

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

Little Things

The Revd Noel Carter writes:

We are just, hopefully, coming out of winter gloom. The days are slowly lengthening, by two and a half minutes each day. This is a slow change, but over time we get to long balmy sunny days. In the church it is sometimes tempting to think we are stuck in a permanent long dark winter, but things are changing. The change is slow, but like the lengthening of days it is leading to enlightenment.

If we look around our churches it is possible to see young shoots of growth. One that has struck me recently is that in some of our churches people are coming earlier and staying later. Coffee time is taking as long as the church service itself. I wonder why this is?

I think that it's because we genuinely want to spend time together. It's an opportunity to share our news, but also an effective way of supporting each other in the daily challenges of life. Over time we get to know each other better. At the same time, visitors and newcomers can be noticed, greeted and included. It is an important skill to be able to greet the new visitor, while enjoying fellowship with our church friends.

Someone commented to me the other day that they didn't really know each other before they started staying behind for coffee. "We used to come to church, enjoy the service and pass the time of day with people we didn't really know

and go home. Now we know people so much better and feel more involved with what's going on."

St David encourages us to do the little things. They make so much difference. A smile, a cup of coffee, a friendly chat. These are just some of the things that can enliven our congregations. They are the start of building relationships that will last.



Pictured above:

A special time of fellowship at the Christmas Lunch at St David's Church Penrhyn Bay.

The congregation also meet together for coffee every Sunday morning after the church service, and the church is open for coffee on Friday mornings from 10.30 am.

"Gwnewch y pethau bychain - Do the little things"

REGULAR SERVICES IN OUR CHURCHES - ALL WELCOME

1st Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** St David's and St Hilary's
 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
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints, St David's and St Katherine's; **Family Service** St Hilary's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

2nd Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 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
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints, St David's, St Hilary's and St Katherine's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's; **Family Service** St Paul's
 6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

3rd Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 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
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St Hilary's; **Morning Worship** St Katherine's; **Family Service** St David's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Cymun Bendigaid** St Hilary's

4th Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Cystennin's and St Martin's; **All-age worship** St Michael's; **Boreol Weddi** St Grwst's
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** St David's, St Hilary's and St Katherine's; **All-age worship** All Saints
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

5th Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Michael's and St Martin's
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints; **Morning Prayer** St Hilary's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Hilary's

On the 5th Sunday St Cystennin's and St Katherine's hold a joint service at 10.30 am alternating between the two churches, and the 11 am service on a 5th Sunday may vary at **St David's**—see **calendar opposite**

HOLY EUCHARIST also on **Wednesdays 10 am** - All Saints, **Thursdays 10.30 am** - St Paul's, **Fridays 10 am** - St David's

Join us for coffee - 10 am Thursday - St Paul's and St Ffraid's; 10.30 am Friday - St David's

Storytime Café - for pre-school children and their carers, 10.30 am every Wednesday - St Paul's

Prayer Group - 10 am every Tuesday - 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 - St Michael's (except Bank Holidays) Contact 01492 585063 for more information

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) Lunches - every 1st Wednesday - 12.15 pm in St Katherine's, Bryn Pydew

CLERGY:	Rev Noel Carter (Mission Area Leader) 01492 339521 Rev Dr Godfrey Chigumira 01492 543706 Rev Juliet Fraser 01492 596655 Rev Sarah Hildreth-Osborn 01492 640032 Rev Peter Walker 01492 583579	(For other contact details and online addresses - please see inside back cover)
OFFICE:	Penrhyn Beach East, Llandudno, LL30 3NT - 01492 541615 - office@aberconwy.church	

