

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 85 years on 21 January!

Katie Jones: she celebrates 94 years on 26 January!

David Williams (No 9): he celebrates 82 years on 29 January!

We wish you many more years of health and happiness!

What do we show on the front cover? Janus – Roman god of beginnings, gates, transitions, passages, endings and doorways. Hence the English word association – janitor. January, the first month of the year is named for him – he is depicted with two faces, one looking to the past, the other looking to the future, but both at the same time. He presided over the beginning and ending of conflict –of war and peace. An open enclosure in Rome named “The Janus” after him, with gates at each end, was opened in time of war, and closed in time of peace. As a god of motion, he causes all actions to start, and presides over all beginnings. He was also connected with trading, travelling and shipping. Janus was ritually invoked first at the start of any event, regardless of the main deity involved. Janus is the guardian of the gates of heaven. He was worshipped at the beginning of harvest and of planting time. He was invoked at marriages, at deaths and at other beginnings. As his authority straddled so many aspects of life, he was acknowledged at so many times during the year. On 1st of January, the day was consecrated to him. As the Romans believed that the beginning of anything was an omen to the whole, it became customary to exchange cheerful words of good wishes at the start of each year. We do this still! Gifts of dates, figs and honey were given as a token of goodwill. Janus was uniquely a Roman god - there was no equivalent Greek deity.

Mother’s Union. The next meeting, third Thursday of the month, will be on 20th January, 2.0pm at St. David’s. We hope to have a social afternoon with light hearted games and hopefully plenty of fun. A reminder that anyone who is eligible to receive their 40, 50, or 60 year Membership Certificates, please ring Janice 762905 so the Diocese MU can be informed and the Certificates prepared. We look forward to seeing you all, and shall discuss our calendar for the year. Our membership list will need to be updated, with current names/ addresses, and annual subs will be collected. Although we have sadly lost some faithful members, we are always happy to welcome new faces! Remember, you don’t have to be a mother to be a member!

Please support the Cytun (Churches Together) Charity Shop. It will be open in the usual place, during the week beginning Monday, 4th February 2022. Donations of saleable items, and offers to volunteer will be appreciated. Please contact Rev Jane Bailey for more details. Thank you.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022 (18-25 January) Here is an opportunity for Christians from local churches to come together in prayer, and many local Churches Together/ Cytun groups will host joint services during this time. This year, Cytun Caerdybi/ Holyhead Churches Together will hold a joint service on Monday, 24th January 2021 at 7pm in the English Baptist Chapel, Newry Street. You will be most welcome to join us.

Christmas tree festival : Richard would like to thank everyone who helped in any way towards a successful Christmas tree festival. It was wonderful to see the community come together this year. 44 trees were displayed by church and local organizations. Stewarding was carried out by church members, Rotary and people from the community. More than 1000 visited, and generously donated £757 towards church funds. Thank you all!

Myfs writes: **St Cybi Christmas Charity Shop** raised the amazing total of £1,330 over five days ! Thanks to everyone who supported us, including donations of raffle prizes from local businesses. Huge thanks to the volunteers ...without you there would be no shop!

**BRO CYBI / HOLY ISLAND MINISTRY AREA
PASTORAL CARE CIRCLE
JANUARY 2022**

Ministry Area Leader/Vicar: Rob Wardle 07710 173177

Associate Vicars : Neil Ridings: 01407 861663

Jane Bailey : 01407 810827

Andy Herrick : 01407 861084



We are looking forward to life getting back to some sort of normality, 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 are handling 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:

Sun: Brian Wray, Brenda Borsby, Mike Boylin, Monica Griffiths, Judy, Katie Jones, Myfanwy Newman, Yvonne Fairlamb, Sue Jones, Ray, Jane Parry Williams, Frances Iliff, Eunice, Sue Chadwick, Anita Parry, Graham Smith.

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

Wed: Hannah, Menna Screech, Barbara Smith, Rosemary Tucker, Huw Thomas, Jan Ware.

Prayers for any other reason:

Angela, Pam, Lynz.

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

Rest in Peace : 'I am the resurrection and the life' ...

Hazel Elizabeth Owen, William (Billy) Davies, Derek Moore, Pam Ward.

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 02- 08: Margaret Edwards, David Lloyd Williams, David Hems Williams, Hywel Manley Williams, Arwyn Abbit, Gareth Jones.

