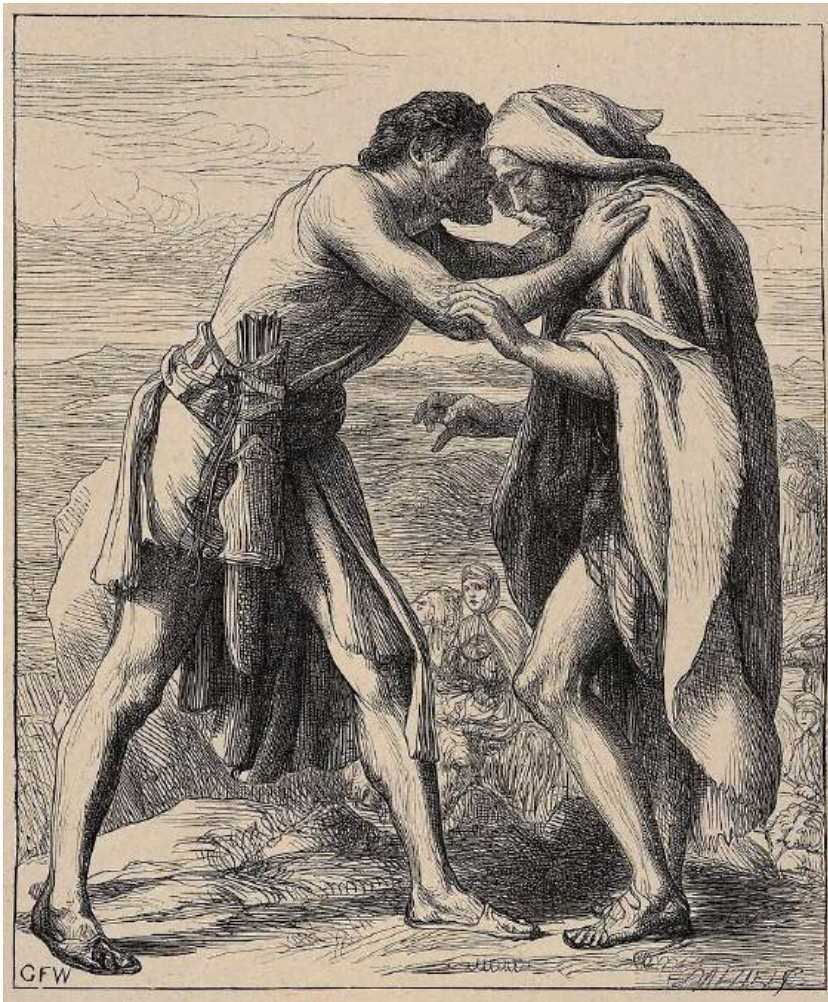
the contact of the barely clothed figures. For some, *Jacob Wrestling* has come to symbolise the personal and institutional challenges associated with same-sex relationships. The work suggests to me the raw physicality of addiction and the spiritual remedy available through faith: its vigorous muscularity offers a strikingly human interpretation of the episode and its protagonists.

Harari's abstract work captures the enigmatic nature of the episode in a manner that perhaps only modern art can; the form and content of the work convey the puzzling, disconnected nature of the text. As I continue to spend time with the image, the initial jolt of the sharp, angular figures is replaced by a softer impression of confused, child-like characters finding their way, reaching out to each other in what is proving to be an increasingly moving image of divine/human encounter.



Jacob refuses to let go of his opponent until he receives its blessing. He is rewarded with both a blessing and a change of his name from Jacob, meaning usurper, to *Israel*, meaning he who has striven with God and prevailed. But he is both blessed and injured in the exchange so that he limps away as morning breaks. Blessing is important to Jacob. He had stolen a blessing meant for his older brother, and he now makes his way to meet with him fearing that Esau still harbours thoughts of revenge.

But what happens when they meet, described in Genesis 33:3-11, defies all expectations. Jacob falls to the ground, bowing seven times to his brother, and Esau embraces him, kisses him and they weep. Jacob offers Esau extensive gifts of livestock and materials; taken with his bowing down to Esau we realise that this is Jacob returning the blessings for wealth and power he stole from him so many years before. Esau accepts the gifts reluctantly and invites Jacob to travel with him and spend time with him in his homeland. In what may be interpreted as a final act of trickery, Jacob accepts, telling Esau that he will follow him after



sorting out some matters with his family and company, only to leave and head off in a different direction without reverting to his brother.

The exquisite print from an original by George Frederick Watts shows the positive Esau embracing and kissing his brother. Jacob is hesitant, still anxious. His robes suggest he is still, somehow, in hiding. His right hand is grotesquely contorted, as though all his fears are held there. I see Christ in the figure of Jacob. I am reminded of his asking for the cup to be taken from him, as Jacob here is about to ask

Esau to take back and accept the stolen blessing, which has proved to be such a burden. But has Jacob changed? He leaves in secret having misled his brother into thinking he would follow on behind. Esau seems to have changed genuinely, welcoming his brother with open arms and a generous willingness to leave the past behind.

So, as with a lot of the story, there is much left unresolved. Art and scripture commune in their inherently enigmatic nature, in their capacity to both reveal and conceal. I hope in this series of articles I have managed to express something of how the narrative speaks to my own experiences in recovery and returning to faith. Old Testament stories are often strange, sometimes difficult, even horrifying. Renowned feminist theologian, Phyllis Trible, finds something in Jacob wrestling of her own, often adversarial relationship with the Bible, and with the Old Testament in particular. 'I will not let the book go unless it blesses me. I will struggle with it ... against either Bible-Thumpers or Bible-Bashers, I shall hold fast for blessing. Through this ancient story, appropriated anew, biblical studies, faith, and feminism converge for me. Wrestling with the words, toward the light I limp.'