Mis Chwefror 2019 - CALENDAR - February 2019

		Services	Other events
Friday	1	HE 10 am St D	Cancer Support Group 10.30-12.30 AS
Saturday	2		
SUNDAY	3	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism 3 pm St H	
Monday	4		Dementia Café 10.30-12.30 pm AS
Tuesday	5		Cuppa, crafts & chat 2.30 pm Llanrhos Schoolroom; Bible Briefs 7.30 pm, 8 Llys Helig
Wednesday	6	HE 10 am AS	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	7	HE 10.30 am St P	MAGAZINE COPY DATE Afternoon Tea 2-3.30 pm St D Church Hall
Friday	8	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	9		St Paul's Mini Market 10-12 noon
SUNDAY	10	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE Also: Dig-In 10.30 am Llanrhos schoolroom; Family Service 4 pm St P	
Monday	11		
Tuesday	12	Open Table Service 7 pm (venue tba)	2.30 pm St Hilary's Fellowship AGM, Llanrhos Schoolroom AS Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Wednesday	13	HE 10 am AS	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	14	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	15	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	16		Prayer Breakfast, 9 am St P
SUNDAY	17	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE	
Monday	18		
Tuesday	19		St H Church Meeting, 2.30 pm Llanrhos Schoolroom
Wednesday	20	HE 10 am AS	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	21	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	22	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	23		
SUNDAY	24	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE	
Monday	25		FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT BEGINS
Tuesday	26		AS Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Wednesday	27	HE 10 am AS	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	28	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	1	HE 10 am St D; World Day of Prayer Service 10.30 am, Holy Trinity Llandudno	

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

What is going on in the Mission Area?

NEW FOR OUR MISSION

AREA IN 2019

www.digin.org.uk

The Revd Juliet Fraser writes:

What's Occurring? As part of our commitment to mission and growth we have something new for 2019. We know there are many in our communities who have questions about life and faith. There are also families looking for somewhere other than our churches where they can gather to learn more, and exchange views and feelings in a more informal setting. We hope to develop a different kind of forum where those of all ages can meet together in an informal and welcoming environment. This is to be a monthly event and will take place at various locations across the Mission Area. **But** (isn't there always a but!) – we need your help and support if we are to succeed. So please pray about this, talk about this, spread the word, and if you are able to help at all, please let me know.

The first Dig In will be a

St Valentine's Day

Special

Sunday 10th February

10.30 am

Llanrhos Schoolroom



A relaxed way of doing church with music, video, arts and crafts - for big and little people together

Digging into the big questions of life in fun and creative ways

There'll be tea/coffee/juice and lots of cake!

Its church, but not as we know it, so come along and dig in - get involved in our new relaxed and informal gathering

To include a variety of discussions and activities

Come with those you love!

Bible Briefs



Informal Bible Study at 8 Llys Helyg on **Tuesday 5th February** at 7.30 pm.

All welcome. Bring a Bible.



**Saturday
16th
February**

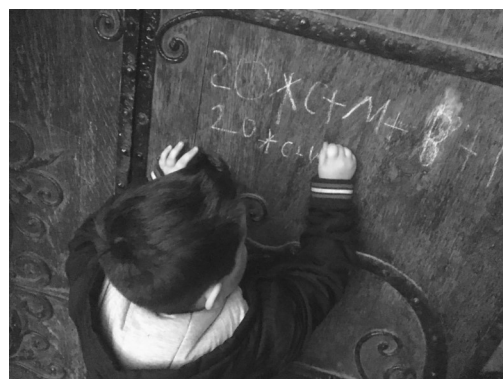
9-10 am at St Paul's Church, Craig y Don.

Praying for Growth

Please continue to pray for the growth of the church in the Aberconwy Mission Area, for our leaders and our congregations, that they may be strengthened and encouraged, and especially for the outreach initiatives such as Storytime Café at St Paul's and the new Dig In. Also please pray for Lilian Cogger, to be welcomed into the church by baptism during February.

Prayer for Growth

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



Pictured above: The January Christingle Service at St Paul's revived an old custom - "chalking the door" to bring God's blessing for the coming year. (More on page 12)

DEGANWY DEMENTIA CAFÉ

All Saints Church, Deganwy, 10.30 - 12.30 pm on the first Monday of each month. **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. *(See also details of Dementia Film Screenings at Theatr Colwyn - see page 13)*

COMMUNITY AFTERNOON TEA

Raising money for local charities

St David's Church Hall, Penrhyn Bay

First Thursday of the month, 2-3.30 pm.

£3 per person - pay on the day

Details from Ann Beardmore 07872 933926



Pictured above: Members of St Hilary's congregation joined with some of the musicians to sing at the Christmas concert at St Hilary's.

