



## **The New Times December 2024 & January 2025 Services And Events**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Advent Sunday.**

9.30am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine.** (Morning Prayer)

11.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.** (Holy Communion)

*This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. Refreshments served from 11.45am-12.30pm.*

**6.00pm St Teilo's, Pertholey. Advent Carol Service.**

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, Advent 2.**

9.30am **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos.**

*Refreshments will be served after the service. Open to all.*

11.00am **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley.** (Holy Communion)

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December, Advent 3.**

9.30am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine.** (Holy Communion)

11.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny. Carol Service**

*Followed by coffee and mince pies.*

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

6.30pm. **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine. Carol Service.**

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

11.00am **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley. Carol Service.**

*This service is followed by festive refreshment; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. The bell will be rung when the service finishes.*

6.00pm **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos. Carol Service.**

*Mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service at High House Barn. All welcome.*

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas Eve.**

4.00pm **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny. Christingle Service.**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December. Christmas Day.**

10.00am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine. Christmas Communion.**

10.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny. Christmas Communion.**

**There are no services on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Services and Events in January 2025.**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

9.30am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine.** (Morning Prayer)

11.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.** (Holy Communion)

*This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. Refreshments served from 11.45am-12.30pm.*

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

9.30am **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos.**

*Refreshments will be served after the service. Open to all.*

11.00am **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley.** (Holy Communion)

4.00pm. **St David's, Llandewi Rhydderch** (Licensing of the new Vicar)

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

9.30am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine.** (Holy Communion)

11.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.** (Morning Prayer)

*This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. Refreshments served from 11.45am-12.30pm.*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

9.30am **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos.**

*Refreshments will be served after the service. Open to all.*

11.00am **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley.** ((Morning Prayer)

# News from the Four Churches.

## Remembrance Day Services

Our churches marked Remembrance Day with services at St Cadoc's, Penrhos, followed by a joint service at St Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny. The bellringers at St Teilo's rang a half-muffled sequence, which lent a suitably melancholic effect to the peals, on a quietly beautiful autumn morning.

The services were, as always, reflective and thoughtful, especially poignant when the names of the fallen from this quiet rural community were read out.

Reverend Peter Cobb acknowledged in his sermon at St Teilo's that we are living through particularly dangerous and disturbing times with tyranny and populism seeming to be on an inexorable rise. However, we should remain steadfast and strengthened by our Christian faith and be hopeful that common sense and peace will prevail in the future.

The War Memorial at St Teilo's Church, Llantilio Crossenny.,



The Imperial War Museum, (IWM), maintains the War Memorials Register across the UK. Jeremy Pearce, who lives in Llantilio Crossenny, volunteers at the IWM and has recently updated the records of the war memorial located in the church yard.

It is described as "A stone based memorial with a wooden cross. The base is approximately 2 metres square and has four further layers of stone each reducing in size which forms a step upwards to the large wooden cross. There is a dark stone plaque on the south-east side (500mm x 800mm) which names those fallen in both Wars."

Evidently some memorials are lost so it is vital that these records are maintained for generations to come. Thanks to Jeremy and the other volunteers for their efforts.

## St Cadoc's, Penrhos

### Christmas is A Comin'!

The Carol Service at St Cadoc's, Penrhos, is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.00pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies at High House. Everyone is very welcome.

## St. Mabli's, Llanvapley

November is normally a quiet month in Llanvapley as it only have one service because of Remembrance Sunday. However, this year we were delighted to host a Taize service on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup>. The service took place in the chancel and was led by Revd, Heidi and Revd. David Roberts. Special thanks goes to Phil Norman for conducting the singing of the chants and to Clarinda Collin for organising the service. The service was followed by mulled wine and snacks. This enabled the new microwave to be used to warm up the wine which was greatly appreciated.

The service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November went on as normal. This was the morning of the floods and Revd. Heidi had to be picked up from home in a Land Rover! Despite the weather there was a healthy congregation for Morning Prayer.



## St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.

### Funding for the new carpet is off to a flying start



The first fundraiser of the campaign to raise money for a new carpet at St Teilo's was held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November. What a raging success it proved to be! There

was a wonderful turn out from the local community and Llanvapley Pavilion was buzzing to the sound of happy chatter as the fantastic sum of £500 was raised. A huge 'thank you' goes to everyone who came along to the event and spent so generously as well as to those who donated cakes, crafts, books, prizes and their valuable time to make this a super community occasion. A very well done to Marion and her team for organising the Coffee morning with such energy and aplomb. Absolute stars.

Revd. Heidi sent this message." *Thank you all so much for your hard work in the preparation for a wonderful coffee morning....baking cakes, sewing beautiful Christmas decorations, bringing raffle prizes and books, serving the refreshments, clearing up afterwards, and so much more...it was a lovely morning getting together and seeing everyone.*"

### **Christingle Service. Christmas Eve, 4.00pm at St Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.**

All children (and their families of course) are invited to take part in the wonderful traditional Christingle Service at St Teilo's.

A Christingle is a symbolic object and a celebration that represents the birth of Christ and the light of the world. A Christingle is usually an orange decorated with a red ribbon, sweets or dried fruit and a candle on top.

Any children who would like to be involved should contact Lauren on 07971607157.



### **Funeral Notice**

The funeral of Mrs Derrine Warwick will be held at St Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny, on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am.

### **An invitation to a special occasion.**

Everyone is cordially invited to the Licensing of the new Vicar, Rev Canon David Williams, at St David's, Llandewi Rhydderch, at 4.00pm on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025. Please join us as we warmly welcome David to our North Monmouthshire Area Ministry.