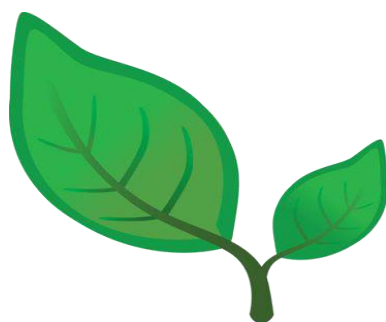
Peace with Creation

Geoff Perrett reflects as the Season of Creation reaches its conclusion

The Season of Creation celebration runs from September 1st to October 4th, a time of renewing our relationship with God and the environment through prayer, action and reflection. This year's theme has been 'Peace with Creation', inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18, picturing a peaceful creation where righteousness leads to peace and restores the land's fertility.

The fractured relationship between God and humanity causes devastated cities and wastelands and the negative impact on the earth of a destructive lifestyle. Today, more than ever, human activities on a global scale of unsustainable lifestyles, over-consumption, pollution and the throw-away culture devastate the creation that is our common home. Our hope is that creation will find peace when justice is restored, with the expectation for a peaceful earth. But this hope must be active, not passive, involving action, prayer, repentance and reconciliation. We are summoned to live in peace and worship and work for a just and sustainable community. Creation is God's sacred gift.

*'My people shall abide in a peaceful habitation...
the wilderness will become a fruitful field' (Isaiah 32:18)*



Creator of all, we praise you for the gift of life and for faith that unites us in our common home. We confess how strange we have become – from one another, from your creation and from our truest selves. We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses have fractured our relationships with You, with others and with the earth. Fertile fields have become barren, forests lie desolate, oceans and rivers are polluted. Thriving communities have become places of suffering, and the earth cries out. Forgive us, we pray.

Source material: SeasonofCreation.org, CTBI, A Rocha, GreenChristianCheltenham, Youtube

Y Cornel Cymreig

gan Dafydd Jones

Fe soniais fis diwetha am gerrig gan addo mwy amdanynt y mis hwn. Felly dyma i chi stori o'r enw *Cawl Cerrig*. Efallai eich bod wedi ei chlywed o'r blaen - un o'r chwedlau gwerin hynny a draddodwyd ar lafar gwlad mewn

nifer o wledydd Ewrop. Fersiwn newydd yw hon - a luniwyd yn wreiddiol ar gyfer gwasanaeth Cymraeg yr Eglwys ychydig wythnosau yn ôl.



Cerddodd y cardotyn ifanc yn araf deg i mewn i ganol y pentref. Dyn ifanc ond â golwg hen i'w wyneb. Yn un llaw fe ddaliai raff oedd yn sownd wrth dryc bach, bocs pren ag iddo ddwy olwyn beic. Yn y llaw arall gafaelai yn nhennyn y ci bach brown a gwyn a gerddai'n dawel wrth sawdl ei feistr. Roedd y ddau'n edrych wedi blino'n llwyr ac yn dioddef o ddiffyg bwyd.

Yng nghanol y pentref roedd yna gylch o laswellt a ffordd o'i gwmpas â phedair lôn yn arwain ohoni i bedwar cyfeiriad. Trwy ganol y gylch glaswellt llifai nant fach dros gerrigos llyfnion llwyd a brown. O amgylch y cylch roedd yna sawl mainc â phobl yn eistedd arnynt - pob un yn wynebu tuag allan â'u cefnau at ei gilydd. Roedd pobman yn dawel fel y bedd, yr unig swm oedd bwrlwm y nant dros y cerrig. Cerddodd y dyn ifanc a'r ci'n araf o gwmpas y cylch gan gyfarch y bobl a eisteddai ar y meinciau. Ychydig o ymateb gafodd e. Wedi amgylchynu'r cylch glaswellt yn gyfangwbl, eisteddodd y dyn ar lan y nant fach a gorweddodd y ci wrth ei ochr ar ôl yfed ei wala o ddŵr y nant.

Ymhen ychydig agorodd y gŵr ifanc gaead y tryc a thynnu stof fach nwy allan ynghyd â sosban gweddol ei maint. Cododd ar ei draed ac aeth at y nant a llenwi'r sosban â'r dŵr glân, clir a chroyw. Wedi cynneu'r stof fach a gosod y sosban arni aeth yn ôl at y nant. Edrychodd o gwmpas y cylch ar y bobl oedd yn eistedd ar y meinciau, rhai ohonynt bellach wedi troi i weld beth oedd yn digwydd. Tynnodd y bachgen nifer o gerrig o'r nant a'u gosod yn ofalus yn y sosban. Erbyn hyn roedd ymron pob un o drigolion y pentref yn gwylio'r cardotyn ifanc. Yna cododd hen ŵr o'i fainc a cherdded yn simsan braidd ar bwys ei ffon tuag ato.

“A beth fwyti di heno ‘te, machgen i?” gofynnodd yr hen ŵr.

“Cawl syr” atebodd y llanc.

Daeth gwraig yr hen ŵr atynt gan ofyn, “Pa gynhwysion fydd yn y cawl yma, dywed?”

“Cerrig, madam” atebodd y llanc.

“A beth arall?”

“Dyna’i gyd”, atebodd Tuds, “does gen i ddim byd arall.”

“Fydd dim llawer o flas ar y cawl ‘na”, sylwodd menyw arall oedd wedi dod draw atynt. “Mae gen i daten neu ddwy allwn i eu rhoi i ti.”

“Does dim llawer o flas ar gawl cerrig, “ addefodd y cardotyn, “ond wnaiff e ddim drwg i mi. Er hynny byddai ychwanegu taten neu ddwy yn llenwi’r stumog yn well. Diolch yn fawr i chi.”