Cancer Support Group

This meets in **All Saints, Deganwy**, on the 1st Friday of every month 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Run with the support of Macmillan Cancer Support it is open to everyone, from those who are living with cancer, to family and friends and anybody who feels they would benefit from this group.



OPEN TABLE

Due to the work taking place in St Grwsts' church, Open Table services will be re-locating, venue to be confirmed. More details from the Revd. Sarah Hildreth Osborn.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH CRAIG-Y-DON

MINI MARKET

SATURDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

10-12 NOON

Books - Bric-a-brac - Nearly new and refreshments

All welcome



DRAMA!

The Mission Area is hoping to form a Drama Group to present short items at special services. If you feel this is your forte, and wish to "release the inner thespian", please contact either Don or Ann Milne on 01492 876996 for further information



DAFFODIL TEA

MONDAY 4TH MARCH

2.30 PM

ST PAUL'S CHURCH
CRAIG-Y-DON

Tickets £3.50



Pictured above: Sian Jenkinson prepares lentil and vegetable soup for Soup 'n' Sox in the kitchen at St Paul's. (See story overleaf)



THE MOTHERS' UNION

'Listen, observe, act - in step with God'.

Congratulations to Lynne Tembey, current Worldwide President who has been awarded the OBE in the 2019 New Years Honours for her services to Mothers' Union, women and families. The new year brings with it a new Worldwide President, Sheran Harper who hails from Guyana and will lead the four million members in 84 countries.

All Saints Deganwy Branch

Daphne Laight writes:

Our meetings are held in Bethel Chapel Hall at 2.30 pm. This month we meet on 12th February when members and friends are invited to talk about their 'special collections' and if possible show us some or all of the items or photos. On 26th February we are having a Quiet Afternoon led by the Revd Jane Allen. A warm welcome is extended to everyone. The Corporate Communion is on 6th February at 10 am in All Saints Church as always - all are very welcome.

LADY DAY

The Feast of the Annunciation will be celebrated with a **Diocesan Festival Service** at St Asaph Cathedral on **Monday 25th March** at 2 pm. Clergy and non members welcome.



Pictured left; Out on the streets of Llandudno, Sian and Scott Jenkinson set up the Soup 'n' Sox van in Upper Mostyn Street

SOUP 'N' SOX

At the end of last year, a community group called "Soup 'n' Sox" started using the kitchen at St Paul's to prepare food for homeless people which they serve from a van on the streets of Llandudno and Colwyn Bay. Chris Dearden spent an evening with them to find out more about what they do.....

It's Thursday evening, and the inside of St Paul's is in complete darkness - apart from the kitchen at the back. Throw the door open and the bright lights and warmth make an instant contrast with the cool gloom of the church. Sian Jenkinson is hard at work inside, with two pots of soup bubbling away on the stove and a mini production line of sandwiches in progress alongside.

"There's quite a tight schedule to the evening", she explains. "I get here between five and six, then everything has to be cooked and ready by half past six. That includes wrapping sandwiches in tin foil and getting the soup into heat-insulated containers so it will stay warm for the next few hours."

It's not long before Sian's husband Scott arrives at St Paul's with their daughter. They load the food into the van and Sian would usually take over parenting duties and head home. Tonight is slightly easier as grandmother is able to do childcare, leaving Sian and Scott free to head out.

The first stop is Upper Mostyn Street, where the van pulls up close to Hooson's Corner roundabout. Sian and Scott set out a table with sandwiches and fruit and are joined by another volunteer to help.

It doesn't take long for word to spread that the van has arrived. One of the first visitors is Craig. He's been homeless for around seven months, and often sleeps rough. Tonight he's staying with a friend of a friend, calling in a favour to keep out of the cold. "It's known as sofa-surfing", says Scott. "Someone doesn't have a

home, but goes from friend to friend using up favours. We meet a fair few people in that sort of situation – not everyone who is homeless is sleeping in a shop doorway.”

Someone who is sleeping rough is Richard. He came out of prison in September, and says he’s likely to be bedding down near a row of lockup garages. In the meantime, he’s glad of a few sandwiches from the van.

