

# Magazine

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St Hilary's Church, Killay • St Martin's Church, Duvant



Is 11:10, Ps 20:5

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## Dear Friends

### Epiphany for Today

This month we celebrate Epiphany, the occasion on which we remember the Magi from the East following a star to find the baby Jesus: '*Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews?*' (Matthew 2:1). At the start of a New Year, in an uncertain world, we can be asking the same question. The gifts the Magi offered point us to how Jesus can answer our concerns and worries: '*they bowed down and worshipped Him...and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*' (2:11).

The *gift of gold* reflects that the Magi saw in the baby a king, destined to rule over us all. In this coming year we need to remember that Jesus is on the throne, the seat of power and authority in the whole universe. Will we crown Him king of our lives and dedicate all that we are and do to Him?

The *gift of frankincense* reflects that the visitors saw not just an earthly king, but God in human flesh. Incense symbolises the prayers of God's people and so this gift reminds us that God is worthy of our worship and prayer. Will we offer our praise and prayer, as we seek God to guide us through the uncertainties of this coming year?

The *gift of myrrh* reflects that these astrologers saw beyond the baby's birth and life, to His death which would secure life for all. Jesus was offered myrrh on the cross and was a spice used in His tomb. As we face challenges in the future, we can be confident that Jesus knows and understands our experience. Are we ready to trust Him in everything?

*'Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice! Heav'n sings Hallelujah: Hallelujah the earth replies.'* ('We Three Kings').



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

## Priest:

Reverend Layfetta Masih  
The New Vicarage, 59a Victoria Road, Waunarlwydd,  
Swansea SA5 4SY  
① 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, Alan Pickard, Mike Powell, Catherine Swain.

## Congregational Wardens:

Mike Powell ① 208955  
Marian Williams ① 204175

## Assistant Wardens:

Sylvia Powell ① 208955  
Alun Bessette ① 699037

## Treasurer:

Diane Holohan ① 296272

## Sacristan:

Mike Powell ① 208955

## Church Committee Secretary:

Marian Williams ① 204175

## Hall Booking Secretary:

Diane Holohan ① 07770 788465 (*texts preferred*)

## Envelopes/Gift Aid Scheme:

Geraldine Rees ① 207916

## Organist:

Chris Samuel

## St Martin's

St Martin's Church  
Fairwood Road, Duvant, Swansea SA2 7PE

## Eucharistic Assistant:

Susan Dimblebee

## Congregational Wardens:

Susan Dimblebee ① 299503  
Roger Draisey ① 515391

## Organists:

Martin Draisey, Julia Lambert

## Weekly Newsletter

Printer: Marian Williams ① 204175

## Church Magazine

Editor: Roger Rees (rogerrees134@gmail.com) ① 207916  
Advertising: Sue Charles-Phillips (s.charles7@ntlworld.com)

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## St Hilary's Church, Killay

### Sidespersons

**Jan** Jan & Jim Proudfoot

**Feb** Sue & Bob Mapp

### Elements

**4th** Lay led

**11th** Cath Swain, Spencer Thomas

**18th** Val Beynon, Christine Williams

**25th** Diane Holohan, Chris Regan

**Feb 1st** Lay led

**Feb 1st** t.b.a.

### Coffee

**4th** Sylvia & Lisa Powell

**11th** Sally Bowen, Sue Mapp

**18th** Chris Regan, Cath Swain

**25th** Angela Seaward, Sue Mapp

**Feb 1st** Nansi Evans, Sandra Banks

## St Martin's Church, Durnvant

### Sidespersons

**4th** Gareth Dimblebee

**11th** Sue Dimblebee

**18th** Roger Draisey

**25th** Ian Dimblebee

### Readers

**4th** Haulwen Lumsdaine

**11th** Margaret Draisey

**18th** Ian Dimblebee

**25th** Alun Bessette

### Altar Flowers

**4th** Jan & Barrie Huxtable

**11th** Ian Dimblebee

**18th**

**25th** Sue Dimblebee

### Holy Dusters

Carol & Julia

All enquiries:

Christenings, Weddings & Funerals

Please contact:

Rev'd Layfetta Masih

Mobile: 07414 268163

01792 410488

Email: layfettamasih@cinw.org.uk



### Readers

**4th** Lay led

**11th** Alun Bessette

**18th** Gillian Hutchinson

**25th** Marian Williams

**Feb 1st** Lay led

### Intercessions

**4th** Lay led

**11th** Sheila Betts

**18th** Nick

**25th** Jan Lewis

**Feb 1st** Lay led

### Eucharist Assistants

**4th** Lay led

**11th** Roy Chapman

**18th** Mike Powell

**25th** Roy Chapman

**Feb 1st** Lay led

### Altar Flowers

**4th** Val Griffiths in memory of Gerald

**11th** Jean Gwilym in memory of Glen

**18th** t.b.a.

**25th** Anne Llewelyn in memory of Gareth

**Feb 1st** t.b.a.



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# 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.