Erbyn hyn roedd pob un o drigolion y pentref oedd wedi bod yn eistedd ar y meinciau yn hollol ddiwedwst â’u cefnau at ei gilydd yn dechrau sgwrsio.

“Beth am ychydig foron?” ebe Siani Tŷ Nant. “Mae digon o rai ffres gen i yn y ffrij. Af i i’w nôl.”

“Mae gen innau ffa’n tyfu yn yr ardd,” galwodd Aneurin dros y sietyn, “llawer mwy na fedrwn ei eu bwyta ar fy mhen fy hun. Arhoswch funud, fe ddof â nhw draw nawr.”

“Fe brynais i gig cyw iar yn yr archfarchnad bore ‘ma a bu rhaid prynu pecyn llawer mwy o faint nag oeddwn i eisiau. Beth am ychydig gig yn y cawl yma?” A brasgamodd y fam ifanc yn ôl i’w thŷ gan wthio’i baban yn y cerbyd o’i blaen.

Daeth rhagor o’r pentrefwyr â pherlysiau i roi mwy o flas eto i’r cawl - rhoddwyd ynddo rosmari, teim, a phersli, ynghyd ag ychydig o halen a phupur. Daeth y cogydd o’r dafarn â stof mwy o faint a chrochan enfawr ac fe arllwyswyd y cyfan i mewn iddo. Cyn hir roedd y dŵr yn ffrwtian yn braf yn y crochan a hwnnw, yn ogystal â’r cerrig, yn llawn o fwyd maethlon a digon i lenwi boliau pawb.

“Powlen a llwy i bawb,” meddai tegwen y Caffi Bach, yn cario coelaid o’r llestri a phoced ei ffedog yn orlawn o lwyau.

Wedi i bawb fwyta, bu canu, dawnsio, diddanu ac ymddiddan na welwyd ei fath erioed o’r blaen yn y pentref ac aeth y pentrefwyr tawel a droiodd o’u hamgylch wrth eistedd ar y meinciau yn gynharach i’w gwelyau y noson honno yn llawen flinedig ac yn gymdeithas glosach na chynt.

Fore trannoeth sylweddolodd y pentrefwyr nad oeddent wedi diolch i’r cardotyn ifanc y noson cynt oherwydd eu blinder. Ond erbyn iddynt gyrraedd y nant yng

nghanol y cylch glaswellt doedd neb yno. Yr unig arwydd o'i bresenoldeb yno o gwbl oedd siâp y stof yn y glaswellt a phentwr bach o gerrig yn ei ganol. Roedd y dieithryn a'i gi wedi symud yn eu blaenau, a'r cwbl fedrai pobl y pentref ei wneud oedd eistedd ar y glaswellt ar lan y nant i dybied tybed o ble y daeth, ac i ble yr ai nesa. Ac i ymddiddan:

"Roedd y cawl yna neithiwr yn flasus, on'd oedd e?"

"Blasus dros ben, gwlei."

"Falle gallwn ni wneud rhywbeth tebyg eto," meddai Siani Tŷ Nant.

"Ie'n wir, ac yn rheolaidd," meddai rhywun arall. A dyna nhw i gyd yn dechrau sgwrsio a chynllunio.

A'r siarad yn boddi bwrlwm y nant dros y cerrig.

The Welsh Corner

by Dafydd Jones

The content of the Welsh corner this month is an updated version of a well-known European folk tale which I adapted originally as a 'thought for the day' at one of the Wednesday morning Welsh services held at All Saints.



The story tells of a young pauper and his dog who turn up in a village where people just don't seem to have anything to do with each other and certainly don't welcome strangers. Through the centre of this silent village a stream playfully flows over the pebbles. When he starts to cook a stew made of nothing but water and stones from the stream, the villagers one by one are drawn towards the young man and the saucepan and start offering different ingredients to add to the stones. There is enough stew in the end to feed the whole village, and the inhabitants are brought closer together than they had ever been before. The following morning they try to find the young man and his dog, but they are nowhere to be found. However, there is now conversation, there is a sense of community, of sharing and friendship. The village green is filled with the sound of voices drowning the sound of the water flowing over the pebbles.

A Note on Music

Adrian Warner takes a light-hearted look at his own musical aptitude

During the allegretto 'Melodies for You' recital (17th Sept 2025, Penarth Methodist Church; Janet Pedwell playing the piano and Rebecca Warner playing the cello) it occurred to me that a few words on my musical life would be fun to write and possibly amusing to read.

When I was very minor my family laughed at my attempts to sing and pronounced me tone deaf. I could not stave off this rebuff and it penetrated my psyche, even though I tried to bar the thought and got very crotchety with stress. I fretted about it but was not highly strung. Further staccato rejection ensued when trying to join the choir in secondary school. "Leave music alone" was frequently said fortissimo to me, which made me quaver at the knees and feel double dotted. Well, seventy years later, chance had me buy a note detector, and after more years of trying in the bathroom a scale could be managed with a quavering voice, as I would not let the matter rest. It seems I was only a repeat as my dad had similar mocking as a boy; this should not be allowed since training can be successful. Mimickers should be made to soft pedal and change their tune, take their comments back and not be so meddlesome.

Among the phrases he used can be listed 'Methodism was born in Song'. Charles Wesley is one of my many heroes, partly because he composed thousands of hymns. For a special occasion I wrote one. It took a year to perfect even though it only involved using the tune 'Finlandia' (E flat major), with new lyrics, but it has been performed in two churches and didn't fall flat. I despair of ever understanding the difference between A flat and G sharp. As the tempo of my vivacious life becomes diminuendo, it strikes a chord that perhaps I *am* naturally tone deaf and should not try to perform a solo swan song.



