

CHURCH NEWS

Mis Gorffenaf 2018 - July 2018

50p

All Saints, Deganwy • St Cystennin's, Mochdre • St David's, Penrhyn Bay St Doged's, Llanddoged • St Ffraid's, Glan Conwy • St Grwst's, Llanrwst St Hilary's, Llanrhos • St Katherine's, Bryn Pydew • St Martin's, Eglwysbach St Michael's, Llandudno Junction • St Paul's, Craig-y-Don

www.aberconwy.church

Ordinary time!

The Revd Noel Carter writes:

The seasons of the Church's year celebrate specific aspects of Christ's life. We are very familiar with Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. But what about the rest of the year when our altars are decorated with green frontals? The remaining 33 or 34 weeks (depending on the year) make up what the church calls "Ordinary Time". During Ordinary Time the Church celebrates the fullness of the mystery of Christ, but it is also a reminder that we spend most of our lives in Ordinary Time.

Ordinary, everyday life can be challenging. It is often filled with worries; family issues; work deadlines and personal fears. No wonder we sometimes lose our joy and our strength. One of the biggest blessings in everyday, ordinary life is God's presence. Faith is not an abstract theological construction but an on-going



Another thing that is green in Ordinary Time is the grass! Pictured left are Paul Groom and Leo Jones cutting St David's church lawns in early June.

If anyone is interested in doing any gardening or joining grass cutting rotas at any of our churches, speak to the Churchwardens. (There is a gardening session at St Hilary's at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 4th July.)

conversation with God. Faith and life are meant to be intertwined. God is with us as we peel potatoes, go to work or chat with our neighbours. If we pray as we go through the day, God is in the small details of our lives. Psalm 15 verses 1-5 give us a glimpse of what faith in ordinary life could look like. Some traditional Bible translations seem to rob these verses of their impact, but "The Message" version of the Bible brings it right up to date.

Walk straight, act right, tell the truth.

Don't hurt your friend,
don't blame your neighbour;
despise the despicable.

Keep your word even when it costs you,
make an honest living, never take a bribe.

You'll never get blacklisted if you live like this."

Without God's presence in our lives there is no way we could come even close to living life like that. But when we let the Holy Spirit in, we invite God into our ordinary lives and we start seeing divine evidence of God's presence. Nothing big, nothing major, but we bump into God all the time. Brother Lawrence, a 17th Century Carmelite monk wrote a profound little book (The Practice of the Presence of God) that is an inspiration for living ordinary lives:

"He does not ask much of us, merely a thought of Him from time to time, a little act of adoration, sometimes to ask for His grace, sometimes to offer Him your sufferings, at other times to thank Him for the graces, past and present, He has bestowed on you, in the midst of your troubles to take solace in Him as often as you can. Lift up your heart to Him during your meals and in company; the least little remembrance will always be the most pleasing to Him. One need not cry out very loudly; He is nearer to us than we think."

REGULAR SERVICES IN OUR CHURCHES - ALL WELCOME

1st Sunday of the month

Holy Eucharist St David's and St Hilary's 8 am

Holy Eucharist St Michael's and St Martin's; Morning Worship St Cystennin's; 9.30 am

9.45 am Choral Eucharist St Paul's

Holy Eucharist All Saints, and St David's; Family Service St Hilary's; Morning Worship St Katherine's 11 am

11.15 am Holy Eucharist St Ffraid's 4 pm Holy Eucharist St Grwst's 6.30 pm Evening Prayer St Hilary's

Services at St Ffraid's and St Martin's will vary until further notice, though will be at the usual times. Please check locally to see whether it is Eucharist.