## KEN JAMES

It is with sadness that we pay tribute to Ken. A man of profound faith - genuine - humble - honest but from my own experience a man of great loyalty to his fellows. However he did not suffer fools gladly. If people could have been a fly on the wall during PCC Meetings it was an education.

Ken was born on the outskirts of Loughborough; he experienced childhood on his parents smallholding tending the chickens, pigs and the vegetable gardens - hence his love and knowledge of gardening. If Ken did have a weed in his garden he could tell you where it was!! Ken's garden will be a joy to behold in the Spring of 2026 as Andrew and family recently planted close on 500 bulbs

In 1948 Ken enlisted for national service and became a close friend of a fellow trooper whose name was Norman. After finishing his service he used to cycle to Newport to visit him. Norman had a sister named Joyce and their love for each other developed and they married in 1954 - a marriage of almost 50 years.

His first job brought him to Dunvant Road to fill in mine shafts. When the company ceased to function in 1951 he got employment with R M Douglas. He remained with the Company for the rest of his working life securing a degree for his life long learning and development within Civil Engineering.

Ken and Joyce bought their one and only home in Goetre Fach in 1955 and brought up their three children David, Mary and Ann there. Ken was faithful to St. Hilary's

Church and carried out work when the Hall was first built. He also carried out many offices in church, offices that were carried out with the utmost efficiency.

He and Joyce travelled widely in their touring caravan - but they had many other interests. I will name a few: The Red Arrows: stamp and coin collection: DIY: Sudoku and visiting Verdi's in Mumbles for coffee and cake. Sadly Joyce was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease but that did not stop her and Ken going to Gower every day with their dog Becky. The day of Joyce's death in 2004 they had spent in Rhossili. Ken also appreciated his friendship with Roy Chapman - Ken looked forward to Roy taking him to Probus every month as he enjoyed meeting up with the members and the eats etc.

Ken allowed the Alpha Studies Group to meet in his home for 2 years so that Joyce could join in. Rev. Andrew Meredith led the group, Joyce being a member of Mount Pleasant Chapel, I can tell you it was more than interesting. We would often feel sorry for Rev. Andrew as Joyce would put her views and questions forward and insisted on answers. Oh how we enjoyed those evenings. Jan Peebles attended with me and others and I know she will endorse how we envied Joyce's interpretation of many aspects of the Bible.

What a privilege for those of us who have been touched by a man of Ken's integrity - a man who loved and cared for Joyce unconditionally at home, that same love he extended to his three children, his sons in law, and Ann's daughter Ffion who was very special to him.

I cannot end this tribute without making mention of Sally and Jeff Bowen. Two christian neighbours for many years, but embraced each other as christian families. After Ken ceased to drive his car Sally ensured that Ken carried out his church duties unfailingly on Sundays and accompanied him to church events. Sally and Jeff you were true to Ken to the end and for that we your church family thank Jesus for you.

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## Safeguarding Contact

Ministry Area Safeguarding officer Cath Swain  
07854119359

## Your support matters

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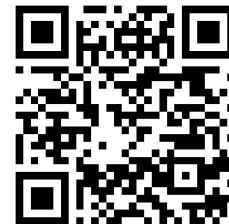
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## WHAT'S ON IN ST HILARY'S CHURCH HALL

