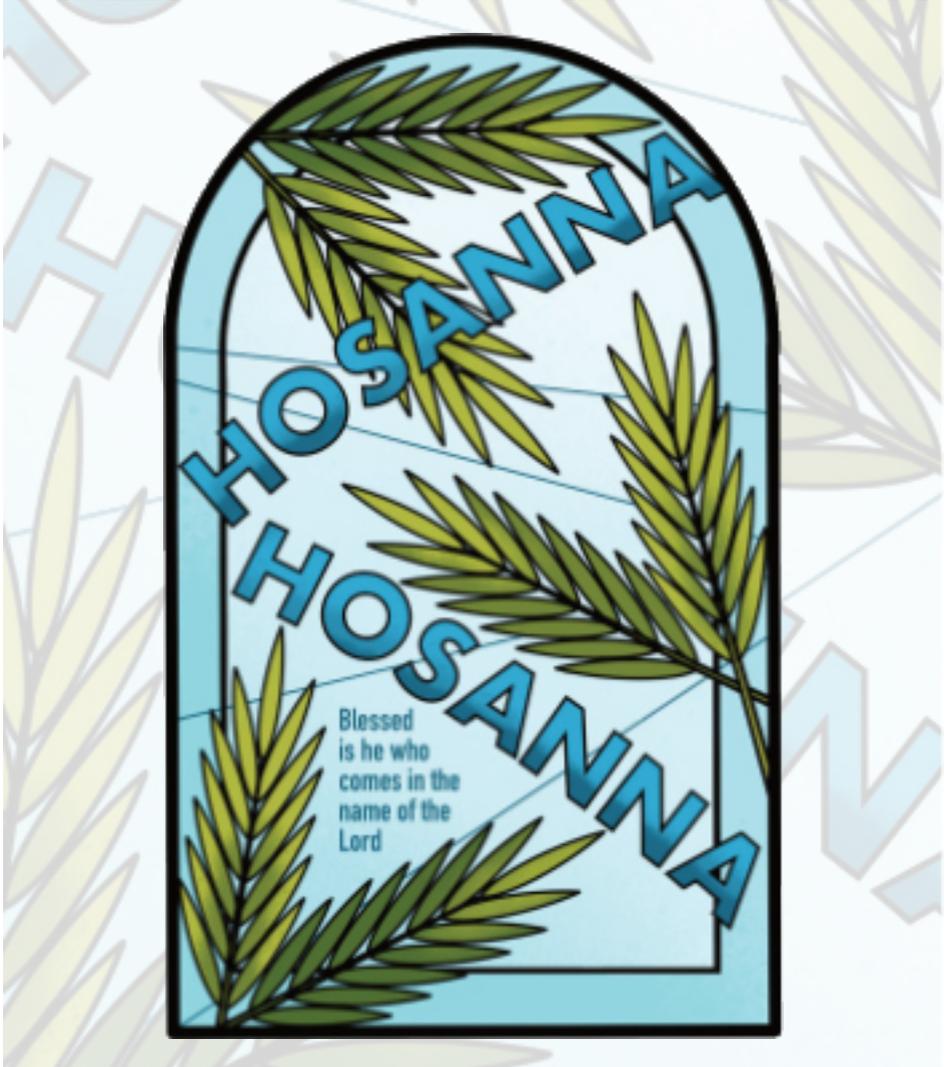


CHURCH Magazine

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Dear Friends

The Way of the Cross

'Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.' (Luke 9: 23)

These words of Jesus are spoken at a turning point in the gospel. Jesus challenged the disciples about His identity and their commitment to Him: *'who do the crowds say I am?'* (Luke 9:18). It is at this point that He *'resolutely set out for Jerusalem'* (9:51). On our journey through Lent, as we look to the events of Good Friday and Easter, what are our priorities as Jesus' disciples?

To deny ourselves: this means to saying *No* to ourselves and *Yes* to God, as we humbly submit our will to His. Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane *'not My will but Yours be done.'* (Luke 22:42). It means putting Jesus first in everything: our work, family, ambitions, possessions, marriage, finance and future. We will not be guided by self-interest, but by allowing God to show us how to live in His way.