2nd Sunday of the month

Holy Eucharist All Saints and St David's 8 am

9.30 am Holy Eucharist St Cystennin's, St Michael's and St Martin's; Boreol Weddi St Grwst's

9.45 am Choral Eucharist St Paul's

Holy Eucharist All Saints, St David's, St Hilary's and St Katherine's 11 am

Holv Eucharist St Ffraid's 11.15 am

4 pm Holy Eucharist St Grwst's; Family Service St Paul's - not in July (see calendar)

6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

3rd Sunday of the month

Holy Eucharist All Saints and St David's 8 am

9.30 am Holy Eucharist St Michael's and St Martin's; Morning Worship St Cystennin's

9.45 am Choral Eucharist St Paul's

Holy Eucharist All Saints and St Hilary's; Morning Worship St Katherine's; Family Service St David's 11 am

11.15 am Holy Eucharist St Ffraid's 4 pm Holy Eucharist St Grwst's Cymun Bendigaid St Hilary's 6.30 pm

4th Sunday of the month

8 am Holy Eucharist All Saints and St David's

Holy Eucharist St Cystennin's and St Martin's; All-age worship St Michael's; Boreol Weddi St Grwst's 9.30 am

9.45 am Choral Eucharist St Paul's

Holy Eucharist St David's, St Hilary's and St Katherine's; All-age worship All Saints 11 am

Holy Eucharist St Ffraid's 11.15 am 4 pm Holy Eucharist St Grwst's 6.30 pm Evening Prayer St Hilary's

5th Sunday of the month

Holy Eucharist All Saints and St David's Holy Eucharist St Michael's and St Martin's 9.30 am

9.45 am Choral Eucharist St Paul's

Holy Eucharist All Saints; Morning Prayer St Hilary's 11 am

11.15 am Holy Eucharist St Ffraid's 4 pm Holy Eucharist St Grwst's 6.30 pm Holy Eucharist St Hilary's

St Cystennin's and St Katherine's hold a joint service at 10.30 am

5th Sunday mornings alternating between the two churches, and the 11 am service on a 5th Sunday may vary at St

David's.

HOLY EUCHARIST is also celebrated on Wednesdays at 10 am at All Saints, Thursdays at 10.30 am at St Paul's, and Fridays at 10 am at St David's

Prayer Group - 10 am every Tuesday at St David's (01492 876451 for details)

Koinonia Groups (Bible study, prayer & discussion): Morning - 2nd and 4th Weds, 10.30 am (01492 876451 for details)

Evening - 1st and 3rd Thurs, 8 pm (01492 583420 for details)

St Katherine's Bible Study - 7.45 pm every Monday (01492 540542 for details)

Julian Group - 8.00 pm every Monday at St Michael's (except Bank Holidays)

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) Lunches - every 1st Wednesday at 12.15 pm in St Katherine's, Bryn Pydew Join us for coffee - 10 am Thursday at St Paul's and St Ffraid's, 10.30 am Friday at St David's

CLERGY: (For other contact details and online Rev Noel Carter (Mission Area Leader) 01492 339521

Rev Dr Godfrey Chigumira 01492 543706 addresses - please see inside back cover)

Rev Sarah Hildreth-Osborn

Rev Peter Walker 01492 583579

OFFICE: Penrhyn Beach East, Llandudno, LL30 3NT - 01492 541615 - office@aberconwy.church

Open 10-12.30 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Mis Gorffenaf 2018 - CALENDAR - July 2018

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		Services	Other events
SUNDAY	1	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H	
Monday	2		Dementia Café 10.30-12.30 pm AS
Tuesday	3		Bible Briefs 7.30 pm Llanrhos Schoolroom
Wednesday	4	HE 10 am AS	Gardening evening 6.30 pm St H Music for a Summer Evening 7 pm St C
Thursday	5	HE 10.30 am St P	Afternoon Tea 2-3.30 pm St D
Friday	6	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	7	Holy Matrimony 12 noon St H	Summer Brass 7.30 pm St P MAGAZINE COPY DATE
SEA SUNDAY	8	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H; Sea Sunday Choral Evensong 4 pm St P	
Monday	9		St P Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Tuesday	10		Cytun meeting 10.30 am St John's Methodist Cuppa, crafts and chat 2.30 pm Llanrhos S/room
Wednesday	11	HE 10 am AS	
Thursday	12	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	13	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	14	Holy Matrimony 3 pm St H	Summer Fete 12-2 pm St D
SUNDAY	15	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism during 11 am Family Service at St D	
Monday	16		
Tuesday	17	Open Table Service 7 pm St G	Strawberry Tea 2.30 pm Llanrhos Schoolroom
Wednesday	18	HE 10 am AS	
Thursday	19	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	20	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	21		Men's Prayer Breakfast 9 am St P
SUNDAY	22	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H	
Monday	23		St P Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Tuesday	24		Cuppa, crafts and chat 2.30 pm Llanrhos S/room
Wednesday	25	HE 10 am AS	
Thursday	26	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	27	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	28		Summer Fair at St Paul's
SUNDAY	29	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also Joint Service for St C and St K at 10.30 am at St C; Morning Worship 11 am St D; Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H	
Monday	30		
Tuesday	31		