Scott Jenkinson explains that he started Soup ‘n’ Sox because he himself was homeless and living on the street in London in the past, and was helped out by people from local churches. “It’s made things much easier to get the cooking done at St Paul’s. We were trying to get everything done in our kitchen at home with limited space and resources. Just a bit more worktop space and a hand washing sink makes all the difference.”

The Soup ‘n’ Sox van has now been in Llandudno for an hour, and, at a prompt 8 pm it’s time to move on to Colwyn Bay, where there promises to be even more takers for the rest of the soup. Sian and Scott will eventually get back home around ten, some five hours after the evening began.

Mr Hyashi’s Christmas Card

At the end of July last year, St Paul’s Craig Y Don had a visitor from Japan. Mr Hyashi was on holiday from Tokyo. He had come to North Wales to travel on its narrow- gauge railways. His itinerary brought him to Llandudno for the weekend and he wanted to experience a traditional Anglican Service. St Paul’s broadcasts its service every week on Facebook and its fame has spread to Japan.



Pictured above: Mr Hyashi with some of the St Paul’s congregation.



Pictured above: Richard Wynne Davies (left) visits the Soup 'n' Sox van in Llandudno and talks to Scott Jenkinson (right) before spending the night sleeping rough in town.

We received a Christmas card from Mr Hyashi, who greatly enjoyed his visit to St Paul’s. In the card he wrote the following.

Dear All,

Five months have passed since I shared the communion with you all at St Paul’s on the 29th July. The Eucharist was followed by a lovely time of fellowship, with pleasant conversation that made for an unforgettable experience in the name of the Lord. Although long overdue, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your hospitality and the tea cake, which was so delicious.”

Masato Hayashi, Tokyo



News from Ysgol Bodafon

Sian Jenkinson writes:

The calendar months of January and February sometimes feel a bit long and empty especially after the Christmas activities. Sometimes life is a bit like that – it feels like hard work, like walking through treacle. This is in part why our school council is thinking about how they can take an idea forward to develop Prayer Boxes in each of the school classrooms. We introduced the idea in our last article, but let's take a moment to think about why prayer boxes are a such good thing.

Many schools around the UK already have prayer boxes, or prayer spaces, where anyone in the school community can leave prayer requests and they have found it can make a real difference in people's lives. Some of the comments from schools who have engaged with this idea have found that children appreciate a space to go to write out their thoughts and turn them into prayers, and that it can help them to feel less stressed; as one teacher commented *"When you see something that can help bring such peace and calm, it is hard to ignore it, isn't it?"*

It's also a great idea as it can also serve to give the children some time and space to reflect on what they do or say – we all say things we don't mean in the heat of the moment, but sometimes we don't always have the space to think about this in a constructive way. The things that we do and say leave marks in the lives of those around us. It is impossible to leave no marks, no impressions, but it is possible to choose (and change) the marks, and the impressions we leave. This activity encourages students to reflect on the impressions that others have made on their lives, and consider the impression they want to leave on others (and on the world). It is a space where they can think about forgiving others and showing kindness and love.

At Ysgol Bodafon, one of the richest blessings is the fact that it is a small school where



relationships are developed and nurtured and the whole school feels like a little community – children don't just play together at breaks or lunchtimes, but have lots of opportunities to mix together – activities like the school council and Clwb Cymraeg which encourages children from all the school years to join together and have their voice. Indeed, when the idea of a prayer box was suggested to the School Council, every child agreed it was a good idea – after all, all the children agree that God knows them all by name, and that He cares about what matters to each of them – so prayer boxes make perfect sense!

Finally, it's not just about the children reaching out to God – it's about a two-way relationship. God wants the children to get to know Him and trust Him, and praying is the perfect vehicle for them to develop their own faith.

So, for 2019, please join with the children as they pray and think about the way forward for their prayer boxes to nurture their needs, both personally, as a school and as a community. And pray also that on their journey through school, with the prayer boxes, with school assemblies, and also through meetings with people from local churches, the children's faith will strengthen and increase and become a firm foundation and anchor in their own lives.



Pictured above:
Children at Ysgol Bodafon make Christingles for a service at St Paul's. There were some very creative arrangements of the sweets on the sticks, and we are impressed to report that none were eaten!