To take up our cross: this reminds us that the disciple is not immune from suffering, as we follow Jesus along the way of the cross. Just as He carried His cross to Golgotha, we cannot avoid experiencing suffering in a fallen world. Every day we are to live in way that demonstrates to everyone that we have died to ourselves, our selfish ways and ambitions, and seek to live for God. It means breaking old selfish habits and ways of thinking, as we allow God to renew us by His Spirit.

Perhaps that is something we should learn—to wait for Jesus our Master, to be always obedient to Him, to serve Him with all our hearts, and to bear the mark of His grace in our lives.

In all of this we cannot lose, because like Jesus, it is only through death that we find God's new life. *'He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain that which he cannot lose.'* (Jim Elliot).

St Hilary's & St Martin's - Who's Who

Priest:	Reverend Layfetta Masih The New Vicarage, 59a Victoria Road, Waunarlwydd, Swansea SA5 4SY ☎ 01792 410488 Mobile: 07414 268163 Email: LayfettaMasih@cinw.org.uk
St Hilary's	St Hilary's Church & Church Hall 481a Gower Road, Killay, Swansea, SA2 7DZ
Lay Worship Leaders:	Simon Davies, Mike Powell, Barbara Roberts.
Eucharistic Assistants:	Roy Chapman, Mike Powell, Catherine Swain.
Congregational Wardens:	Cath Swain ☎ 298166 Marian Williams ☎ 204175
Assistant Warden:	Alun Bessette ☎ 699037
Treasurer:	Diane Holohan ☎ 296272
Sacristan:	Mike Powell ☎ 208955
Church Committee Secretary:	Marian Williams ☎ 204175
Hall Booking Secretary:	Diane Holohan ☎ 07770 788465 (texts preferred)
Envelopes/Gift Aid Scheme:	Geraldine Rees ☎ 207916
Organist:	Chris Samuel
St Martin's	St Martin's Church Fairwood Road, Dunvant, Swansea SA2 7PE
Eucharistic Assistant:	Susan Dimblebee
Congregational Wardens:	Susan Dimblebee ☎ 299503 Roger Draisey ☎ 515391
Organists:	Martin Draisey, Julia Lambert
Weekly Newsletter	
Printer:	Marian Williams ☎ 204175
Church Magazine	
Editor:	Roger Rees (rogerrees134@gmail.com) ☎ 207916
Advertising:	Sue Charles-Phillips (s.charles7@ntlworld.com)

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Sidespersons

March Angela Reed, Janet Jones
April Pam Davies, Roy Chapman

Elements

1st Lay led
8th Sue Davies, Sheila Betts
15th Glenys & Lyndon Hall
22nd Jan Lewis, Carol Conway
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*
Apr 5th Nansi Evans, Spencer Thomas

Readers

1st Lay led
8th Cath Swain
15th Babs Roberts
22nd Dave Coffey
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*
Apr 5th Alun Bessette



Intercessions

1st Lay led
8th Sheila Betts
15th Marian Williams
22nd Jan Lewis
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*
Apr 5th Easter Day: *Joint. Service at St Hilary's*

Eucharist Assistants

1st Lay led
8th Roy Chapman
15th Mike Powell
22nd Cath Swain
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*
Mar 1st Easter Day: *Joint. Service at St Hilary's*



Altar Flowers

1st LENT
8th LENT
15th LENT & Mothering Sunday
22nd LENT

29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*
Apr 5th Easter Day
Coffee
1st Pam Davies, Gillian Hutchinson
8th Anne Llewelyn, Jean Gwilym
15th Sally Bowen, Nansi Evans
22nd Babs Roberts, Sandra Banks
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*
Apr 5th Angela Seaward, Chris Regan

St Martin's Church, Dunvant

Sidespersons

1st Roger Draisey
8th Sue Dimblebee
15th Gareth Dimblebee
22nd Ian Dimblebee
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*

Readers

1st Carol Lewis
8th Haulwen Lumsdaine
15th Alun Bessette
22nd Judy Doyle
29th Palm Sunday: *Joint. Service at All Souls*

Altar Flowers

1st LENT
8th LENT
15th LENT & Mothering Sunday
22nd LENT
29th LENT & Palm Sunday

Holy Dusters

 Margaret & Roger Draisey

All enquiries:

Christenings, Weddings & Funerals



Please contact:
 Rev'd Layfetta Masih
 Mobile: 07414 268163
 ☎ 01792 410488
 Email: layfettamasih@cinw.org.uk

News



We pray for those who are ill at home, in hospital or nursing homes.