A man shows his character by what he laughs at. – Anon



Saturday 1st November



2-4pm

All Saints Main Hall

Our Autumn Fair is coming up very soon. Can you donate something or offer to help?

DONATIONS NEEDED

RAFFLE PRIZES	Chocolates, tin of biscuits, vouchers, Christmas pud, fizz, tin of sweets, gift set etc
BOTTLE TOMBOLA	Bottles of all types– alcohol, soft drinks, wine, beer, fizzy or still etc
CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA	Bars of chocolate large or small, boxes of chocs, multipacks of bars etc
CHRISTMAS THINGS	Paper, cards, labels, decorations, Christmas ornaments (new or unused)
GIFT BAGS	Any size to use for prizes
TOILETRIES ETC	Soap, shower gel, bubble bath, perfume, body spray, hand cream, face cream, shaving gel etc. (Unused/new)
PLANTS	Indoor or outdoor plants or bulbs in pots Plants to give as gifts. Bird feeders.
ALL THINGS NICE	Jewellery, scarves, small gifts, decorative items, small ornaments etc. Should be good condition.
CAKES – bring on the Saturday morning	Homemade cakes – cupcakes, loaf cakes, sponges, tray bakes, cookies. For eating on the day or taking home.

DONATIONS - Bring to the Office at All Saints (or the Office at the Parish Hall on a Wednesday). There will also be a box at the back of St Augustine's. If you have a lot of items to collect, please call me at the office.

OFFERS OF HELP - If you can volunteer to help, please contact me, Robert Court, or Janet Akers. There will be some lists as well in churches. Many thanks.

Rachel Elder 029 22805663 rachel@penarthministryarea.com

To Joe from Torty

You asked in the last issue of the magazine what was happening in Torty Towers. The answer is not a lot. No scaffolding or anything exciting like that. The highlight of my week over the summer has been playing hide and seek with the family. I'm pretty good at that.



Now though, as tortoises world-wide start winding down with the prospect of months of lovely, uninterrupted sleep ahead, I tend to get a bit sentimental. Truth be said, I envy you your centenarian status, or rather the certificate you have proving your century not out - I offer my hearty congratulations. I don't actually know how old I am. I was purchased in 1962 by my 'become twin', who happened to be twelve at the time, from Peter Poppins the parsimonious proprietor of P.Q. Lear Pets in Colwyn Bay. As far as I know my human brother did not receive a certificate - not even a receipt. So I assumed the age of my twin. But I could be as old as you, I'll never know.

As the sleepy, or rather sleepier, season approaches I am fully aware that I tend to get rather doleful and try to put a cheery smile on my face, but that does get increasingly difficult with the passing of the weeks, the shortening of the days, the rain and the wind and the cold. I tell myself to cheer up and think ahead with a positive frame of mind to the sunshine and warmth of a new spring - assuming I make it through the winter. Sorry, there I go again with the old melancholy!

Let me wish you, Joe and all the lovely readers of the Penarth Ministry Area Magazine all the best for the coming months - from me, my human brother - oh, and Adam. Good night.

I not only use all the brains I have, but all I can borrow. – Woodrow Wilson

AROUND THE CHURCHES

All Saints

(from John Taylor, on behalf of the Subwarden Team)

September started in memorable style (on 30th August to be exact) when our curate Susannah got married to Lucy and our reader Hugh got married to Kenny at All Saints. Both couples had invited members of the congregation to join them for their special day and many of us did so. It was a very special afternoon with Susannah and Lucy's service at 1pm and Hugh and Kenny's at 4pm. Both services were absolutely delightful, and we all wish them every happiness.



All the regular activities at All Saints have restarted after the summer break. There is so much happening with, happily, so many of the congregation involved. At the service on 7th September Jimmy highlighted this by asking people involved in any of the many activities specifically involving young people to stand up. There was a large number! Now we look forward to the season of Harvest and our ministry area harvest service and lunch on 28th September. More about that next month.



St Peter's
(from Matthew Salisbury)

The church bell summoning the faithful had barely stopped ringing, when just before Reverend Jimmy could pronounce “O Lord open Thou our lips”, the tranquility of St Peter’s was shattered as the National Emergency Alarm sounded on all the humbly assembled mobile phones. Order was restored with a hymn and there were no further interruptions, the service being well supported by our vicar Jimmy, reader Hugh, Craig and Neil.

The second hymn, number 232 ‘God that madest earth and heaven’ sung to the tune of ‘All through the Night’, reminded the sub warden that Form S 232 was used in the Royal Navy to report collisions and groundings of its ships. The sub warden remembered that HMS St DAVID, the minesweeper attached to HMS CAMBRIA, had gained a certain notoriety during a visit to Guernsey. On 26th June 1969 the ship was secured to a jetty when a fork lift truck loaded with tomatoes left the jetty and landed on the forecastle. The subsequent S232 reporting that one of Her Majesty's Ships was in collision with a fork lift truck must have raised some eyebrows in the Admiralty.

The service was rounded off nicely in celebration of Lisa Bailey's birthday, celebrated in some style with Trevor's Chateau Cogan Hall Farm sparkling white elderflower wine, which was delicious.



HMS St DAVID, the minesweeper attached to the South Wales Division Royal Naval Reserve, then based in East Dock Cardiff, was a familiar sight off Penarth Head in the late 50s, 60s and early 70s on passage to and from Cardiff.

Holy Nativity *(from Huw Williams)*

We are grateful to everyone who helped provide cover at Holy Nativity in August to enable Kath Williams, our sub-warden, to take a holiday.