KEY: HE - Holy Eucharist; AS – All Saints; St C – St Cystennin's; St D - St David's; St Do - St Doged's; St Ff - St Ffraid's; St G - St Grwst's; St H - St Hilary's; St K – St Katherine's; St M – St Michael's; St Ma - St Martin's; St P – St Paul's

Praying for Growth



We continue to pray for the growth of the church in the Aberconwy Mission Area.

Please pray for our clergy and leaders, and particularly for the Revd Juliet Fraser as she prepares to join our clergy team in July.

Also please pray for Joseph Taylor, Amelie Faughnan, Cole Hughes, and Cillian Conn Tierney to be welcomed into the church by baptism during June; and for Wayne Hughes and Jenna Williams and Lee Carroll and Amanda Roberts who are to be married in our churches during June.



Saturday 21st July at 9.00 am at St Paul's Church, Craig Y Don

The Mission Area Men's Prayer Breakfast is a time for men to get together for prayer, fellowship and a bacon Sandwich! This is the first meeting of the prayer breakfast and we hope that this will become a regular monthly event in the life of the Mission Area.

The Revd Juliet Fraser We welcome Juliet to the Mission Area this month. Juliet will be licensed by Bishop Gregory in the chapel at Esgobty on Tuesday 10th July and her first Sunday with us will be on the 15th July. During July and August Juliet will be welcomed at services in all our Mission Area churches. (See her article in the June magazine)

The Theology for Life Course (formerly Exploring Faith)

A reminder about the TFL course (more details were in last month's magazine).

Would you like to study theology? Are you interested in exploring your vocation, training for a ministry or just want to find out more about how the insights of academic theology and lived-out faith might inform each other?

The course is open to all and there is no minimum academic qualification and no age limit. Students begin the course as disciples, deepening their understanding, and may go on to reflect on their vocation and the roles they play in the church. Others simply find that the course has enabled them to better understand their faith and the witness they have in daily life.

There will be groups you can join spread across the Diocese (or why not set up your own group together in your church or Mission Area?). http://www.stpadarns.ac.uk/?page_id=49 or contact Rev Dr Richard Hainsworth, richard.hainsworth@stpadarns.ac.uk or 01352 840842 for more information.



Quiet Day at Pennant Melangell

The Julian Group will soon be going on their annual pilgrimage to Pennant Melangell (pictured above) for a Quiet Day. Transport permitting, all are welcome to join us.

Saturday July 14th 10.30-4.00 pm £10 per head

Tea and Coffee provided - Bring a packed lunch

All the day's activities will be optional and will include a Julian Meeting (half an hour of silent prayer), meditation on Scripture and a Eucharist with laying on of hands and anointing for healing. If you would like to come please contact Linda Mary Edwards on 01492 585063 or e mail: lindamaryedwards@yahoo.co.uk

The Deganwy Dementia Café

This continues at All Saints Church Deganwy from 10.30 - 12.30 pm on the first Monday of each month. It is **open to all** and especially those who are living with Dementia, their carers, loved ones and friends. Entry and refreshments are free of charge to all.

There is support available for those who would like any further information regarding Dementia

Helping to Create a Dementia Friendly Deganwy - For more details contact Cllr Julie Fallon on 01492 592478/07860 232641 or cllr.julie.fallon@conwy.gov.uk



Conwy Food Bank

conwyfoodbank@gmail.com

Dear Supporters,

Everyone at Conwy Food Bank would like to express our thanks to you all for continuing to show support for the work in providing food for those living in crisis. Last month there was a sharp increase in the number of parcels issued: 74 in total, 30 to families including 55 children; 42 to single people; and 2 couples.

Most referrals continue to be made as a consequence of the Benefits issue, and financial hardship.

Your generosity and kindness is much appreciated - Thank you.