Our thoughts are also with those who lovingly care for them by day and night.

Julie Cole, Miriam Evans, Doll Lee, Diane Lewis (Hillside Nursing Home), Olwen Nicholas, Betty Nutt, Mary Osborne (Hillside Nursing Home), Rev'd Judith Phillips, Jane Riseborough, Rita Trew, Gloria and Brian Wilkins, Eileen Wilson and all others known to Him who need our prayers.



ALAN PICKARD

Before I pen a tribute to Alan I should like to say that I was privileged, for two decades, to work alongside him - so I feel confident to say I know this man.

As Clerk to Governors of Dunvant School I sat alongside him as he was Chairman of the Governing Body: as PCC Secretary I sat alongside him in his capacity as Parish Treasurer and most privileged of all I shared Eucharist Assistant duties with him at the altar in the Parish. During these years I learned - Alan was a through and through family man. He supported them in all their undertakings, their ideas and their ideals; he was the cornerstone of the family thus ensuring that his family would stand firm for ever. .

Alan was born in Brynmill - one of three siblings - he attended Brynmill School, Oxford Street School and Swansea Technical College. At 18 he spent one year working in Richard Thomas and Baldwins Gowerton. He then went to Cardiff University and studied Maths, Physics and Chemistry.

He was a Choir boy at St. Gabriel Church plus he took on duties at nearby St. Augustine Church.

Alan met Carole when he was 15; in 1964 they married at St, Nicholas on the Hill where Carole worshipped. In order to support themselves during student years — Alan worked as a waiter in the Copper Grill; a chauffeur; a bar man in Mumbles Pier ; deckchair attendant in Caswell whilst still enjoying doing lifeguard duty in Caswell

Bay and Oxwich Bay plus canoeing. Carole joined him on many occasions. They set up home in Woodcote where Tim was born.

In the meantime Alan worked in BSC of Wales Port Talbot and then Llanwern at Newport. Heather was born there and in 1971 they moved to Clevedon North Somerset. Alan then worked at ICL Bristol: he gained a BA and lectured at the University of the West of England; then at UKTSSA where he helped create the DATA base for organ transplants. In between all of these jobs he was one of the on call coastguards for Weston super Mare and was on standby for mud and rescues liaising with Barry Coastguards. When he was District Audit Officer he was doing unannounced audits for local authorities. He was seconded to GCHQ in Cheltenham. And there is more to Alan's busy life - he became a Freemason, taking many offices, plus Chairman to the Governing Body of St. John's Church School (Carole had been a teacher there for 21 years). For over 30 years Alan served the church of St. John as Church Warden: Treasurer and Communion Assistant to name a few. Alan and Carole travelled world wide plus 14 visits to Australia to visit Tim, Harper, Carter, Shae and Tyla. Plus Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jerusalem and Bethlehem and other countries too.

When they returned to Swansea in 2024 they lived in Hendrefoilan. They joined St. Hilary's Church - Alan became Church Warden, Treasurer and Eucharistic Assistant plus taking on many other vital church jobs - he supported Carole with her work with Mothers' Union becoming a member and taking on the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. Alan continued with his Freemasonry work becoming Secretary of Lodge Indefatigable in Swansea.

Alan was a proud father and grandfather to Heather and Ralph's children - Luke: Danny: Mia and William and to Tim's children Harper and Carter,

Carole and Alan had a marriage lasting 61 years - 61 years of much love and enjoyment. They did not waste a day of their years together. They were a couple who shared with us all - you visited them and you were immediately welcomed with a cup of coffee and you didn't want to leave. We send our prayers to Carole and the family. How fortunate she and Alan moved to be with Heather; may you Carole have many years of good health to enjoy the area. Alan you were a friend to many and you had many friends. a true and faithful servant to the end. You lived a full, active and useful life and we thank God that you touched the lives of so many of us.

