

Do not regret growing older—it is a privilege denied to many!

Join our 80+ Happy Birthday Corner!

To include someone, please get in touch now, with name and date of birth.

Happy Birthday Blessings to:

Janet Waddington: she celebrates 86 years on 21 January!

Katie Jones: she celebrates 95 years on 26 January!

We wish you many more years of health and happiness!

What do we show on this month's cover? We show a New Year's greetings card! We may have sung "Auld Lang Syne", at various social gatherings over the years, – but what does it mean and where did it start? It started life as a Scottish folk song, and roughly translates as "days gone by." Robbie Burns is credited with adapting and partially re-writing it in the 18th century, and it is used today as a call to remember friends and experiences from the past. Who were the first to create New Year's resolutions, which these days can involve getting into better shape, discarding a bad habit or learning a new skill? Believe it or not, the ancient Babylonians, nearly 4000 years ago made promises to earn the favour of their gods, and to start the New Year on the right foot! They would allegedly promise to pay off debts and to return borrowed farm equipment. If they kept their promises, their pagan gods would bestow favours on them for the coming year. But if these promises were broken, they would be in serious trouble! Romulus, the original founder of Rome, in the 8th century BC, set the start of the new year to coincide with the spring equinox. However, in 46 BC, having consulted with the most renowned and respected astrologers and mathematicians of the day, Julius Caesar established January 1st as New Year – the month named after Janus, the two headed god of beginnings, who looks back at the old year and forward to the new! In the Christian calendar, Jan 1st occurs eight days after the birth of Christ, which in Jewish tradition, is the day on which every male child was to be formally named and circumcised. The name Jesus had already been decided by the angel, at the announcement of Mary's pregnancy. According to the Hebrew bible, circumcision had been everlastingly covenanted with God, by Abraham for his descendants and their slaves, as a rite of passage for Jewish baby boys, to be carried out by a specially trained Rabbi. In modern times, the Christian sacrament of baptism is seen to be accepted as a replacement practice for this original "covenant of grace" **We wish a Happy New Year to all our readers!**

All will be welcome at our first Walsingham Mass of the new year at 11.30 am on Saturday, 14 January, at St Cybi. Our Christmas lunch, in the conservatory of the Breakwater Country Park café was a great success and much enjoyed. Plans are already tentatively being made for our August 2023 pilgrimage to Norfolk—our first since 2019 due to Covid! For more info please ring Jane Bailey: 01407 521092

Fundraising to maintain the respectful appearance of **St Seiriols Churchyard** is ongoing. So many of us have family members buried there! If you would like to support, by **buying reasonably priced Bonus Ball tickets weekly**, with the possibility of winning a cash prize, please contact Tommy Williams 764562. Thank you.

Val Cybi Thomas wishes you to know, that the final sum realised by her "in church shop sales" amounted to £171. She has now passed this sum over to **St Cybi's**, and the bank account is now closed. Thank you Val, your shop has done well over many years!

Message from our town Mayor Adrienne! A New Year resolution? Llaingoch Community Hall is part of the Holyhead Warm Hub scheme! Join us every Monday, Wednesday or Friday, between 10.0am and 2.0pm for friendly company, in a warm room, with tea, coffee, snacks or a full meal? Everyone welcome! Although the food is free, donations would be very welcome.

**BRO CYBI / HOLY ISLAND MINISTRY AREA
PASTORAL CARE CIRCLE
JANUARY 2023**

Ministry Area Leader/Vicar: Rob Wardle 07710 173177

Associate Vicars : Neil Ridings: 01407 861663

Jane Bailey : 01407 521092



MAY THE WORLD IN 2023 BE A KINDER PLACE!

We look forward to life getting back to normal, so that when you cannot come to church, the church will come to you again!

Our pastoral care visiting team has grown in size, to allow us to reach out to even more people, as soon as we are allowed. Until this happens, the clergy will handle all visits. We know that in some areas, loneliness can be a huge problem, especially if your family live away, or if you are new to the town or village.

Please don't feel that you are on your own—we are just a phone call away!

Some of you might like us to call for a friendly chat, others might like to receive Holy Communion, either in your own home, in hospital or in a care or nursing home.

Others prefer a telephone call, just to be reminded that we are thinking of you.

Remember that if we don't know that you need us, we sadly cannot help you, so someone please get in touch on your behalf!

For anything to be included in this leaflet, please contact:

Pat: 01407 860412 or email: patriciahughes2017@gmail.com. Thank you.

Your prayers for the sick are asked for:

Sunday: Brian Wray, Mike Boylin, Judy, Ray, Anita Parry, Alan, Pat Jones, David Carey, Sue Tatlow, Janice, Patsy Young, Baby Emlyn, Katie Jones, Michelle, Carolann Wedlake, Annette, Catherine Owen .

Let us know the name of anyone who needs our prayers, and their carers.

Wednesday : Hannah, Rosemary Tucker, Huw , David Carey .

Prayers for any other reason:

Pam: That inflation and the cost of living be brought under control, so that our people will not financially fear the coming winter and beyond!

If you need us to pray for you for any reason at all, please let us know.

Rest in Peace : " Love is meant to hurt, when it leaves "

Joseph Henry (Harry) Robinson, June Carroll

Please pray for the families and friends who grieve for their loved ones.

Grief is love with no where to go!

Anniversaries of death:

Jan 01-07: Margaret Edwards, David Lloyd Williams, David Hems Williams, Hywel Manley Williams.