News from the Mission Area

St Grwst's. Llanrwst

Substantial Lottery Award

More than £700,000 has been awarded to the historic church of St Grwst's from the National Lottery to upgrade the building and enable it to be a centre for community and tourism. The money will ensure St Grwst's Church remains as a place of worship, while also serving a dual purpose as a heritage and tourist attraction, bringing visitors and the local community together.



New disabled access, vital repairs and upgrading work to the buildings will help open the church to new audiences. New exhibitions are planned on the church and town's history. Activities such as musical performances, workshops and cinema screenings are also in the pipeline.

Olwen John, one of the project team and a server at St Grwst's Church, said: "This three-year project will re-energise St Grwst's through an ambitious programme of conservation and redevelopment. The church has been an important centre of Christian faith and worship and we're delighted this will continue alongside new community and tourist activities. We will be conserving the church's fabric and connecting the heritage stories to the community, which will put the church back at the heart of the town and valley. We will be creating a cultural centre for the area, whilst also developing a variety of regular sources of income to ensure the building can support itself in the future.

"It is a very exciting project and a great boost for the local community – there are not many venues in town and we hope St Grwst will now play a central role in local life once again. We would like to thank the National Lottery and its players for this wonderful opportunity."

To support the work volunteers will be trained in conservation skills to help look after the historic building. Built originally in 1170, St Grwst's is reportedly the only known church dedicated to the saint. After being partially destroyed during Owain Glyndwr's uprising in the 1400s it was fully demolished during the War of the Roses in 1468. The current building was constructed in 1470, with further alterations and additions made over the following centuries.

Llanrwst developed as an important market town at the centre of the wool trade, with the price of wool in Britain reportedly set there. The town was also recognised for its harp and clock makers as can be seen from the cemetery headstones. Welsh poets Dafydd Robert and Robert Williams (Trebor Mai) are buried in the churchyard.

St Hilary's, Llanrhos

St Hilary's Fellowship

Irene Webster writes:

Twenty hardy souls braved the inclement weather on Tuesday 18th December to meet in the Schoolroom for a fun afternoon. A Santa Claus Drive took place (like a Beetle Drive but drawing Santas instead) - such artistic



offerings! After a good deal a laughter, a cup of tea and mince pie was very welcome. This was followed by a more serious but enjoyable session of Carol Singing led by Noel - no musical accompaniment! Thanks go to Doreen and her helpers for arranging a happy and enjoyable afternoon.

Christmas at St Hilary's

Doreen Owen writes:

St Hilary's had a busy but joyous Christmas weekend. We started with a wonderful concert on the 21st by Jelena our organist and her pupils where £400 was raised to be divided between St Hilary's and Dementia Care at Llandudno Hospital. See the photographs - two of the talented pupils performing at the concert (left) and Jelena as accompanist (below).



Our Christmas Eve started with the Crib service at 5 pm where the little ones (some helped by their Mum, Dad, Gran or Nain) took Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and their sheep to the crib, while the older ones placed the Kings and their camels under the tree to wait for Epiphany. Holy Eucharist services followed at 11.30 pm, 8 and 11 am. Between the concert and the four services it was lovely to think that more than two hundred people had passed through our doors at this festive time!!



Bringing life to the churchyard

This is the title of a letter published in the current "Nature's Home" - the magazine of the RSPB - which features the work that Ann Milne has been doing to turn the churchyard at Llanrhos into a special place for wildlife. She now seems to be feeding large numbers of birds, and plans to plant wild flowers to encourage butterflies and bees and to install a hedgehog home. Well done to Anne and to all those who work to encourage and protect wild life in our churchyards.

All Saints, Deganwy

Looking back at 2018

Churchwardens Pat Chapman and Frank Prescott write:

Some years pass by quietly. Others are busier. For All Saints 2018 has been busier than most. At the end of 2017 we ordered new tables and chairs for the North Aisle to create a 'café' area. These duly arrived in January, new table cloths were purchased, new matching bunting was put up and our Café was in business. It is used and

enjoyed every Sunday for coffee after the services.