Rest in Peace Alan

Eileen Nielsen



Anne Llewelyn would be grateful if anyone in the congregation would be able to help her on the Saturday 4th April to decorate the Church for Easter. Anne will be in the church from 10.30 on that Saturday



Platinum Anniversary
Congratulations to Mary and Haydn Osborne who celebrate 70 years of marriage on 31st March.

LUNCH CLUB NEWS

We finally were able to meet again on 4 February after such a cold January. We continue to meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 11am for a coffee and chat and also an attempt at the quiz before our fish and chip lunch and dessert arrives just after 12pm. This is followed by a cup of tea, the answers to the quiz and also a very nice raffle prize.

We do have vacancies if anybody would like to join us you would be most welcome. We are also short of drivers to collect the members who are unable to use public transport.

If you would like to join our Lunch Club please phone Teresa on 203732 as we do have to order the fish and chips in advance. Unless of course you just wish to come along on a Wednesday morning to meet us first.



Safeguarding Contact

Ministry Area Safeguarding officer Cath Swain
07854119359

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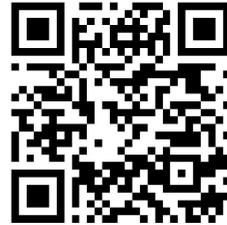
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WHAT'S ON IN ST HILARY'S CHURCH HALL

SUNDAY			
9:30	Bubble Church (with puppets) - <u>1st Monday of the month</u>	Drop In	
10:15 – 12:30	Sunday School - <u>2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month</u>	Drop In	
MONDAY			
9:00 and 10:30am	Slimming World	Sue - 07813316739	
9:15 to 11:00am	TOTS Group (up to school age)	Drop In (Term time only)	
1:00 to 2:00pm	Welsh Story & Rhyme Time (up to 18 months)	Patsy - Drop In (Term time)	
7:30pm	Music Society - <u>2nd Monday of the month</u>		
TUESDAY			
9:45 and 11:00am	FLexercise Keep Fit for 50+	Chris - 07738199666	
1:15 to 2:15pm	Chair Yoga	Celene - 07595456532	
6:00pm	4th Killay Brownies		
2:00 to 4:00pm	Mothers' Union - <u>3rd Tuesday of the month</u>		
WEDNESDAY			
9:30am	WeightWatchers	Drop in to see Kate - kgoudge@www.com	
10:00am	Luncheon Club - <u>1st Wednesday of the month</u>	Kay - 01792206373	
THURSDAY			
9:15am	Foot Clinic (<u>once a month by appointment</u>)	Julie - 07796 173074	
5:45 to 6:45pm	Dancefit	Rachel - info@swanseadance.com	
FRIDAY			
7:00 to 9:00	Indoor Bowls Club	Drop In to enquire	

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A fond farewell from Mike as Congregational Warden and Sylvia as an assistant warden

It would be remiss of us not to take this opportunity to say thank you to all at St Hilary for your support and kindness during our periods in office. It has brought mostly joy and challenges as well, and in difficult times financially as well as learning new ways with the advent of a ministry area to get accustomed to. Also we had to contend with falling numbers coming to church on a Sunday. [prior to covid our numbers each Sunday were around 60-70; alas we are now attracting numbers in the forties. However at the end of the day, we must have hope that this can be reversed. Retention of existing members and recruitment of the unchurched must both receive equal attention in our view. New ways of worship should develop alongside the traditional. There is room for both.

I intend continuing my roles in the field of worship ie Licensed Worship Leader, Sacristan and Eucharistic Minister.

We wish Layfetta and the new team all the best for the future in this special Centenary year.....Now let's find seats in the back benches of the congregation out of the spotlight!

God bless you all,
Sincerely,

Mike and Sylvia
February 2026



Music Society

Our AGM was held on 9th February, unfortunately our leader Babs Roberts was unwell and unable to attend. Angela Reed led the meeting and there were 19 brave souls in attendance.

We had a brief resume of last years events and a financial update then appointments to committee.

Our secretary Phyllis Rott stepped down, thank you very much for your work over the years Phyllis. We were unable to press gang anyone to take on this position and it was decided to spread the load amongst the membership each month.

We then relaxed and enjoyed tea and cakes thanks to Nansi, Sandra and Gillian with of course a good old natter!!!!

Our next meeting on 9th March will be a Members Own, bringing a piece of music with a story of why it is a favourite. All are welcome.