Grateful thanks also to members of the congregation, people from other PMA churches and neighbours who turned out for a working party on the afternoon of Friday 22nd August, to weed the borders inside the fence and around the church prior to the meadow area receiving its annual cut. We hope to undertake further planting shortly and a bulb planting working party is being organised.



St Augustine's (from Tom Blenkinsop)

Major events at St Augustine's recently were Father Mark's last service on 31st August and the farewell that followed, which were apposite celebrations of his time at with us in the Ministry Area. We wish him all the best for his next post.



The celebration of the end of World War II: Recalling the Home Front on Saturday 6th September was very well attended and featured in the Penarth Times. There were displays of memorabilia and Penarth history, and a concert about life on the home front, described in more detail in Debbie Court's article.



PHOTOGALLERY

Recalling the Home Front at St Augustine's, plus contributions from Dave Mathew, Huw Williams and Adrian Warner.



If you would like to contribute to Photogallery, please send your photos to John Caldwell (email niddy123@hotmail.co.uk or WhatsApp to 07885 588771).



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Peace Torch, Cardiff Bay



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Author events

- **Thurs 2nd Oct:** **Oyinkan Braithwaite** joins us at the Glamorganshire golf club to chat about her new novel, *'Cursed Daughters'*.
- **Wed 15th Oct:** An evening of poetry and music with Penarthian
- **Tues 21st Oct:** We welcome historical novelist **Philippa Gregory** to Stanwell School to talk about her new book, *'The Boleyn Traitor'*.
- **Thurs 23rd Oct:** Meet Formula 1 reporter **Ted Kravitz**, who will be discussing his new memoir *'F1 Insider'* with us at the Paget Rooms.

For more information visit www.griffinbooks.co.uk

REPORTS AND NOTICES

Prayers for Gaza

Rev. Jimmy, Rev. Susannah, our reader Hugh and a number of parishioners attended a peaceful demonstration and prayer meeting outside the Senedd on Wednesday 24th September.



Organised by Christian Aid, the overall message was 'Red Line for Gaza', to make the point that many aspects of the situation in Gaza mark, or should mark, a red line for the rest of the world. As the Christian Aid website says, "Red Line for Gaza is a movement bringing together voices from across the UK to demand an end to the killing and suffering in Gaza. As we watch horror unfold, the Israeli government and military's actions cross red line after red line."

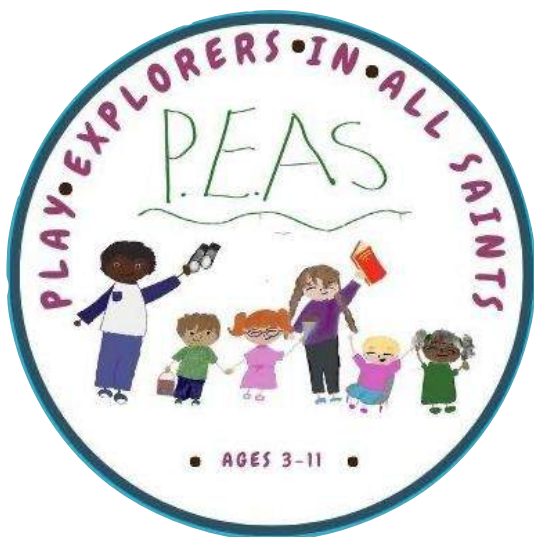
Public prayers were led by various church leaders, including the Archbishop of Wales, Most Revd. Cherry Vann, with time for silent prayer and reflection. It was good to see Diocesan staff, members of Cytun churches and Members of Senedd participating on the day.

There will soon be a further opportunity to come together as a Ministry Area and pray for an end to the suffering in Gaza and for a lasting peace in the Middle East. On **Sunday 5th October from 6 to 9pm** there will be a Vigil of Prayer in All Saints – come and join us for as long as you can spare, whether all or part of the vigil period. And do spread the word – it's open to everyone.

Christian Aid are also urging church communities to join the Red Line for Gaza movement by making a red line at their church building. For example, we could encourage people to dress in red and link arms around the church building, or hold a piece of red fabric across the doorway. These ideas will be considered as we plan the Prayer Vigil – if you'd like to be involved or show your support, please do get in touch.

Mel Griffin, Ministry Area Lay Chair

P.E.A.S. (Play Explorers in All Saints)



Our first Sunday back after a wonderful summer came alive with creativity as we launched into our brand-new theme: *Sparkling Superheroes!* Together we celebrated the idea of God's light shining in the darkness, and how each of us can be a hero in His name. We may not have made it back into church that day, but our hearts were very much in the right place. The session reminded us all that while it's fun to imagine capes and

powers, the greatest superhero of all is Jesus – the one who brings light, hope, and love into our world.

Our second session continued on the same theme looking at how God gives his people strength and courage. We watched a video and listened to the amazing story of Moses and the Red Sea. On this Sunday we did make it back into church and the children were excited to share with the congregation what they had been learning: that God's power and love are greater than any challenge and that he makes a way for His people just as he did for Moses and the Israelites.



The children really enjoy being creative with their artwork and love retelling the stories in their own way. We celebrate the individuality in every child and encourage them to share their own unique skills and talents.

Anthea King

Penarth and District Cytûn (Churches Together)

An ecumenical service is being held at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church on Wednesday 1st October at 7 pm. The theme of the service will be 'Peace with Creation'. It comes towards the end of the Season of Creation which extends from 1st September to 4th October (The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi - patron saint of ecology). The Season of Creation is "a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversation, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home."

Members of all churches and denominations (and none) are welcome to this service. Tea and biscuits will be served in the hall afterwards.