<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:30	<b>Bubble Church</b> (with puppets) - <u>1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month</u>	Drop In
	10:15 – 12:30	<b>Sunday School</b> – <u>2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month</u>	Drop In
<b>MONDAY</b>			
	9:00 and 10:30am	<b>Slimming World</b>	Sue - 07813316739
	9:15 to 11:00am	<b>TOTS Group</b> (up to school age)	Drop In (Term time only)
	1:00 to 2:00pm	<b>Welsh Story &amp; Rhyme Time</b> (up to 18 months)	Patsy - Drop In (Term time)
	7:30pm	<b>Music Society</b> – <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month</u>	
<b>TUESDAY</b>			
	9:45 and 11:00am	<b>Flexercise Keep Fit for 50+</b>	Chris - 07738199666
	1:15 to 2:15pm	<b>Chair Yoga</b>	Celene - 07595456532
	6:00pm	<b>4th Killay Brownies</b>	
	2:00 to 4:00pm	<b>Mothers' Union</b> – <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month</u>	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			
	9:30am	<b>WeightWatchers</b>	Drop in to see Kate - kgoudge@www.com
	10:00am	<b>Luncheon Club</b> – <u>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month</u>	Kay - 01792206373
<b>THURSDAY</b>			
	9:15am	<b>Foot Clinic</b> (once a month by appointment)	Julie - 07796173074
	5:45 to 6:45pm	<b>Dancefit</b>	Rachel - info@swanseadance.com
<b>FRIDAY</b>			
	7:00 to 9:00	<b>Indoor Bowls Club</b>	Drop In to enquire

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## ST. HILARY'S and ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, KILLAY

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DRAW 2025

Prizes	Ticket No.	Name
1 <sup>st</sup> £100 cash - Church	874	Kevin McNamara
2 <sup>nd</sup> £50 cash – Bowls Club	946	Gaynor Ferguson
3 <sup>rd</sup> £50 cash – Tots Group	605	Lisa Powell
4 <sup>th</sup> Food hamper – MU Members	349	Railway Inn
5 <sup>th</sup> Garden Tools	406	Denise Rogers
6 <sup>th</sup> £50 M&S Voucher – St. James	188	Chris Regan
7 <sup>th</sup> Bottle of Whisky	722	Jayne Allan
8 <sup>th</sup> Candles	235	Jim Proudfoot
9 <sup>th</sup> Bottle of Wine	102	Angela Reed
10 <sup>th</sup> Mystery Prize	814	Ian Billington
11 <sup>th</sup> Children's game	527	John Button
12 <sup>th</sup> Toiletries	378	Alan Clewett
13 <sup>th</sup> Chutney Hamper	838	Sylvia & Mike Powell
14 <sup>th</sup> Tub of Chocolates	751	Ron Horsey
15 <sup>th</sup> Card shop voucher	743	S.Keeffe
16 <sup>th</sup> Bottle of Prosecco	193	Neil Regan
17 <sup>th</sup> Jigsaw	616	Jean Howell
18 <sup>th</sup> Grey Throw	532	Barrie & Jan Huxtable
19 <sup>th</sup> Body Wash	491	Simon Roberts
20 <sup>th</sup> Butter Cookies	938	Lyn Jones
21 <sup>st</sup> Book of Tea	385	Hazel Richards
22 <sup>nd</sup> Oven glove and Tea Towels	380	Alan Clewett
23 <sup>rd</sup> 12 piece Dinner Set	516	Alan Pickard
24 <sup>th</sup> Serving set	758	Pauline Moore
25 <sup>th</sup> Bottle of Baileys	115	Geraldine Rees
26 <sup>th</sup> Breakfast voucher Killay Café	865	Helen Simonds
27 <sup>th</sup> Bag of assorted sweets	379	Alan Clewett
28 <sup>th</sup> Cheese Board	679	Isabelle Garner
29 <sup>th</sup> Set of Chilli Sauces	027	Owen Bessette
30 <sup>th</sup> Chocolates	266	Barbara Rowe

# Music Society

Meeting: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Speaker John Roach.

Barbara welcomed us to the meeting and introduced our speaker for the evening Mr John Roach. He played a variety of music on his guitar that he had started playing at the age of twenty. He finished with a Christmas carol and we all joined in with the singing.

Angela gave the vote of thanks and we then had minced pies and mulled wine served by Nancy and her team and a good chat.

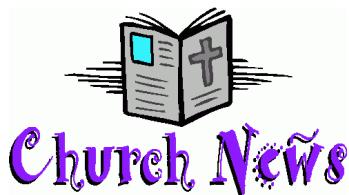
Our leader Barbara wished us all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year and would see us in the new year at the Black Boy for lunch on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Phyllis Rott

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## 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](mailto: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

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# Mothers' Union

The meeting for December was cancelled due to illness and holidays.

The first meeting in January 2026 will be on January 20th at 2:30pm, meeting in St Hilary's church for a Eucharist service, then in the small hall for tea.



## ST HILARY'S CHURCH CENTENARY - AUGUST 2026

As many of you will know, St. Hilary's Church will be 100 years old next 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.