The café facilities are also being used by other groups. We welcomed the Dementia Café to church in March. The initiative of Deganwy Councillor Julie Fallon, the Café runs on the first Monday of each month for those with Dementia, their carers, health professionals and others. In December Cllr Julie launched a Cancer Support Group in church. This group meets on the first Friday of the month.

A Mad Hatter's afternoon tea party for those members who can no longer get to church regularly was held in June. The café was decorated with playing cards and even the dormouse put in an appearance! After sandwiches and cakes the afternoon ended with a singsong.

In January we noticed that the cockerel, which was part of our weathervane and had been part of the church for 120 years, was tilting. With scaffolding erected to repair damage to the church tower, the cockerel was carefully lowered to the ground. The storms and winds over decades had taken their toll and it was in a very poor condition. Thanks to skilful work of David Chapman the cockerel has been restored and now resides in the Baptistry.



An emotional and thought provoking service of music and readings commemorating the Armistice Centenary took place in November with representatives from the wider community including the Mayor of Conwy, Cllr Sam Cotton. All those whose names appear on the World War I memorial were remembered.



In December we hosted the Community Carol Service and Deganwy School held their Carol Service in the church. On both occasions it was good to see the church full.



In March 2017 we chose to support Hope Restored with money donated for coffee after the All Age service on the fourth Sunday. By March 2018 we had presented Brenda Fogg of Hope Restored with two cheques totalling £300.

Our charity for 2018/2019 is Aberconwy Domestic Abuse Service and we presented them with a cheque for £300 in October, including money from our Harvest Festival collection.

A lot of maintenance work was necessary in 2018. Surprisingly, most of it has been completed. The planned maintenance work: replacement of a down pipe and general tidying of guttering, repair to the Chancel steps rail and toilet door, boiler check and service, replacement water heater in kitchen, roof repair in the north aisle, painting of guttering and downspouts, work on the garden between the two gates, repairs to the electrics following the Quinquennial inspection, and repair to the vestry ceiling. There were also a couple of unexpected jobs – the replacement of the central heating pump and a leak in the cellar. On-going we have the problem of the flooded cellar and the chimney stack. Hopefully we can sort these out in 2019 and have a less busy year.

We continue to see a sprinkling of new worshippers and do our best to make them feel welcome, and we look forward prayerfully to whatever challenges 2019 has in store for us.

St David's, Penrhyn Bay



Janet Mellor writes: A wonderful Christmas Dinner was prepared by Phil and Sandra Williams and served by their family. We were also given some Bucks Fizz to toast the season and our hosts. The meal was completed with home made truffles and tea/coffee, and we had our brains stretched by a quiz. A truly lovely lunch. Thank you to the Williams Family.

St Paul's, Craig-y-Don

Michael Clutton, Chris Dearden and Philip Evans write:

What does every churchwarden need for Christmas? In the case of St Paul's, it would seem that the answer is a wi-fi thermometer.

Absolutely no kidding, but Wendy Dearden (wife of people's warden, Chris Dearden) did indeed buy him a thermometer that he can install in church and check on his phone even when he's not in the building.

However, it is all part of a cunning plan by Mrs Dearden to make sure that her husband is more predictably available for dinner and other household chores. One broken boiler and another unreliable boiler means that winter 2018-9 in the Dearden house has so far been marked by too many incidences of "I'm just popping out to church to check the heating is working OK".



Now, all we need to do is to check on the phone at bedtime and see that the temperature in church is starting to rise as the heating system warms up, and that confirms all is well. It also means that we can start to look at the graphs of when the building is warm and cold, and use that information to see if we are turning the heating on too much or too little..... and hopefully save some gas. That wouldn't be a bad thing as the gas bill for December was an eye-watering £1125.

Elsewhere behind the scenes, we could do with more people to serve on the altar and/or help give out communion at St Paul's. Some of the small but dedicated team of servers have recently been struggling with a variety of problems physically and health-wise.

To ensure that the Rector and other clergy get the best support possible during services, particularly the Sunday Eucharist where they are on a very tight schedule, we need to expand the team so that cover is easily arranged and those volunteering have a less onerous work-load. The task is not difficult and is very fulfilling.