From All at Conwy Food Bank

Urgent food needs: biscuits/treats, tinned fruit, sugar, 'Smash' potato, packet pasta in sauce, packet savoury rice in sauce, cold meat.



Jeanette Bennett-Williams writes:

Thank you for your generous giving during Christian Aid Week in May, which will help many displaced people, through partners in Haiti and other affected regions. It also helps people in emergencies ones we hear of and ones we don't.

Special thanks to our collectors who visited many houses during the Week; to representatives in our Churches who organise the collection and counting of monies; to everyone who gave to our Church appeals and the Bake and Buy at St. Hilary's; and to Mandy, our Church office secretary, for her support too.

Overall collections are similar to last year. We would always like to hear from you if any alternative events would be possible and supported. The totals are:

St. Paul's	£251.33
St. David's	£1094.52
St. Hilary's	£643.04
All Saints	£188.90
St. Katherine'	s £394.10
St. Ffraid's	£10.00
St. Michael's	£116.00

Our next big event will be the *Summer Fayre at St. John's Methodist Church Hall* on *Thursday, August 16th.* Help needed please, and items for the stalls, e.g. cakes, jams, bric a brac and books. Do pop in over the day and enjoy a chat and delicious home made refreshments.

Thank you for your support for Christian Aid



Pictured left:
Holywell Brass.
The Summer
Brass concerts at
St Paul's
continue to grow
in popularity,
raising money
for good causes
and also bringing
new people into
the church. The
next one is on
1st July, then 5th
August (7.30 pm)

Dementia-friendly screenings at Theatr Colwyn

"Cabaret" with Lisa Minelli Thursday 12th July 2 pm (2 hours 23 minutes)

For people with dementia or memory loss accompanied by family, friends or carers (and also open to the general public)

More information from 01492 577888 or email theatrcolwyn@conwy.gov.uk

Summer Praise

St John's Methodist Church, Llandudno



Sunday 8th July 6.30 pm with Circuit Praise Band and Rev Bev (but don't forget Sea Sunday Choral Evensong at St Paul's at 4 pm!)

Sunday 12th August 6.30 pm with Beulah Brass Band and Rev Bev

Sunday 16th September 6.30 pm Harvest with Rev Bev and Wrexham Salvation Army Band & Songsters

St Ffraid's Church House Glan Conwy



Every Thursday 10-11.30 am

All welcome

Modern Slavery? The Safe Car Wash Campaign

You may have seen something about this in the press as the Archbishop of Canterbury backed a newly launched campaign.

Slavery is not something consigned to history, it is perpetrated in our communities in plain sight. Enticed with promises of work, housing and opportunities, thousand of workers in hand car washes are believed to be victims of modern slavery.

Many hand car washes are safe and legitimate businesses, but some are not. Police raids in towns and cities up and down the UK have unearthed victims living in horrendous conditions.



An App is being developed that helps to identify any potentially unsafe hand car washes. It can be downloaded for free onto a smartphone and used when visiting any hand car wash. It takes you through a short survey about the working conditions of the hand car wash and asks you to report a car

wash that scores highly for signs of modern slavery to the specialist help line which provides a 24 hour confidential advice and support.

Go to www.theclewerinitiative.org/safecarwash for download details.

We have a chance to make a real difference. By opening our eyes to what could be happening in front of us we can lead to more victims being found and our communities becoming safer places for everyone. We cannot be indifferent to the suffering around us, and as the church we cannot turn away from our neighbour who may be in need.

Around the Mission Area

Remember that all are welcome. It is important that we get to know each other and these events are good opportunities to meet old friends, make new ones, and strengthen links across the family of the Mission Area.

Festival of Flowers



St Grwst's Church, Llanrwst

Friday 29th June to Sunday 1st July

10 am - 4 pm

Floral Displays and Musical Presentation Refreshments available daily

Free Admission

Donations will be gratefully received towards the Reordering project.

Family Eucharist 4 pm Sunday 1st July

All welcome



Bíble Bríefs

First Class Post! The Letter to the Ephesians

Tuesday 3rd July, 7.30 pm Llanrhos School Room.

This month we will build on June's introduction to the letter to the Ephesians. What does the letter have to say about being the church?