MONTHLY HOUSE GROUPS:

Celia Hall – 2nd Tuesday

Carol Conway - 3rd Thursday

St Martin's House Group will meet at St Martin's on the last Wednesday of the month 6.00pm

100 club winners for March

The winners of this month's 100 club draw are:

First prize.--Brenda Smith

Second prize----Sue Jenkins.

Both are All Souls congregation members.

The March draw will take place at St Hilary's.

A thank you from Sylvia Powell

As you probably know from the February magazine, Mike and I have, for personal reasons, relinquished our roles of warden and assistant warden, and also that of Social and Fund Raising organisers. Mike, however, still retains his worship roles.

We take this opportunity to thank all those who supported and helped us during the time we were in office. I especially want to give many thanks to the ladies who were always willing to help with the many catering events we have held over the years. Always willing and ready with preparing the hall, often the evening before, washing up in the sink, (prior to the dishwasher) and clearing away at the end. Always with good humour and many laughs in the kitchen.

I've now passed the kitchen responsibilities on to Cath Swain as our new Congregational Warden, and I wish her well, with your support. I know I couldn't have done it without the great team supporting me.

Thank you all, Sylvia.



Have you got something you would like to say?

Read a good book? Seen a good film or play? Had a good holiday? Recommend a recipe? Gardening tips? Something interesting or funny happened to you? Tell us about it.



You can either hand in your contribution to Geraldine or myself or e-mail to rogerrees134@gmail.com and we will share them in the magazine.

Articles for the magazine can be submitted by the date printed in the magazine to enable publication the following month.

*Thank you
Roger*

Dear Congregations.

What is happening with our ministry share for 2026?

The Gower Ministry Area has a longstanding tradition of paying 100%—and often more—of its required ministry share to the diocese. This share is used to cover essential costs such as clergy stipends, pensions, and ministry support. In previous years, Gower's contributions have helped offset shortfalls from other ministry areas that did not meet their obligations. However, in 2025, the total ministry share paid by all ministry areas in the diocese dropped below 70%, highlighting a growing financial challenge.

Funding Structure and Financial Pressures

The diocese relies on two main sources of income: ministry share payments from churches and a block grant from the Representative Body (RB), which manages church assets. Historically, the RB subsidized up to 70% of diocesan costs, but this support has steadily declined—falling to 30% by 2011 and even lower by 2026. As a result, congregations are being asked to contribute more each year, placing increasing strain on their finances. While this system is intended to allow parishioners to support the ministry they receive, the annual increases have reached a critical point, and the MAC believes that paying the full 2026 ministry share would force many congregations to use their savings or reserves in an unsustainable crash to closure.

Current Challenges and Discussions

The ministry share for Gower MA in 2026 is £236,882, slightly lower than in 2025, yet the financial situation for many congregations has worsened due to declining attendance, reduced tithing, and fewer donations. Members of many congregations have moved or, sadly, died. The MAC spent considerable time in 2024 and 2025 consulting with the Bishop and diocesan finance team, seeking clarity on how the required funds could be raised when many congregations are struggling to meet their targets. The only viable solution presented was for the RB to increase its block grant, thereby reducing the financial burden on congregations.

Treasurers' Meeting and MAC Resolution

At the end of 2025, congregational treasurers met to discuss the apportionment of the ministry share for 2026. It became clear that many budgets could not accommodate the full payment without risking insolvency. While some congregations are experiencing growth and improved finances (such as Cheriton/ Llanmadoc), most are facing significant challenges. The MAC therefore resolved that, for 2026, the ministry area would aim to raise at least 80% of the amount requested by the diocese. Congregations able to pay their allocation will do so and a few are

able to give extra to their allocation. Those at risk of going into the red will budget to contribute only what they can afford but will be expected to aim for a higher figure. Their allocation is a minimum amount not a target to reach towards.

Looking Ahead: Hopes and Strategies

The Diocese hopes that, by Easter, the RB will respond to these financial pressures by increasing its block grant, which would reduce the ministry share required from congregations. In the meantime, the MAC has adopted a pragmatic approach allowing congregations time to develop stewardship campaigns, fundraising initiatives, and implement electronic giving devices. The goal is for the ten churches currently giving less to improve their financial position over the year and potentially increase their contributions. The MAC also notes that other ministry areas have consistently failed to pay their full share without facing consequences, while Gower has been penalised for exceeding its obligations—a situation that has contributed to the current dilemma. Please speak with your MAC member or treasurer for more information on your local situation.