Thank you,  
Marian Williams and Mike Powell  
Congregational Wardens.

## Reynoldston Stable Trail

Last year, the stable trail had to be cancelled due to severe weather warnings in place for the day of the event. This year, in consultation with the Churches of Gower, the Wonder of Wellbeing team organised an extra day on Friday December 5<sup>th</sup>, which was open to all the schools in the Ministry Area. We were joined by 8 classes from Knelston, Bishopston and Llanrhidian schools and the children, teachers, adults and guides had a wonderful time. The friezes produced by each school during the craft activities, were displayed prominently in St. George's Church in Reynoldston. The trail was open to the public the next day.

This year, I volunteered to be one of the guides, most in festive dress, me wearing a donkey costume! Our first stop was Heaven, where we watched the angels delivering important messages to Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph and finally the shepherds, telling them what was about to happen. The children were spellbound as they watched the angels putting all the incoming messages written on white feathers into the golden bowl. We were told to look for a star as it would lead us towards Jesus.

We met the Magi in a tent, it was dark and their camels were resting outside. Thanks to Caspar, Melchior and



Balthazar, we learned that they were expert astronomers and were following a new star which seemed to be moving. One child asked if that was why they travelled when it was dark, because we couldn't see any stars in the sky. They explained that they were bringing presents for the new baby King, though not teddy bears, blankets and toys as the children suggested. They were very friendly and warned us to look out for King Herod.

King Herod seemed to be pleased to see us and was anxious to visit the new baby king with a gift – a sword with a hilt made of sharkskin, from a shark he had killed himself. He didn't like donkeys in his palace as they made a mess on the floor and I had to kneel on the floor and

bow to him, which the children loved! Even the youngest visitors didn't want to tell him where the baby was.

So, we travelled on towards Bethlehem, but the Bethlehem Bunkhouse was full because there were so many people in Bethlehem that week. They did tell us that a lady who was going to have a baby and her husband had called, but there was no room, because he hadn't remembered to book. There was no room at all, though they did suggest that the One Star Inn might have room as it wasn't very good, it was dirty and there were always animals there.

Eventually we arrived at the said Inn, the sign said 'No Vacancies', but we knocked the door hopefully. Three very kind ladies asked us to come in from the cold and we shared our story. Actually, they had seen the lady who was expecting the baby but were ashamed to tell us that they'd offered her husband a place in their stable for the night. They were thrilled to tell us that the family was still there and there was a new baby boy. We were allowed to see the baby, and Mary

and Joseph told us what had happened to them. They had seen angels and some shepherds who had brought their sheep to see the baby. The children sang to the baby in hushed tones before we left to meet the shepherds on the hillside who told us what had happened to them, before we had drinks and biscuits with them.

Thanks to Rev'd. Andy Walker the Methodist Minister and all the members of his church, Rev'd. Peter Lewis and all the volunteers from the Gower MA and Pastor Patrice Aka and all the volunteers from the Gower New Life Church for making this such an enjoyable event for all. Thanks to everyone involved in the planning, setting up, lighting, sound, costumes, backdrops and refreshments.

In loving memory of Jane Gronow, who worked so hard and so enthusiastically with us every day, who told us that this was the start of her Christmas and who passed away so suddenly and tragically the next day.

Marian Williams



I would like to thank everyone that has contributed towards the giving of flowers throughout last year. A list will be placed at the back of the church during December if you wish to place flowers on the altar during 2026

Many thanks, Diolch yn Fawr  
Anne

## Parish of Killay Magazine, 50 years ago - January 1976

### THE LATE LADY EDWARDS

It is with regret that we record the death of Lady Kathleen Edwards at Milntown, Isle of Man. Lady Edwards and her family lived for many years in Hendrefoilan House and played an important part in the life of the church in Killay when the parish was formed and the church built in 1926. She was the first church warden and a generous benefactor. The funeral service took place in St Hilary's followed by the internment in the family grave in Oystermouth cemetery on 10th December.

### TOY GIFT SERVICE

Once again there was a splendid response from the children of the Sunday School for toys which were to be distributed to under privileged children of one parent families this Christmas. Nearly 150 gifts were brought to the special Family Carol Service on December 21st. This service was conducted entirely by the children who presented scenes from the Nativity story. They were prepared by the teachers of the Sunday School under the supervision of Messrs Eric Thomas and Randall Nutt who, with their wives, were also responsible for the lovely Christmas crib which was set up in the sanctuary.