Dafydd Jones



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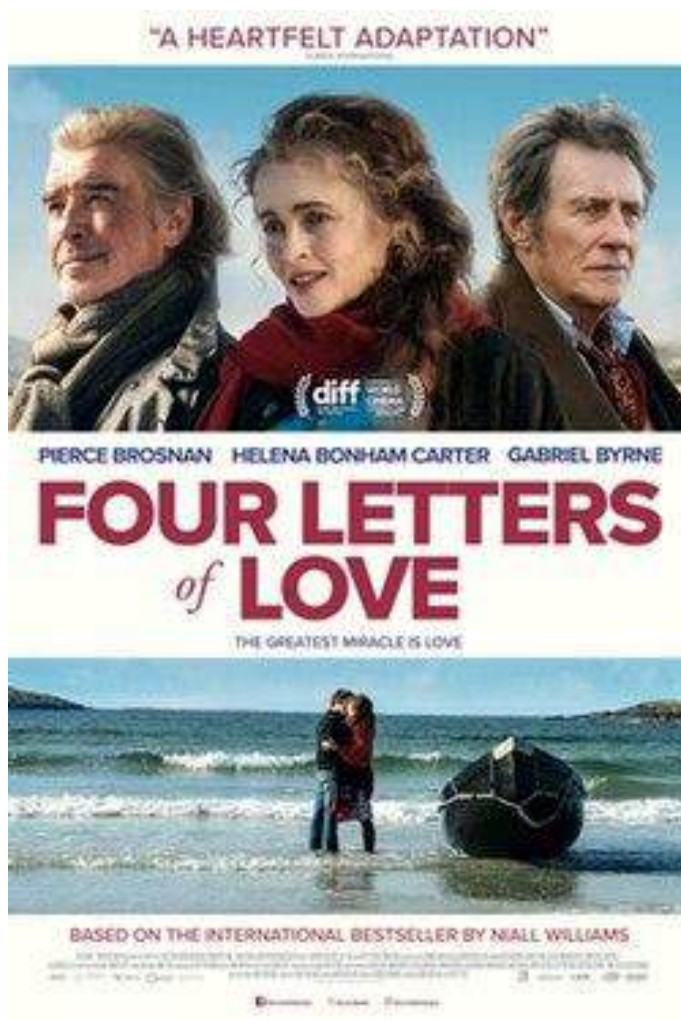
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or call us on **029 2025 6611**

Penarth Ministry Area Events

As usual we have a lively mixture of events in the diary this month.

On October 1st and 15th at 7.30pm the **Alpha Course** takes place on All Saints Gallery.

The **All Saints Community Cinema** has showings of 'Four Letters of Love' on October 1st and 2nd. The film has a superb cast including Helena Bonham-Carter, Pierce Brosnan and Gabriel Byrne and is based on Niall Williams' best-selling novel. Nicholas and Isabel were made for each other but how will they ever know it? As ghosts, fate and the sheer power of true love pull them together, so too does life threaten to tear them apart. Bring tissues.



In complete contrast, on October 21st and 22nd Liam Neeson and Pamela Anderson star in 'The Naked Gun'. Only one man has the particular set of skills to lead Police Squad and save the world. Expect plenty of gags and corny jokes!

On October 12th there is another of the popular Ministry Area **Cream Teas** from 3-5pm on All Saints Gallery, with live music from Three Gins and a Tonic.

On October 14th and 28th **Needles, Knit & Natter** meets on the Gallery at All Saints.

On October 23rd the Friends of St Augustine's are holding their **Quiz Night**. It starts at 7.30pm in St Augustine's Parish Hall. For further information see the weekly bulletins or visit the Friends' website www.friendsofstaugustines.org

The regular Monday **Music at Lunchtime** concerts continue on October 20th at 1pm. This time it is the turn of our very own Nigel Lloyd-Latham who will sing for us accompanied by John Cheer.

On October 25th **Cantemus Chamber Choir** have a concert at St Augustine's from 7-9.30pm entitled 'Songs of Farewell'. Join Cantemus for an evening of contemplative, serene choral classics as we approach the season of All Souls and Remembrance. The programme will include Parry's exquisite 'Songs of Farewell', Harris' 'Faire is the Heaven', Howells' 'Take Him Earth for Cherishing' and many other choral favourites. Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cantemus-chamber-choir

Finally, advance notice of our **Autumn** Fair on Saturday 1st November in All Saints Main Hall.

Robert Court: rgccourt14@gmail.com

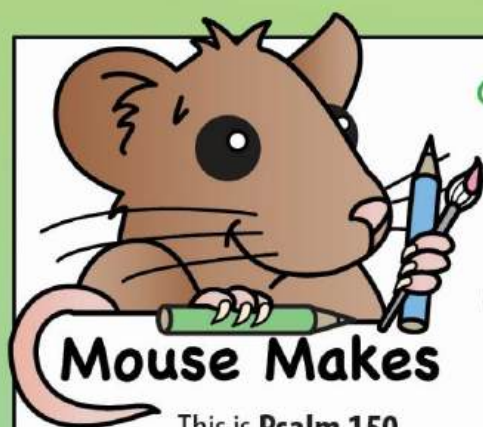
Friends of St Augustine's

In conjunction with the anniversary celebrations, the Friends organised a meeting on 4th September on the subject 'How World War 2 Affected Penarth'. Over 50 people came together to hear a fascinating talk presented by Marcus Payne. There were many interesting slides, including one splendid picture of the Penarth Home guard group which was reminiscent of Dad's Army. The anniversary celebration on the Saturday at the church was also well attended and well received with many organisers in period costume.



The Friends will continue their new season of activities with the usual Bat Walk on Saturday 27th September. The annual autumn quiz will take place on Thursday 23rd October, and on 13th November there will be a talk on the 700-year link between Penarth with its church and Bristol and its abbey and cathedral. These two events will start at 7.30 in the Parish Hall on Albert Road.