# Community News.

## Llanvapley and District Gardening Club

With Christmas fast approaching it is fitting that our next meeting on 4th December has a Christmassy theme.

We have John Sheen giving us a talk entitled Christmas Crackers. We thought it would be nice to start the evening with a glass of mulled wine, there will also be soft drinks available. If you would like to bring a small plate of something either savoury or sweet to share we will have a buffet after the presentation.

Please note that there will be no meeting in January and our next meeting will be on 5th February. Our calendar of events is now available and do pick one up if you haven't already got one.

Membership fees are now due and are staying the same at £20 single and £35 joint. Guests are always most welcome with a fee of £5.

## Llantilio Crossenny WI news and events.

November proved to be a busy month for members of Llantilio Crossenny WI. Our monthly meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> was moved to The Red Hart, adjacent to our usual venue in Llanvapley, as the Pavilion was having a brand new kitchen installed. Twenty-three members cwtched up in the pub and were treated to a lovely virtual tour of Normandy by the hugely knowledgeable Clive Morgan. He took us to Le Chateau de Falaise (birthplace of William the Conqueror), the Bayeaux Tapestry (including some indecorous bits!), Monet's bucolic garden and impressionist art works – just the ticket on a dark November evening.

In addition to some WI friends meeting informally for coffee or lunch, a team of members (Jackie, Jan, Verity, Clare and Sue, ably led by Margaret) put together our entry for the WI Gwent Federation Competition Day. The theme of the entry was 'A Christmas Song' and, because we are a quirky lot (and proud of it!) we chose "All I Want for Christmas is Two Front Teeth". Our choice of song linked to the national WI Campaign of 'Dental Health Matters'. All elements of the entry had to relate to this theme so our doughty group practiced making an elf without two front teeth and a collage of toothpaste being squeezed out of a tube (Crafts) a cake with two sugarcraft teeth in an edible box (Baking) a Sweet Apple and Mint jelly (Preserve) and a flower arrangement with lilies representing the teeth (Floral). We were only one point off securing 3<sup>rd</sup> place (total marks of 140) and bow in awe of Agincourt WI in Monmouth, the winners, with their entry linked to the song "A Spaceman Came Travelling" by Chris de Burgh.



We should probably skate over the performance of the WI Wonder Women Team at the monthly Quiz Night at Llanvapley Pavilion – not our best ever performance - but it was fun and that's the main thing.

The Choir is rehearsing for the Gwent Federation Carol Service at St Peter's, Goytre at 2.00pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm. We are singing Silent Night in five languages and it's a challenge but we're getting there! Our other piece, the Sussex Carol is sounding lovely. Please come along to the service– everyone is welcome.

The next WI monthly meeting is on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 7.00pm at Llanvapley Pavilion. We will be joined by Angharad Underwood of The Preservation Society and will be going all out Christmas bottling oils and alcohol for Christmas presents. Please join us - you will receive a very warm welcome and delicious home-made mince pies. Contact Sue on 07768280251 if you need a lift.

Our January meeting is always our Annual Dinner. We are going to The Beaufort in Raglan for this most convivial of get togethers on the evening of Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025. Anyone can come so please contact Sue on 07768280251 by Christmas Eve if you are interested.

## Llanvapley Sports Pavilion & Village Hall



On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December the Christmas Lights in Llanvapley will be officially switched on at 6pm. Everyone, old and young, is invited to come along for carols by the tree, mulled wine and mince pies. The Christmas Tree is adjacent to the entrance to the pavilion and has grown by more than a foot in the last year so I hope we have enough lights! The quiz night and film night are taking a break in December but will be back again in January.

## Welsh Language coffee morning in the pavilion

If you speak Welsh or are learning Welsh (at any level) why not come along to the pavilion and have a chat and a cup of coffee. The aim is to provide an opportunity to speak Welsh and to share your interest with others.

Dewch yn llw!

### Bore Coffi

Tuesday 10th December 10.30-11.30  
Coffi, te a bisgedi neis ar gael



Llanvapley Pavilion, Llanvapley, NP7 8SH

Dewch i gwrdd â ni am paned a sgwrs

Croeso cynnes i chi gyd (no matter what level!)

Contact: Les Taylor 01600 780376

## Selby Sound Handbell Ringers

Regular readers of this Newsletter will remember that this group was formed in the 1970s when Revd John Selby was vicar of St Teilo's at Llantilio Crossenny.

Our current enthusiastic group of handbellers are now rehearsing for a one-song performance at the Gwent Federation Carol Service (details above) on December 7<sup>th</sup>. It's harder than it looks!

You may have a new year's resolution to join us?

When we are rehearsing for a particular event, we meet every Friday at Llanvapley Pavilion at 4.30pm. Watch this space for details!

### Cam Ceilog – The length of a cockerel's step.

The 2024 Winter Solstice falls at 9.19am on December 21<sup>st</sup> in the UK.

In Wales the shortest day is known as Cam Ceiliog. Roughly translated, Cam Ceiliog is the length of a cockerel's step and describes the distance by which we can see daylight start to extend as we walk away from winter's depths. From this moment, every day grows a little longer and the light returns, by the length of a cockerel's step.

TS Eliot called the shortest day 'the still point of the turning world'. Cam Ceiliog is an opportunity for a moment of quiet reflection before the celebrations of Christmas and New Year. In the weeks of January, as we find ourselves sloughing through the back end of winter and the gloom, consider that Cam Ceiliog has marked us a path. Daylight is coming. One step at a time.

Garlic was traditionally planted on Midwinter's Day and harvested six months later on Midsummer Morning.

Words by Richard King, author, (edited version)