Vicar Peter, Ministry Area Lead

Got Questions?

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Parish of Killay Magazine, 50 years ago - February 1976

Parish History

As part of our Jubilee celebrations, Dr Gerald Davies and Dr Patricia Davies (son & daughter of the late Canon D Lynne Davies, the first vicar of Killay) have undertaken to write up the history of the first 25 years of the formation of the parish. This will include the building of St Hilary's church and the establishing of St Martin's church. We have been eagerly awaiting their contribution which has just arrived from America. The remainder of the story of the first 50 years will be compiled by Mr David Morgan. When this has been completed these will be published in a Jubilee brochure which will be made available for sale.

Invitation to Broadcast

We have been asked by the BBC to broadcast a morning service on Radio 4 (Wales). This will be transmitted on Trinity Sunday, 13th June at 10:30 - 11:10am. The service will be recorded beforehand on Sunday morning, 23rd May at 10:30am. The congregation is asked to be in their places by 10:00am on the morning for a short rehearsal.

We have also been invited by Swansea Sound to broadcast an evening service to be relayed on Easter Sunday night, 18th April at 7:00 - 7:30pm. The recording for this will be on Wednesday night in Holy Week, 14th April at 7:30pm.

Choir Dinner

The church choir held their annual dinner at the Pines, Treboeth on 11th February when 40 members, including the wives and husbands, enjoyed a very pleasant evening. After a very good meal choir members took part in the entertainment which lasted for about 2 hours and a great deal of hidden and versatile talent was displayed. Our thanks go to those who organised the evening, Mr and Mrs Randall Nutt and Mrs Barbara Thomas.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Holy Baptism:

8th February Ian Michael Hutchinson, 19 Heaseland Place
15th February Kirsty Anne Phillips, 85 Ash Grove

Holy Matrimony:

14th February Jeffrey Thomas Richards & Fiona Helen Wheddon Rae
Robert James Wickstone & Sandra Michele Malone

Burials:

13th February Janet Edwards, 573 Gower Road
14th February Albert Robert Stephens, 31 Broadmead
17th February John Carter, Dunvant Post Office, Dunvant Road
20th February May Dickinson, 85 Derlwyn
William James Morgan, Parkmill



AFTERNOON TEA

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The deadline for articles for April 2026 magazine is Friday 27 March



RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS FIVE MYSTICAL SONGS A SEA SYMPHONY

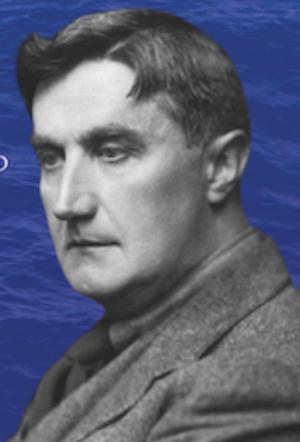
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LENT OBSERVATION:

All Souls and St. Hilary's will be following the Diocesan Lent course during their midweek services.



ST HILARY'S CHURCH CENTENARY - AUGUST 2026

As many of you will know, St. Hilary's Church will be 100 years old this year. We intend to celebrate this occasion in a number of ways but need your help. If you, your families, friends and neighbours have or have had any connection with St. Hilary's over the years, please can you look for any photographs or possible orders of service from weddings, funerals, baptisms or confirmations.

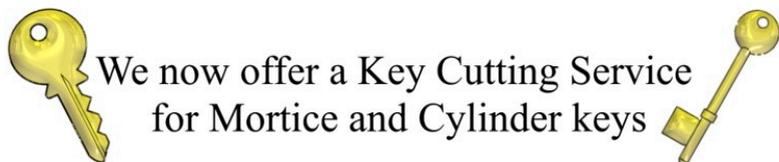
We need photographs and memories of church organisations, church fayres, youth clubs, pram group, luncheon club, sporting activities, garden club trips and celebratory events of any kind at all. Anything you have will be appreciated and returned to you.