Bring your Bible

Future Mission Area Events

Look out for further details of these chances to become more involved in some aspects of our church life.

Worship Leader Training - for those who will assist with worship. Please talk to your vicar to see if this is right for you.

Leading Intercessions Workshop - Saturday September 15th

START Course - an introductory course for new Christians, but also of interest to anyone who want to know more about the Christian faith.

Advent Quiet Day - a chance to step aside before the hustle and bustle of Christmas -Tuesday 27th November, Loretto Centre,

Book Keeper needed -

Flexible hours - paid position - hourly rate to be discussed - approximately 8 hours per month.

To input accounts onto Data Developments accounting package for all the churches in the Mission Area - must have a financial background - training provided as necessary.



Pictured above: Some of the happy diners who gathered at Llanrhos schoolroom to celebrate the Royal Wedding.

THE MOTHERS' UNION



All Saints Deganwy Branch

Members and friends enjoyed an afternoon tea at 'Home from Home'. It was a very happy close to our programme. We wish all members and friends a very happy holiday, and please remember all our members in your prayers.

Once again ideas for our next programme are welcome. The corporate communion will be 4th July at 10 am

St Ffraid's Glan Conwy Branch

At our May meeting, after a short service, we shared articles that are 'Precious' to us. Margaret Walker brought a compact bearing the RAF emblem, given to her by her husband Bob when he was serving in the RAF, whilst Tricia Knight shared her album of wedding anniversary cards from her late husband. Liz Ward showed us a 1929 Christmas card from Stanley Baldwin to her Grandmother, explaining the link to her family dating back to the "troubles" in Ireland. Gwyneth Broad-meadow brought a story written by her young daughter on what would be an exciting holiday, which she did in fact experience some years later. Memories of people and events are very precious to us and we spent some time reminiscing about our childhoods and the changes that have happened in our lifetime, before tucking into afternoon tea prepared by Marjorie and Tricia with lots of chatter and laughter, and even the washing up didn't seem a chore after such an enjoyable afternoon. After a meal at The Manor in June. we are now on the summer break.



St David's, Penrhyn Bay

Summer Fete

Saturday 14th July

12-2 pm

BBQ (weather permitting) - Books - Cakes Strawberries & cream - Games (inside and out) Fresh vegetables - and more

Come and meet Slimmers World, Cathy Computers, Townswomen's' Guild, Linzi Grace School of Dance

Open Air Service

Sunday 19th August

4 pm

With the Beulah Brass Band, followed by B-B-Q
All are welcome

The Community Afternoon Tea this month is on Thursday 5th July. Join us for tea and chat, £3 per person – pay on the door. 2-3.30 pm. More details from Ann Beardmore tel: 07872 933926



Pictured above: The June Community Afternoon Tea at St David's Church Hall.

Pictured left: The £100 cheque which was donated from the May Tea to the special baby unit at Ysbyty Gwynedd.



St David's Ladies Fellowship were joined in May by Billy Baxter (pictured above), Llandudno's Town Crier.

Billy. a former Staff Sergeant who served in the Royal Horse Artillery for almost 21 years, including in Germany and Northern Ireland, lost his sight whilst serving in Bosnia in 1997. At that difficult time in his life he was inspired by an elderly lady who was knitting (he could hear the clicking of needles) and she told him she had been blind since she was 21 and it had never stopped her doing the things she enjoyed. In 2009 He graduated in a National Diploma in Performing Arts!

He moved to Llandudno with his family to Blind Veterans UK and was introduced to the job of Town Crier. Criers have been used over the centuries (even the Bible refers to them) and Billy was the first blind Crier in Wales. The uniform he has to wear sounds very daunting it dates from the Regency period and was the height of fashion.

Billy walks around Llandudno on special occasions, such as the Extravaganza, making sure that the visitors do not feed the seagulls. (Years ago Criers were authorised to shoot any trouble-makers with a bow and arrow!)

Our thanks to Billy for making the job he does so well and obviously enjoys very interesting.