### CAROL SERVICES

The Young Wives and Mothers' Union held their service on 17th December. The following read the lessons: Mesdames Pat Dolbear, Dudley Harris, Christine East, Esme Williams, Phyllis Rott, Haidee Davies, Hilda Morgan, Lesley Griffin and the Vicar. On the Sunday night before Christmas the Parish Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held in both St Hilary's and St Martin's. At St Hilary's the choir, under the direction of Mr Tony Glasson, provided a selection of Christmas music. The lessons at this service were read by: Paul Jeffrey, Mrs Mair Hughes, Mr George Heard, Mrs Haidee Davies, Mr Haydn Osborne, Mrs Kay Phillips, Mr David James, Mrs Lesley Griffin and the Vicar. In St Martin's the lessons were read by: Andrea O'Connor, Samantha James, Haley James, Suzanne Giles, Huw Knight, Andrew Smith, Tania Redmond, Mr Eric Williams and the Curate.

### FROM THE REGISTERS

#### Holy Baptism:

14th December Ashley Lloyd, 26 St Hilary Drive

#### Holy Matrimony:

6th December David Hayes and Lesley Ann Brown

8th December Ian Patrick Fitzgerald and Helen Iris Williams

#### Burials:

10th December Lady Kathleen Edwards formerly of Hendrefoilan House

## Joint Congregational meeting St Hilary's and St Martin's

Wednesday January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

St.Hilary's Church Hall



Please try to attend this first meeting of the year to find out what plans the church has for 2026.



  
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The deadline for articles for February 2026 magazine is Friday 23 January

## Wild Church at Rhossili December 27<sup>th</sup> 2025

**This was the last Wild Church event of the year, with numbers growing every time.** There was a definite chill in the air, but the glorious sunshine attracted 25 walkers and 8 dogs, all eager to stretch their legs after Christmas. We met at St. Mary's Church, Rhossili at 10:30am for an easy circular walk to the Coastwatch Station overlooking Worm's Head and returning through the Vile, stopping for prayers and to sing carols in the open air.

Dan introduced our walk, by reading a poem written by Liliane Davies entitled, 'In All the World God Shines.' Liliane is a talented poet and artist who bases much of her work on the landscape, using light and dark shadows to enhance what she sees, and this is reflected in the deep spirituality of her poems. Now living in Penclawdd, Liliane is a greatly valued volunteer at Wonder of Wellbeing events and has become a great friend to all of us who attend regularly. At the beginning of this poem, she writes about the meadows and the hills, deep pools, roaring seas, in the village, on the beach ..... Did Liliane have Rhossili in mind when she wrote these words, who knows? Whether or not she did, they could not have been more appropriate.

Armed with the words on mobile phones and printed copies, our first carol was, 'Away in a manger,' which we sang on the cliff path just past the National

Trust shop. Dan talked about the name Jesus, so familiar to us, but explained that his parents would have known him as Joshua or Yeshua. We were asked to think of who Jesus is to each of us personally, how does his life and example challenge or inspire us and to identify the ways in which we experience the presence of Jesus in our own lives today. Before leaving this spot, Dan handed a pebble to one of the group with the name Jesus painted on it, to be placed on the wall nearby.

Our second carol was, 'Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new born king.' Again, we were challenged to think of other names for Jesus, so many were forthcoming eg Saviour, Prince of Peace, Counsellor, Almighty, but we were asked to consider the choice of King. How does the idea of a King sit with the modern world? Do kings have real power? Do we acknowledge Jesus as a King? When we read the Gospels, it is very apparent that Jesus did not have any of the wealth and possessions we might expect of a King. He was an ordinary person, born in a stable with animals, visited by shepherds who were considered to be outsiders and forced to become a refugee as his life was threatened. He was humble, cared for the sick, mixed with people considered to be outcasts by others, but built up an increasing number of followers as he

opposed injustice and challenged those in power. A second pebble bearing the name King was placed at this point.

Our third carol was, 'O come all ye faithful,' sung on the cliff top overlooking the sea with Worm's Head in the distance, with Revd. Pete and Sian Smith singing the descant beautifully. Reflections on Christ this time, before the third pebble was placed. It was soon time to return to Rhossili crossing The Vile, a famous feature of the landscape at Rhossili. This mediaeval system of strip farming has been maintained to maintain the integrity of the land, now growing wildflowers and pollinators. Our fourth carol was, 'O Come, O come Emmanuel,' sung to the tune of 'Christians Awake' which added a new

upbeat dimension to this familiar Advent carol. The pebble with the inscription Emmanuel was placed nearby. Our final carol, 'Joy to the World,' with its focus on Lord proved to be another popular choice, sung with great enthusiasm before the final pebble was placed.