Jan 08-14: Arwyn Abbit, Gareth Jones, Joyce Hughes, Arthur Preston Thomas, Lilian Jones, Owen Ivor Jones.

Jan 15-21: Simon Andrew Stott, Myra Longes, Pam Lewis.

Jan 22-28: Peter Trevor Screech, Kingsley Walker, John Gareth Hughes, Violet Ethel Maycroft.

Jan 29-Feb 04: Walter Williams, Tom Williams, Catherine Roberts

Grieving is nature's way of giving us space to accept the loss of those we love. It's a time to be very gentle with yourself.

If you have lost loved ones , and you wish to remember them in the Anniversaries of Death section, please get in touch as soon as possible. The fact that one of our clergy performed the ceremony, unfortunately does not mean that the name automatically transfers into the Anniversaries section. You need to request it please. It is very comforting to read and hear the name remembered.

Neil writes: Over recent months the clergy have gradually returned to taking Home Communion to those who have requested it. We are conscious that there may well be others too, who have not been in touch. If you would like Home Communion then please do contact one of the Clergy Team.

As usual, the **Mothers Union** ladies really enjoyed their **Christmas Buffet lunch** , at the Anchor- age, arranged by Karen. The first meeting of 2023 will be on Thurs, 19 Jan , at St Davids, at 2.0pm. It will take the form of a "show and tell" afternoon. If you have an article, of any sort, which has a story to it which is personal to you, please bring it and share your story with the group! Tea and biscuits as usual! The program for the year will be revealed! Everyone welcome!

Thanks for prayers answered. It was good to see **Thelma Collins Jones** at the St Davids Carol Concert , back to her happy smiling self! **Brenda Borsby** is feeling so much better.! **Angela Hillman** has had a wonderful year! **Fenton** and **Susan Hanbury** are feeling so much better.

The **Tuesday lectionary study group** meet each week in **St Ffraid's Hall, 12 till 1pm**, with a cup of coffee or tea to discuss the following Sunday's bible readings. We look forward to welcoming you ! For more details contact Rev Neil, 861663.

Prayers please for Rev. Jane Bailey: who will undergo orthopaedic surgery at the Robert Jones / Agnes Hunt Hospital, Gobowen, in early January.

Happiness often sneaks through a door that you did not think was open.

Interesting January Dates: On the 1st , in 1449, Lorenzo de Medici (known as Lorenzo the Magnificent) was born in Florence, Italy. On the 1st, in 1863, in the third year of civil war, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. All people being held as slaves in rebellious American states, were now free. On the 3rd in 1922, English explorer Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings, near Luxor in Egypt. King Tut ruled Egypt as pharaoh for ten years until he died aged 19 around 1324 BC. On the 11th, in 1569 Queen Elizabeth1 needed to raise funds for several public projects. The choice was between levying a new tax or holding the first state lottery. The lottery idea won! Tickets went on sale at the West door of St Paul's Cathedral, London.

Sunday 8th January : A communal service will be held at 11.0am in St Ffraid's, Trearddur Bay. This will be a chance for those who have not already met **Mary, Assistant Bishop**, to do so. All will be most welcome. There will be no other services in the ministry area on that day.

Reporting on church Christmas events! St Ffraid: RNLI Carol service—it was great to see everyone coming together. Xmas Midnight Mass was well attended by 31 people (including visitors) and 2 very well behaved dogs! **St Gwenfaen:** The carol service fell foul (!) to the extra time for the World Cup match final. However, 80 people , including pupils from Ysgol Santes Gwenfaen, Rhoscolyn, enjoyed the service and the refreshments. 50 people (including visitors) enjoyed the Christmas Day service. I am told that Neil dodged a foam missile! (Sorry, I have no idea what that means either!) **St David:** The carol concert, in aid of St David's Hospice, was a huge success. The entertainment was a blend of talented fun gentlemen of a certain age, Holyhead Male Voice Choir, led by a small but powerful lady conductor, and the Magee Brothers ,three personable young men, starting out on life's big musical adventure! The total sum of £841 was raised for the hospice, including cash from the elephant boxes. Thanks to everyone who attended and the brilliant organising team! The Big Feast was well attended and enjoyed. **St Cybi:** The annual Christmas Tree festival was a great success and enjoyed by all who visited. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to keep the church open for the thirteen days! The amazing sum of £732 was donated, £300 of which was used for Electricity costs! The food distribution out of Eglwys y Bedd was successful and well received. Many thanks both to the stores who donated it and those who collected and distributed it. As usual, the Christmas Eve crib service was well attended and enjoyed by all, as was the Midnight Mass and Sunday morning service. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to make these events in all four churches such a success! Unfortunately a couple of events were cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances!

Harri Williams, a retired Geography master and Assistant Head master , presently a valued member of our local branch of Rotary International, writes: "While stewarding on Dec 20th at Saint Cybi's Church, with Barbara Williams, for the Christmas Tree Festival, the church was visited by a group of pupils from Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi, with a couple of young members of staff. The behaviour of the pupils was exemplary, with the young staff having excellent discipline. When I gave the pupils a short lecture on one aspect of the church, they listened attentively and asked intelligent questions. They were good ambassadors, and were a credit to the school and its staff" **The church is most grateful to the Rotary members, for their constant willingness if possible, to assist whenever they are asked. Thank you all!**