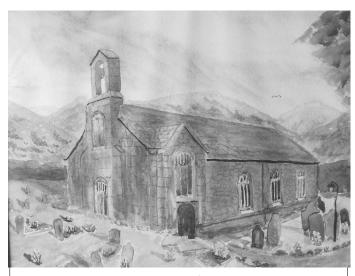
St Cystennin's Mochdre

Many thanks to all who supported the plant sale, especially Betty for her wonderful cakes, jams and chutneys, Michael for his high quality plants and all individuals who helped on the day and donated plants including Colwyn Bay Horticultural Society and Batty's Nursery, Penrhyn Bay. Around £800 was raised for church funds which was fabulous!

Sunday July 8th is Sea Sunday and in our service we will be praying for those who work and volunteer at sea and for the work of the Mission to Seafarers charity and other organisations such as RNLI

Do you play piano or organ? We need extra people to be on the rota to play hymns...anyone with piano to around grade 4/5 level would be able to help - there is opportunity for practice and support if needed.

Also a second Churchwarden is needed. Margaret is presently Acting churchwarden and doing extra duties whilst Peter Jones has not been well. Please keep Peter in your prayers. We also need a secretary to take minutes of church meetings and they could also take over the newsletter if they wanted to. Please see or phone Margaret on 01492 533120 to discuss.



Pictured above: St Cystennin's were very pleased to be presented with a beautiful framed watercolour painting of our lovely church, painted by Mr Gerry Mancktelow from Kent, brother in law of David (David and Pauline). Come and see it on display at church next to the medieval stained glass panels.



Mr Paul Board took this lovely photo of a Great Spotted Woodpecker in St Cystennin's churchyard one morning whilst walking his dog. Please continue to donate bird food — we continue to feed as the birds are feeding their chicks

Music for a Summer Evening



Cantamus Chamber Choir
Conductor: Mr Norman Rimmer BEM



in the peaceful setting of St. Cystennin's Church



Wednesday July 4th 7 p.m.

Admission: Please give generously to this fundraising event for St. Cystennin's Church

St Paul's

Craig-y-Don

Chris Dearden and Philip Evans write:

What do a bride-to-be, two CCTV cameras and seven votive candles have in common? The answer is that they've all had a part to play at St Paul's on Saturday mornings. Since the middle of May, we've been doing a bit of an experiment and opening the church to the public from 10 am to 12 noon on Saturdays (except the second Saturday of the month). We put the kettle on, and see who wanders in......

The first week, no-one did. It was the royal wedding that day, and perhaps people had other things on their minds. But things did pick up. By the third week, we had ten people through the doors while the church was open, some just to briefly look around, others to light a candle.

And there was a woman who was due to get married in Llandudno register office that afternoon, and who came inside with her wedding party to say a few prayers and remember her father who'd died a few years previously and wouldn't be there for her big day.

As part of the arrangements for opening the church, we've also installed CCTV cameras at the back of the building. Hopefully we won't have to look at the footage too often, but having them will give some extra reassurance. The experiment of opening the church is due to continue until the autumn - it will be interesting to see who else comes through the doors.

But before then, the summer months are already looking busy, starting with Sea Sunday on 8th July when we'll be holding a service of Choral Evensong at 4 pm to raise money for Llandudno lifeboat. This is a local cause that we're continuing to support in 2018 after the RNLI moved to a new boathouse not far from St Paul's last year.



Pictured above: Not a way you can travel to St Paul's any more! Llandudno and Colwyn Bay tram number 20 passes the church on 3rd September 1955. The disappearance of the trams isn't the only thing to have changed in the last 63 years. The church hall has since sprung up alongside St Paul's, and flats have replaced the open space of the putting green on the left.

The summer series of Brass Band Concerts also continues through July and August — they're on the first Saturday of each month at 7.30 pm, and feature some impressive music and also complimentary refreshments all in aid of a good cause. Money from the concerts is being split between the Choral Scholars' fund at St Paul's and Holywell Band's own training programme.

And in between all that, we have a building to maintain. Warm weather keeps the worries over heating and leaky roofs at bay for a few weeks, but there's still plenty to do. As we write, we're currently getting to grips with the new online system to apply for faculties which we will need for an extensive repair of the west window. More detail in the months to come......

We have recently heard from Norman and Mary Zigomo from Zimbabwe, who were part of the church family in Craig-y-Don for some years:

"Greetings to all our friends in Wales especially those at St Paul's and St David's (Craig-y-Don). Mary and I still have fond memories of our unforgettable stay in Llandudno.