Chris Riley



Mouse Makes

This is Psalm 150,
a song of praise to God,
it tells us why and how
to worship God.

*How do you praise and
worship God?*

Praise God in His Temple,
Praise Him in His mighty heavens.
Praise Him for His acts of power,
Praise Him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise Him
with the sounding trumpet,

Praise Him
with the harp and lyre,

Praise Him
with tambourine and dancing,

Praise Him
with the clash of cymbals,

Praise Him
with the resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath
PRAISE THE LORD!

P	K	G	C	Y	M	B	A	L	S	A
O	L	R	H	E	A	V	E	N	S	B
W	T	E	M	P	L	E	T	U	A	R
E	T	A	M	B	O	U	R	I	N	E
R	H	T	L	U	T	E	U	A	C	A
D	A	N	C	I	N	G	M	P	T	T
R	R	E	P	I	P	E	P	R	U	H
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M	D	S	G	O	D	E	T	I	R	O
S	T	S	T	R	I	N	G	S	Y	R
O	Y	L	E	D	L	Y	R	E	Y	N

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CREAM TEA

Sunday 12th October

3 to 5 pm

The Gallery, All Saints Church

Do join us for a delicious cream tea
with live music from Three Gins and a Tonic



Tickets: £8 to include a scone with jam and cream, slice of home-made cake and unlimited tea or coffee.

Advance booking recommended: tickets available from
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FROM THE REGISTERS



BAPTISMS

14/09/25 Jesse Jane Millership at ALL SAINTS

We welcome her into the family of the Church!

FUNERALS

04/09/2025 Karen REECE (nee Thomas) at All Saints

11/09/2025 Graham Alfred LEONARD at St Dochdwy's

15/09/2025 Jessie LOCKE at All Saints

We send our sincere condolences to their families and friends.



PRAYER REQUESTS



We aim to be a prayerful Ministry Area. Please remember the following needs in your prayers this month:

- When problems of the world feel too big for us to change, help us to have faith that even our small actions can make a difference.
- For Penarth's Christian Aid lunches to be well supported and raise money, helping communities become more resilient & respond to the climate crisis.
- For faith communities to work together to heal division within communities. For people entrenched in conflict to listen to the voices of their neighbours.
- For people living in war zones, particularly Israel, Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon, Ukraine and Sudan. That those working for a ceasefire succeed and that aid agencies can support people affected by conflict.
- For asylum seekers to be reunited with their families and find safety without resorting to dangerous journeys. That hope will replace fear.
- For the Holy Spirit to stir and inspire us and that more people will offer their time, talents and money to help grow God's Kingdom in Penarth.
- For more people to volunteer to visit the housebound.
- For a suitable person to apply to be our youth worker and for a volunteer to lead the 'Tots' group.
- For all who have been baptised recently and those attending the Alpha course, that we may support them as they grow in their faith.
- Noting 'World Mental Health Day' on 10th October, for more support for those who are anxious that they may feel God's peace.
- For those worn down by illness or exhausted by caring for others that they are supported by their community. That more people become paid carers.
- For us to be aware of the needs of others in our community and to reach out to people who are lonely, anxious or in need, with your help.

If you have any additional prayer requests, please let me know.

Jenny Stonhold ☎ 029 2053 0580 or email: stonhold@msn.com

CALENDAR OF MINISTRY AREA EVENTS

<u>Regularly held events during the month</u>	
Sundays: 9.30am St Augustine's Choir Practice 2-4pm Open Church at St Augustine's (15 th June and then the second Sunday of the month)	Mondays: 10am Faith Group at 14 Llandaff Close 7.30pm-9.30pm Faith Group at 33 Wain Close: 6 th 20 th October
Tuesdays: 10am All Saints Holy Eucharist 10am Who Cares in AS Lesser Hall 1.30-4pm Needles, Knitters & Natters on Gallery in All Saints (fortnightly) 2-4.30pm St Augustine's Churchyard Group	Wednesdays: 10am All Saints Cymun Bendigaid (Welsh Eucharist) 10am St Augustine's Midweek Eucharist 12 noon Lunchtime Faith Group on Gallery in All Saints (not during August) 2-4pm Open Church at St Augustine's 2.00pm All Saints Work Party in Lesser Hall 6.30-8.30pm Bellringing practice at St Augustine's 7.30pm Faith Group at 26 Victoria Road 7.30pm Alpha Course on All Saints Church Gallery.
Thursdays: 10am-12noon Warm Welcome on Gallery in All Saints 10.30am St Dochdwy's Midweek Eucharist (2 nd Thursday of the month) 7.30pm All Saints Choir Practice	Fridays: 10.30am Faith Group (Please contact Tricia on: 07808 120763) in All Saints Lesser Hall. 7.15pm All Saints Music Group Practice
Saturdays: 9-10.30 Toast at All Saints (1 st Saturday of the month) 10-11.30am St Augustine's Church Cleaning group (first Saturday of the month)	