Any ideas will be welcomed, please don't be afraid to think outside the box.



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Gower Ministry Area

LENT

Wild Church:



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21 Feb 1030am **Cwm Ivy**

28 Mar 2pm **Oxwich**

Ash Wednesday Services

18th Feb

945am St Mary, **Pennard**

10am **Llanrhidian** church

1030am St David, **Llanddewi**

1030am All Souls, **Tycoch**

Mondays 6pm from Feb 23 at St Hilary's Church

Hall Follow the Alpha Course to explore the Christian faith

Tuesdays 7.30pm from Feb 11 online Follow the Alpha

Course to explore the Christian faith and bring your questions.

Zoom Meeting ID: 897 2887 2933 Passcode: 823812

Wednesdays 7-7.30am from Feb 18th online Lenten

Meditation. Zoom Meeting ID: 603 821 5745 Password: 241268

Wednesdays 3pm from Feb 25th at The King Arthur,

Reynoldston, Lent Course exploring some of Jesus' Prayer Life.

Wednesday 7pm from Feb 18: Lamplighter Shop,

Bishopston. Exploring a Pilgrimage to 6 Welsh Cathedrals

Lent discussion within the Holy Communion:

All Souls Tycoch Wednesdays 1030am,

St Hilary's Killay Thursdays 11am

gowerma.org



St James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'

The Rectory, St James the Least of All



On how to run a church council meeting

My dear Nephew Darren

Clearly, the sight of your vicar running out of the room halfway through your last church council meeting, saying he should have stayed as a traffic warden, where he was universally liked, has unnerved you. It would have unnerved me too, since a universally popular traffic warden is an exceptional creature.

But perhaps it is necessary to give you some advice for the day when you do have to chair your first church council meeting.

1. Consider every agenda issue carefully beforehand and decide what you would like to do. Then, at the meeting, consult widely, listen to every opinion, weigh all the arguments, and then do precisely what you had decided before the meeting ever took place.

2. Never, ever, let council members discuss hymns, which avoids getting blood on the carpets.

3. Arrange the seating in rows, all facing the front, so that everyone must respond directly to you. The last thing you want is for council members to be able to discuss matters freely with one another.

4. Start smoking a pipe. At those times when you are faced with an issue when you really are unsure of how to respond, taking out your pipe, dismantling it, searching for a pipe cleaner, squinting down the stem to see if it is clean, mopping out the goo in the bowl, searching for your tobacco pouch, filling the pipe, tamping it down, asking if you can borrow matches and attempting to light it several times over, will give you more than sufficient time to formulate a reply. Once you have perfected the routine, the silence will have been so protracted, that most of the committee will have long forgotten what the question was anyway.

5. If someone is talking too long, consult your diary, noisily and obsessively, about next month's appointments, or write a note to a committee member who is at the back of the room and get it passed to him. The speaker should soon get the message.

These are the simpler techniques of committee management. The advanced procedures must wait until you are strong enough to bear them.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

WORDSEARCH

Love and serve one another. On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to his disciples before his death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed his disciples feet. This was astonishing for a teacher to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another. In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is *mandatum novum do vobis*. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

Maundy	Loved	As
Thursday	You	Teacher
Final	Must	Astonishing
Command	One	Purpose
Jesus	Another	Obedience
Disciples	Service	Humility
Death	Domination	Medieval
Last Supper	Latin	Feet
Washed	Ceremony	Of



Solution next month

Solutions to last month's Sudokus

Easy:

1	9	7	2	6	4	5	3	8
4	2	6	5	3	8	1	7	9
8	3	5	1	7	9	4	6	2
5	7	1	3	9	2	8	4	6
3	4	9	8	5	6	2	1	7
2	6	8	4	1	7	3	9	5
9	5	4	6	8	3	7	2	1
7	8	3	9	2	1	6	5	4
6	1	2	7	4	5	9	8	3

Medium:

3	5	9	6	4	1	8	7	2
1	2	4	8	7	9	5	6	3
6	7	8	5	3	2	9	1	4
9	3	5	7	1	4	6	2	8
4	1	6	3	2	8	7	9	5
7	8	2	9	6	5	4	3	1
5	9	3	1	8	7	2	4	6
2	6	7	4	5	3	1	8	9
8	4	1	2	9	6	3	5	7