We are preparing for winter here, as the nights are getting chilly as well as cloudy skies are the order of the day representing the pre-election mood that is covering the whole country. It is unbelievable that we have as many as 112 parties that have registered for the plebiscite which is unprecedented in this country's history. The only ones worthy of note are ZANU PF represented by Ed Mnangagwa and MDC-T represented by Nelson Chamisa who took over from Morgan Tsvangirai. Chamisa is currently in UK meeting with Zimbabweans and wellwishers. Since Ed ousted Mugabe, he has been trying to transform ZANU PF into a more democratic outfit by liberal use of the economy and he also wants to ioin Commonwealth. There now seems to be no difference between ZANU and MDC policies creating a lot of confusion among voters. The date of the election has still not been announced. However, there is now a change from the autocratic nature of Mugabe's government to a more liberal and free country.

At the Church, we had our AGM last month. I was elected church councillor for a two year period with responsibility for Human Resources. We had our first Council meeting last Friday and will be having a strategic meeting to work out our plans for the year.

As our country goes into elections in the next three months, we sincerely ask for your prayers that the Lord blesses us so that the recovery we are now witnessing continues to gain momentum for the betterment of all Zimbabwe citizens.

Again, greetings to all our friends at St Paul's and at St David's. Mary and I, with the whole family wish you all the best.

Norman and Mary "

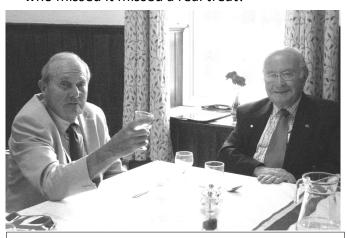
St Hilary's, Llanrhos



Pictured left: Not in the job description! The responsibilities of the Mission Area Leader apparently include battling with stubborn corks at the Royal Wedding lunch at Llanrhos.

On Sunday 20th May a Lunch was held in the Schoolroom at Llanrhos to celebrate the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle (now the Duke and Duchess of Sussex).

The room was beautifully decorated with Union Jacks everywhere, and the meal was outstanding. Main course with a glass of wine was followed by trifle, coffee and tea and cake, and at a cost of only £5. Thanks go to all who organised, prepared and served the meal. It was a most enjoyable time of fellowship, those who missed it missed a real treat!



Pictured above: David Jones and Leighton Davies raise a toast to the Royal couple.



Cuppa Craft and Chat sessions in the Llanrhos Schoolroom continue at 2.30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, continue. Anyone is welcome,

whether you have craft work to bring or not.

Two more **Gardening sessions** are planned for 6.30 pm Wednesday 4th July and Monday 6th August.





St Hilary's Strawberry Tea

Tuesday July 17th
2.30 pm at Llanrhos Schoolroom

Please join us for strawberry scones a Quiz and a Raffle

£3

All welcome - come on your own or bring a friend



Thoughts and comments

Addressing climate change need not cost the earth

A church minister once said that he always made sure he went to meetings of the church Finance Committee, "as that is where the most important spiritual decisions get made." What we choose to do with our money — and other precious resources such as time and energy — is a good indicator of our real priorities. As Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

Veterans of Finance Committees will know that when it comes to financial matters, there is often a tension between doing the right thing, and the thing that will cost least. This is true whether you are a government, a business, a church or an individual. Quick fixes are rarely the best solution for the long term. Choices that reflect kingdom values, that are good for people and for the planet, are usually more expensive choices.

We expect it to cost more to buy Fairtrade products or provide high-quality public services, or to source ethically or to a high environmental standard. Some people are in the fortunate position of being able to afford to make these choices, while others can't or don't give this priority. It therefore comes as a welcome surprise when you discover an issue where making the right choice is not necessarily the more expensive option.

New research has concluded that the costs of cutting carbon emissions to stay within the UN's climate targets are likely to be far less than the economic damage caused by allowing temperatures to rise. The study, in the scientific journal Nature, has calculated that 90% of the world's population, and especially those living in poorer countries, are likely to be better off by the end of the century if temperature rises can be limited to 1.5 degrees over pre-industrial levels.