Finally back to St. Mary's where we were able to view Chloe's Light installation over tea, coffee, hot chocolate and biscuits. Once again a few wonderful hours, walking in beautiful scenery and singing familiar carols which Dan linked so skilfully to some of the other names by which Jesus was known.

*Marian Williams*





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## 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 the perils of leading prayer in church

My dear Nephew Darren

*I do hope you have now settled down in your first parish - although it is such a pity that you did not choose a more distinguished one. I know you feel your vocation lies in inner city work – whereas mine, fortunately, has always been to the better sort of rural village. I have always felt that the Almighty understands me well in that regard.*

*We had a little flurry of activity in church on Sunday. At the signal "let us pray", as the congregation dutifully flopped to their knees, sounding like a flock of geese settling in for the night, Major Hastings lost his glass eye. Yes, again! That man is so careless at times. Anyway, released from captivity, the eye rolled under the pews like a fugitive marble, ricocheting from hassock to handbag over the stone flags.*

*My sonorous entreaties to the Almighty were completely lost as the entire congregation scuttled under pews, trying to retrieve it. It finally appeared on the collection plate - along with £4.17, 100 pesetas and Miss Simpson's front door key. I was unsure whether the last item represented a fit of absent-mindedness or an improper suggestion. I returned it to her very firmly at the end of the Service.*

*The eye stared at me mournfully as I blessed it, along with the money. But it left a small social dilemma. What is the etiquette of returning a lost glass eye to its owner?*

*To have processed down the aisle with it, accompanied by crucifer and verger seemed a little too public. To sneak it to him as we shook hands at the door seemed a little too furtive. I finally decided to send a server to deliver it during the last hymn. I still wonder if it was the right decision. Perhaps you could look through that new Common Worship book and see if they have included an appropriate rite for returning lost glass eyes. We here at St James-the-Least-of-All haven't yet got round to Common Worship. The days are evil enough as it is.*

*Your loving uncle,*

*Eustace*



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

The deadline for articles for the February 2026  
magazine is on **Friday 23 January 2026**.

The magazine is printed and published by St Hilary  
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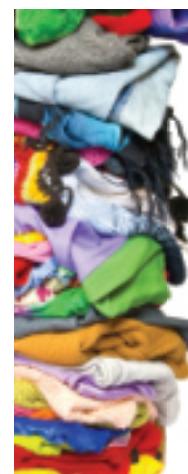
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# St Martin's Church

## Candle-light Carol Service



With candles lit and all 62 seats taken the 7th St Martin's community candlelight carol concert began with our Vicar Layfetta welcoming our readers once again representing our local community, the local police, Duvant RFC, our local councillor, and The Duvant Club and the Headmistress of our local school, Mrs Rachel Lewis, and music teacher Abie Hamilton Shaw. With Carole Lewis unwell, Judy Doyle stepped in and read a Christmas poem, as did Wendy Tardioli but in Welsh. Wendy finished with thoughts of a neighbourly and caring Christmas. The star singers from Pen Y Fro school once again brought the house down with their Christmas songs and hand actions which led them to perform twice. The Calypso Carol was sung with gusto, which is becoming a tradition that we all enjoy. Christmas prayers followed and a blessing, sherry and mince pies then followed with soft drinks for the children and time for the adults to have a catch up with old friends and make new ones.

St Martin's wish everyone a happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

*The Wardens at St Martin's*



*Tots Christmas Party at St Hilary's Church Hall, there were 20 children and a real Father Christmas!*



*Nativity Service with Carols plus a couple of donkeys to complete the Nativity scene at St Hilary's*

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

JANUARY	ST HILARY'S KILLAY	ST MARTIN'S DUNVANT
1 Thursday	No Service	
4 Second Sunday of Christmas	9.30am Bubble Church 11.00am Lay led Service <i>Followed by coffee</i>	11.00am Eucharist
8 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
11 First Sunday of Epiphany Baptism of Christ	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	10.00am Lay led Service
15 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
18 Second Sunday of Epiphany	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	9.00am Eucharist
22 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
25 Conversion of Paul, Apostle	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>	11.00am Eucharist <i>Followed by coffee</i>
29 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	

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

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