Rhoi Gwaed | Achub bywydau

Cila | Killay

Neuadd Yr Eglwys St Hilary
St Hilary's Church Hall

Friday 6 March 2026

Friday 24 April 2026

Friday 19 June 2026



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St Martin's Church

Fairwood Rd,
Dunvant
SA2 7PE

*Everyone is welcome to our
services, full details of which
are on the back page*

The deadline for articles for the April 2026
magazine is on **Friday 27 March 2026.**

The magazine is printed and published by St Hilary
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The views in the articles reflect the views of the
individuals contributing the items and are not
intended to represent the official views of the
Ministry Area or the Church in Wales.

www.eastgower.org

*If you have any news or photos you would care to share
please contact Roger Rees*



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Enquiries

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01792 290100

St Hilary's Church Hall, Killay:

Tues

9:45am & 11:00am

Ladies

St Paul's Parish Centre, Sketty:

Tues

7:00pm

Ladies

Thurs

10:00am

Ladies



Mothering Sunday - the fourth Sunday of Lent- offers families an opportunity to honour the women who have nurtured them. Lots of different streams and traditions have come together to make today's Mothering Sunday the special day that it is.

In the Middle Ages it was an occasion for everyone to visit their 'mother' church - the place where they had been baptised. Later, an opportunity for those who worked away from home to visit their mothers became added to the mix of reasons to make it a special day.

Today we honour all women who have in one way or another been special to us, and in church this is usually signalled by small bunches of flowers for every woman present.

Treating mums and grans to Sunday lunch, chocolates and flowers is also part of the present mix. And will there be a simnel cake to be seen - a tradition from ages past - with its rich layers of marzipan, and eleven balls of marzipan on top, reminders of the 11 disciples who remained faithful to Jesus?

Not everyone has enjoyed a wonderful or enduring relationship with their mum, so lest we get carried away on a wave of love and sentimentality, there is usually space in the Mothering Sunday church service to reflect on and pray for those whose relationships with their mother were not all they might have been.

Also, there are the families blighted by the lack of, or death of a child; families remembering a mum who died tragically young; women who never had a child but would have dearly loved the opportunity; all these and more are a recognition of the imperfections of human love, human life.

These imperfections can be brought in prayer to the God who mothers us. In the Old Testament, Isaiah speaks of God comforting His people like a mother hen. In the New Testament, both Matthew and Luke bear witness to Jesus expressing His desire to gather His people as a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings. Yes, God has strong maternal qualities which He invites us to discover and enjoy!

Have you discovered the mothering, nurturing, maternal qualities which God offers to all people? It's lovelier than flowers, more long-lasting than simnel cake, better than a visit from family, and it's free to everyone who wants it - it could be yours!

Workshop on Leading Intercessions in Church

12th March 12 noon at St Hilary's Killay

18th March 7pm St David's Wernffrwd



- To encourage people in our congregations to be involved for the first time in leading intercessions in church
- To better equip people to write intercessions
- To better equip people to read and lead intercessions
- To share good practice from ministry area laity for those already leading prayers



**Organised & led by lay people
in our churches**

The workshop is under 90 mins and repeated on two dates, so choose which suits you and book on by contacting Andy in the office on 07398647421 or please email him gower.maa@churchinwales.org.uk



Church Services: *St Hilary's & St Martin's*

MARCH	ST HILARY'S KILLAY	ST MARTIN'S DUNVANT
1 Second Sunday of Lent <i>St David's Day</i>	9.30am Bubble Church 11.00am Lay led Service <i>Followed by coffee</i>	11.00am Eucharist
5 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
8 Third Sunday of Lent	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	10.00am Lay led Service
12 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
15 Fourth Sunday of Lent <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	9.00am Eucharist
19 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
22 Fifth Sunday of Lent <i>Passion Sunday</i>	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>
26 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
29 Sixth Sunday of Lent <i>Palm Sunday</i>	9.30am Joint Service at All Souls, Tycloch	9.30am Joint Service at All Souls, Tycloch

*The magazine of St Hilary & St Martin churches
in the Gower Ministry Area, Diocese of Swansea and Brecon.*

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