This is a phenomenon that has parallels at a local level, too. When a church begins a journey of exploring its environmental responsibilities, one of the first areas to look at is energy suppliers. Many expect that switching to renewable suppliers will be a costly option. However, churches are often surprised to discover that this is not always the case – especially if they have not reviewed their supplier for some time, so have ended up on an expensive standard tariff. In a pilot scheme, churches saved an average of 19% on fuel bills switching to fully renewable sources of energy.

Of course, when it comes to climate change, many would argue that there is no option but to make the most sustainable choices. Marks & Spencer famously call their environmental approach Plan A – "because there is no Plan B". One opportunity to take this message to politicians is during the Climate Coalition's Speak Up Week of Action (30 June-8th July). People are being encouraged to talk to their MPs about climate change, and to ask them to show

support for the UK to increase the ambition of its climate targets in line with the Paris climate agreement. (For further details visit www.speakupweek.org.uk)

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus concludes his teaching about money and possessions with words of wisdom for Finance Committees and decision-makers everywhere: "Set your mind on God's kingdom and his justice before everything else, and all the rest will come to you as well." (Matthew 6:33).

(Extracts from a post published May 2018 by the Joint Public Issues Team - the Baptist Union, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church, working together for peace and justice.)

URBAN DICTIONARY "AMA"

We know it as an acronym for **Aberconwy Mission Area.** The AMA Mission Area Leader
will probably not be pleased to learn that it is
also an acronym for **Ask Me Anything**.

Ama is a female West African name that means born on Saturday. These women are usually kind, smart and strong.

Another acronym meaning is **Against Medical Advice** (Example - Doctor: Well, it would be AMA to tell you to go jump off a bridge, but I am sorely tempted right **now.**)

Ama is also an old Scottish term for Grand-mother or caretaker

Where were you?

A family is a curious beast. Sometimes everything is sweetness and light, sometimes members may disagree profoundly. Families get together for different reasons, some sad, some happy, some just routine. Some attend out of a sense of duty, or respect, but sometimes because the family can put on a jolly good party and it is good to see members that we don't meet very often.

The church family is no different. We choose to be members, but with that choice comes a degree of commitment. If we take on a role, whether it be making coffee, being on a committee or taking up a named office, then we have a duty to fulfil that role whether we always feel like it or not.

It has been disheartening lately to see some church meetings and church events not well attended or supported. You may not feel like dragging out to yet another meeting, but the issues to be discussed affect us all in the churches, and you are there as our representative. You may think it is just a social event and it won't matter if you don't go, but actually these social gatherings are really important in helping us to get to know one another better, to understand each other, to strengthen the bonds that help us grow together in the knowledge and love of God.

So next time you see something advertised in the magazine, or an agenda pops through your letterbox, think about it. We don't want to have to say again

Where were you?

A REQUEST FROM THE EDITORS:

Please will those responsible check that information about regular services (page 2) and contacts (inside back cover) is kept up to date.

We welcome news and comment from all the churches in the Mission Area, with photos if possible. Please send items in by **copy date (7th of the month)** to jastone@dunelm.org.uk or the parish office. (Contributions may be edited to fit available space, and late items may be omitted.)

Editor Rev Noel Carter
Production Editor Dilys Stone
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A declaration of faith

When I tell you I'm a Christian
I am not telling you I'm perfect
I'm not implying that I'm better than you.
I'm saying, pure and simple, that I'm broken. Angry. Failing.
Confused. Frail. Lost. Controlling. Guarded. Chained. Anxious.
Sad. Stumbling. Insecure. Dirty. Unsure. Desolate. Ashamed.
Unworthy. Defeated. Undeserving. A sinner.

When I tell you I'm a Christian
I'm saying that I've been shown
A better way.
A way to be which makes life worth living
And people worth loving.
A way which makes you feel more alive
Than anything else.
That makes you whole in a way
You didn't think possible.
That heals scars you thought you'd carry for ever.
That shows you that you are worth more
than you could even begin to imagine.
That brings a peace that this world
can neither give
nor take away.

Extract from a longer poem by Nell Goddard, published in her book "musings of a clergy child - growing into a faith of my own", published by the Bible Reading Fellowship 2017