Events during October 2025

1 st	Wednesday	7pm	Cytûn Peace with Creation Service at St Joseph's
1 st	Wednesday	7.30pm	Cinema in All Saints Church Lesser Hall
2 nd	Thursday	7.30pm	Cinema in All Saints Church Lesser Hall
4 th	Saturday	9am	Toast at All Saints Church
5 th	Sunday	6-9pm	Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East at All Saints Church
9 th	Thursday	10am	Bookworms at All Saints Church Lesser Hall
10 th	Friday	9.30am	Evenlode Harvest Celebration at All Saints Church
10 th	Friday	10.30am	Funeral of Valerie DeClaire at Holy Nativity
10 th	Friday	11.30am	Thanksgiving service for Penelope Palmer
11 th	Saturday	1pm	Baptism at St Dochdwy's Church
12 th	Sunday	3pm	Cream Tea on the Gallery at All Saints Church
14 th	Tuesday	1.30pm	Needles, Knitting & Natters in All Saints Church
18 th	Saturday	2pm	Service of Blessing and Thanksgiving in All Saints Church
20 th	Monday	1pm	Music at Lunchtime at All Saints Church
21 st	Tuesday	7.30pm	Cinema in All Saints Church Lesser Hall
22 nd	Wednesday	9.30am	Albert Primary Harvest in St Augustine's Church
22 nd	Wednesday	7.30pm	Cinema in All Saints Church Lesser Hall
23 rd	Thursday	7/7.30pm	FoSA Quiz Night in St A Parish Hall
23 rd	Thursday	7.30pm	Cinema in All Saints Church Lesser Hall
25 th	Saturday	2pm 7pm	Rehearsal for Concert at St Augustine's Church Cantemus Concert at St Augustine's Church
28 th	Tuesday	1.30pm	Needles, Knitting & Natters in All Saints Church
1 st Nov	Saturday	2-4pm	Autumn Fair in AS Main Hall

HOME COMMUNIONS

Holy Communion at home is available for those who are unable to attend church. Please contact the Clergy or Ministry Area Office on 029 2280 5663 to arrange.



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PENARTH MINISTRY AREA DIRECTORY

Children & Young People

The POD Youth Group (Sunday mornings)	youth@allsaintспенarth.org.uk	
Basecamp Penarth Youth Group (Friday evenings)	Rhodri Jones penarthyouth@gmail.com	
P.E.A.S. (Play Explorers at All Saints)	Anthea King	☎ 07885 063893
St Augustine's Sunday School	Joy Head	via MA Office
Diocesan Engagement Worker	Steve Lock	☎ 07535 581939
St Augustine's Tots Group	Vacancy	
Toast (first Saturday 9-10 am)	Judith Jones	via MA Office
Open the Book	Tricia Ingram tricia.ingram4@ntlworld.com	

Organisations

Pastoral Visiting Team	Elizabeth Treasure treasureet@btinternet.com	☎ 07768 325329
Home Communion (Regulars)	Cynthia Conway	☎ 029 2070 8065
Prayer Ministry Team	Jenny Stonhold	☎ 029 2053 0580
Mothers' Union	Gaynor Ayres	via MA Office
All Saints Flower Guild	Lynda England	☎ 029 2070 0232
All Saints Lady Chapel Flowers	Pam Walton	☎ 029 2070 3558
St Augustine's Flowers	Susie Ryall	via MA Office
Friends of St Augustine's	Chris Riley cdgriley@yahoo.co.uk Margaret Knight margaretteuluknight@hotmail.com	
Tuesday Churchyard Group	Debbie Court DJCourt@hotmail.com	

Penarth Ministry Area Magazine

Magazine Editorial Team	Tom Blenkinsop, Katie Cooper, Mel Griffin, Jan Knight magazine@penarthministryarea.com	Magazine deadline: 15 th of previous month
Magazine Subscriptions/ Delivery	John Caldwell niddy123@hotmail.co.uk	☎ 07885 588771

Website: www.penarthministryarea.com

 @penarthministryarea

PENARTH MINISTRY AREA DIRECTORY

Clergy Team

Ministry Area Leader	Vacancy	
Vicar	Rev. Jimmy Young jimmyyoung@cinw.org.uk	☎ 07860 777582
Curate	Rev. Susannah Griffin	☎ 07840 457965
Licensed Reader	Hugh Bryant hugh@hughdbryant.co.uk	☎ 07799 881222

Ministry Area Contacts

Ministry Area Office (All Saints Church)	Open: Mon-Fri 9am to 12 noon admin@penarthministryarea.com	☎ 029 2280 5663
Ministry Area Office (St Augustine's Parish Hall)	Open: Wed 10am – 2pm admin@penarthministryarea.com	☎ 029 2280 5663
Administrators	Alicia King-Evans alicia@penarthministryarea.com Rachel Elder rachel@penarthministryarea.com	Mon-Fri 9am – 12 noon Tue, Wed, Fri 10am – 2pm
Lay Chair	Mel Griffin mel_tuke_griffin@hotmail.com	☎ 07775 817052
Ministry Area Wardens	Elizabeth Treasure treasureet@btinternet.com Neil Pugh neipu@aol.com	☎ 07768 325329 ☎ 07814 883644
Safeguarding Officer	Mary Taster tastermary3@gmail.com Kehinde (Kenny) Okesanjo	☎ 07597 978276 ☎ 07475 758468
Treasurer	Christian Salisbury	☎ 07525 696869
Gift Aid Secretary	Jenny Arnold arnoldjba@icloud.com	☎ 07803 084534
Cytûn Representative	Dafydd Jones	☎ 029 2030 2668

Church Contacts

Sub Wardens for All Saints	Adrian, Corinne, Jean, John, Linda, Megan and Patsy (the Magnificent 7!)	via MA Office
Sub Warden for Holy Nativity	Kath Williams huwandkath@hotmail.co.uk	☎ 029 2070 8554/ 07521 390922
Sub Warden for St Augustine's	Tom Blenkinsop blenkinsopt@cardiff.ac.uk	☎ 07477 425305
Sub Warden for St Dochdwy's	Jan Cullen jan.cullen@ntlworld.com	☎ 029 2070 4926
Sub Warden for St Peter's	Matthew Salisbury matthew@cavamh.org.uk	☎ 029 2030 8351
Organist for All Saints	John Cheer	☎ 07742 129454
Organist for St Augustine's	Robert Court	☎ 029 2061 9436
All Saints Music Group Leader	Nigel Lloyd-Latham	☎ 07774 586944