Contact Michael Clutton (details on inside back cover) if you can help. He'll also provide full training to anyone who's interested.



As these pictures show (and also as pictured on page 4) the old custom of "chalking the door" to bring God's blessing for the coming year was revived at the Christingle service at St Paul's in January. Here, Leo Castro (above left) and Oliver Groves (above right) have a go at writing 20*C+M+B+19 on the old doors. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the traditional names of the Magi - Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar - who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "19" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

St Katherine's, Bryn Pydew

Peter Marshall writes:

St Katherine's finished 2018 with a memorable, well supported Carol Service and Service on Christmas Day. On the last Sunday of the year, again a well supported Service, lessons were read by Robin Lewis, who as a boy had attended the very first services in 1945 in the army Nissan hut that became St Katherine's. The Revd Peter Marshall preached for the last time, taking as his text 'God forbid that I should boast save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ', Galatians chapter 6, verse 14. The Revd Linda-Mary Edwards led prayers of thanksgiving and hope.

It is possible that Sunday Services will continue at St Katherine's until Easter.



Pictured above:
The Revd Peter Marshall at the altar at St Katherine's on the last Sunday of 2018.



Pictured left:
The St Katherine's congregation, with the Revd Peter Marshall and Mrs Janet Marshall (with bouquet) standing at the back.

Local Matters



FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

25th February - 10th March 2019

Look out for details of an event on Shrove Tuesday 5th March themed on 'Take up Fairtrade for Lent'.

This will encourage people to do something positive for Lent and use MORE Fairtrade products - campaigning on cocoa and helping women producers in particular and hoping congregations will informally take up the theme at after-church coffee during that fortnight

Dementia Film Screening at Theatr Colwyn

Thursday 7th February

2 pm "West Side Story"

Screenings for people with dementia, memory loss and their family, friends and carers but open to the general public - £4.50 (carers go free). A relaxed atmosphere so that people are welcome to move around and come and go as they please, and interval with live entertainment. *Please contact them in advance if you are a wheelchair user as there is limited space: 01492 577888.*



Give, act and pray - Church Action on Poverty Sunday 3rd March 2019

Can you help unlock UK poverty by organising a collection or soup lunch on 3rd March? On Church Action on Poverty Sunday churches

can be part of a movement that loosens the grip of poverty in the UK. 3rd March is also marked as Transfiguration Sunday in many churches - the Transfiguration helped the disciples to see the world and their mission in a different light. The work of Church Action on Poverty transforms lives and communities and you can help:

Commit your church to listen more deeply to people who have been swept to the edges of society by poverty; explore new perspectives on familiar Bible stories; hold a collection or soup lunch – raise funds to make voices heard, tell stories and call for action; use worship materials to reflect and pray for change.

Register now to be part of CAP Sunday for a free pack of worship materials and fundraising ideas.

Church Action on Poverty contact details:

28 Sandpiper Court, Water's Edge Business Park, Modwen Road, Salford M5 3EZ. 0161 872 9294
www.church-poverty.org.uk



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

“Come - Everything is ready!”

The 2019 World Day of Prayer meeting is at **10.30 am on Friday 1st March at Holy Trinity, Llandudno**. (This was formerly known as the Women's World Day of Prayer).

The focus country for 2019 is Slovenia, which became independent in 1991 and is in the heart of Europe, bordered by Italy, Austria, Croatia and Hungary. About the same size as Wales it has a population of just under 2 million people, mostly Slovenes, but there are also Croats, Serbs, Bosnians, Macedonians and Montenegrins, and a small number of Roma. Those with religious affiliations in a recent census were Roman Catholic (almost 60%), Orthodox and Islam (approximately 2.5%), and Lutheran (about 1%). Members of Islam and the Serbian and Macedonian Orthodox Churches come mainly from the former Yugoslavia, whereas Lutherans are found mainly in the communities to the north-east.

FROM THE EDITORS

Please will those responsible check that the information about regular services and events and contact details are correct and if there are any other groups, meetings etc. that should be included please do let us know.

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 to the Parish Office, Penrhyn Beach East, Llandudno, LL30 3NT - office@aberconwy.church.

(Contributions may have to be edited to fit available space, and late items may have to be omitted.)

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