

THE NEW TIMES

JANUARY 2009

**PENRHOS
LLANTILIO CROSSENNY
LLANVETHERINE
LLANVAPLEY**

SERVICES IN JANUARY

4 January	9.30am	Llanvapley
Christmas 1	11.00am	Llantilio Crossenny
11 January	9.30am	Penrhos
Epiphany	11.00am	Llanvapley (In Pavilion)
18 January	9.30am	Llanvapley
Epiphany 2	11.00am	Llantilio Crossenny

24 January

9.30am

Penrhos

From the Vicarage

So how bad will 2009 be? For some no doubt, there will be job losses, anxiety about pensions and we are all going to have to pull in our belts. My own view is that such a time is important in the reordering of our lives, a time to bring us back to the important values of relationships and recognising that we have too many things that we don't need that we have borrowed money to buy.

The Old Testament Prophets would have poured scorn on our greedy, indulgent and selfish world: 'return to your God before destruction overwhelms you' would have been their message. Of course, such language is unpopular, but it was then. The prophets of old were told in no uncertain terms to go away and be quiet – only they didn't quite put it like that. The trouble is we really don't think our little contribution to the difficulties matters much and we didn't complain when things were good.

In a way, it's a bit like slimming. We know we have to cut out the excess and live more sensibly, but it is hard to do – nobody likes slimming. But if we don't, things will simply get worse and worse.

Again the message of the Old Testament prophets was that 'in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength'. The quietness was a simple reliance on God to give us the things we need, and the confidence was a trust in his love to keep his promises to us.

Our prayer for this new year is that we can count our blessings because there are many and pray that the God of love will give us 'our daily bread' and all that we need to live

our lives in such a way that honours both our community and God himself.

A happy new year

Your friend and Vicar

David

Llanddewi Village Hall Committee invite you
to banish the January blues

**Saturday 24th January
2009**

MR TOBI'S AND MR NICK'S CURRY CARDIFF STYLE

Onion Bhajees with pompadoms
selection of traditional home made main
dishes

with all the pickles/chutneys/naan breads
and Bombay Potatoes rice & chips

BAR OPEN 7.00 p.m. -11.30 p.m.

MEAL 7.45p.m. followed by quiz

Adults £10.00 under 12 £5.00

in order to cater we need to know who is
coming
so please ring 01873 840702 or 840756 to get
your ticket!
Last day for reservation Friday 23rd Jan 2009

News from the Villages

Thank you to all those who made Christmas so very special in our churches. Those who read, sung, rang bells, made mulled wine and mince pies and joined in the carols. The churches were beautifully decorated and a number of people went to a lot of trouble to create a lovely atmosphere for the services.

Special thanks are due to Shirley Hughes-Jones at Llanvetherine for doing the Christingles and to the Thomas family in Llantilio Crossenny for doing them on Christmas Eve: also to the Phillips family for reconstructing the crib at Llantilio Crossenny. Thanks to Joe Adams for singing and particularly to Margaret Parry and Jeanette Massochi for playing at a lot of services!

A number of people are interested in being confirmed. If you or someone you know is interested please let David Osborn (01600 780240).

It is intended to start preparation groups after Christmas with a view to a Confirmation service in the early Spring, either here or at St Woolos' Cathedral.

During the third week in February, from Sunday 22 February, David Osborn will be doing his 'week in residence' at Westminster Abbey. If anyone would like to visit and have a personal tour of the Abbey and a look behind the scenes, please get in touch with him.

Carol Singing

On Saturday 20th December Llanvapley Church organised Carol Singing around the village. The evening proved to be a very successful event with an enthusiastic group of all aged singers entertaining a large number of households in the village. A collection was taken to raise money for Action for Children which provides support for families, children in care and disabled children. A total of nearly £57 was raised and thanks go to everyone who supported the appeal. Thanks also go to Peter and Gen Marchant who provided mulled wine at the start of the journey and to the Llanvapley Sports and Social Association who provided further refreshment at the end of the journey around Llanvapley. The Carol Singing was followed by the village Christmas social in the pavilion, which was a great success with lots of friends old and new on hand to help to celebrate Christmas. Thanks go to everyone who helped to set up the pavilion and to clear up afterwards and to everyone who contributed on the evening.

Village Skittles

On Thursday 11th December Llanvapley met Llantilio Crossenny in the second of a series of matches against local villages which was staged at The Hog's Head. I am sure that everyone would like to express there thanks to Dale at The Hog's for his hospitality and the use of the skittles alley. The evening was most enjoyable and the score at the end was very close. Llanvapley had a very healthy lead after the first round but Llantilio, lead by Captain Chris Cousens fought back bravely but failed by 4 points to catch Llanvapley. Lesley Stoker showed the way at the end of the evening and took the pot after beating everyone at "Killer". It is hoped to be able to arrange a challenge match with Llanvetherine in the coming months.

Rugby Internationals

As I am sure everyone knows, Wales will be defending the Grand Slam and the Triple Crown in 2009. Not everyone will be able to travel to Scotland, France or Italy or even get a ticket for a match in Cardiff so why not support Wales at one of our local pubs. Last year a group of people from Llanvapley decided to walk to the pub to see the rugby internationals and this proved to be a great success. The season started off at the Hogs Head with an amazing victory for Wales over England, which was celebrated, in true Welsh fashion. The schedule for the walks is listed below

Sunday 8th February: Scotland v Wales (3.00pm) Clytha Arms (approx 4 miles)
Leave from the Red Hart at 1.00pm

Saturday 14th February: Wales v England (5.30pm) Hogs Head (approx 2 miles)
Leave from the Red Hart at 4.00pm

Saturday 14th March: Italy v Wales (3.00pm) Warwicks (approx 3 miles)
Leave from the Red Hart at 1.00pm

Saturday 21st March: Wales v Ireland (5.30pm) The Hunter's Moon (approx 5 miles)
Leave from the Red Hart at 3.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join any of the walks or to meet in the pub if you are feeling less energetic. Please dress appropriately as the routes to the pubs involve the use of public footpaths. Ring 780376 for further details. English, Scots, French, Italian and Irish most welcome!

Penrhos News

The church was full and beautifully decorated for the Carols by Candlelight Service on 20th December. It was lovely to see so many children at the Service all adding to the occasion. After the Service we were invited to the Cleeves for punch and mince pies and thank Fiona and Richard very much for their generosity in letting us use their wonderful barn.

Midnight Holy Communion was held on Christmas Eve at Penrhos for the first time for several years. Again the church was full and we thank Jeanette Massochi for playing the organ and Ted and Joe Adams for singing, Ted only just arriving in time from Liverpool after a dash down the motorway.

A Happy New Year from us all at Penrhos and we look forward to seeing everyone from the other parishes in 2009.

WHO'S WHO?

The Vicar

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Please note new email address

The Churchwardens

Penrhos

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Llanvetherine

David Hughes Jones 01873 821497

Andrew Dawson

Llanvapley

Les Taylor 01600 780376

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Dennis Ball 01873 821236

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