Jan 09 -15: Joyce Hughes, Arthur Preston Thomas, Lilian Jones, Owen Ivor Jones, Simon Andrew Stott

Jan 16--22: Myra Longes, Pam Lewis

Jan 23 -29: Peter Trevor Screech, Kingsley Walker (priest), John Gareth Hughes, Violet Ethel Maycroft, Walter Williams

Jan 30-Feb 05: Tom Williams, Catherine Roberts, James Dunsmuir

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.

Please pray for this person recently baptised:

11 Dec: St Cybi: Allison Alonso

We welcome her as the newest members of our church family

All Xmas services/social events held in all four churches were really successful and appreciated!

Starting on 5 Dec, at 9.15am in St Cybi, there will be on the first Sunday of each month, a said communion service followed by a Morning Praise service at 11.0am.

These will be the only services in the Ministry Area ,so all four churches please join together.

"We may be surprised at the people we find in heaven. God has a soft spot for sinners. His standards are quite low !." Archbishop Desmond Tutu

New Year celebrations around the world. Fireworks appear to be universally popular. In Denmark, you would be delighted to find smashed plates on your doorstep – ensuring good luck for the year! In Brazil, lentils are eaten to ensure money will be plentiful. Good luck will be certain to surround you in Spain, if you eat one grape at each stroke of midnight. Evil spirits are chased away in Romania, by people dressing as dancing bears, because traditionally bears protect and heal. In Japan, bells are rung 108 times. In South Africa unwanted furniture is thrown out of the window, to start the year with a clean slate. In some South American countries, people walk around carrying empty suitcases, to ensure a year of adventures lies ahead !.

Interesting birthdates in the month of January! On the 6th, in 1412, Joan of Arc was born. On the 8th in 1935, Elvis Presley was born. On the 8th in 1947, David Bowie was born. On the 17th, in 1942, Muhammed Ali was born.

Please join us for a **Walsingham Mass** at St Cybi, at 11.30am on 8 January 2022. We enjoyed a very sociable Xmas lunch together at the Breakwater Park Cafe.

Thanks for prayers answered : Alwenna is grateful, she feels much recovered!

Congratulations to our Bishop Andy John: on his election to the status of Archbishop of Wales. Fortunately he will also remain as Bishop of Bangor.

The first roots of Christianity in our land can be traced back to Constantine the Great of the Roman Empire, the first emperor to adhere to Christianity. He issued an edict which protected Christians in the empire, and converted to the faith on his deathbed in 337AD. However during the fifth century, many invasions by Germanic tribes almost destroyed the Christian church. **In January 2016, the leaders of the 38 provinces of the Anglican communion met in Canterbury, and were able to actually display a dated visible sign of the long history of our English church.** The original ivory head of the bishop's staff, associated with St Gregory the Great, had been loaned to us by the Vatican for that recent event. Gregory was the Pope who sent missionaries to England in 597AD, to the court of the Anglo Saxon king Aethelbert, who was married to Bertha, a Christian princess. This resulted in the almost total religious re-conversion of our land, and the founding of the religious community in Canterbury by St Augustine, a Benedictine monk. He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Church quotes its foundation from the date of his arrival. The crozier normally lives in Rome, in the monastery church of San Gregorio Magno al Celio. Pope Gregory once served as its Abbot, and before leaving for England, Augustine served as its prior. Fascinating!

Ancient seasonal traditions. For the Vikings, the yule log was an integral part of their celebration of the winter solstice, the julfest. On the log, they would carve runes representing unwanted traits (such as ill fortune or poor honour) that they wanted the gods to take from them. **Overview of The Middle Ages.** Other customs developed as part of Christian belief. For example, Mince Pies (so called because they contained shredded or minced meat) were baked in oblong casings to represent Jesus' crib, and it was important to add three spices (cinnamon, cloves, and nutmeg) representing the three gifts given to the Christ child by the Magi. The pies were not very large, and it was thought lucky to eat one mince pie on each of the twelve days of Christmas (ending with Epiphany, the 6th of January). **Food.** Humble (or 'umble) pie was made from the "humbles" of a deer -- the heart, liver, brains and so forth. While the lords and ladies ate the choice cuts, the servants baked the humbles into a pie (which of course made them go further as a source of food). This appears to be the origin of the phrase, "to eat humble pie." By the seventeenth century, Humble Pie had become a trademark Christmas food, as evidenced when it was outlawed along with other Christmas traditions by Oliver Cromwell and the Puritan government. **Christmas Trees and Plants.** Holly, ivy, and mistletoe were all important plants to the Druids. It was believed that good spirits lived in the branches of holly. Christians believed that the berries had been white before they were turned red by Christ's blood when he was made to wear the crown of thorns. Ivy was associated with the Roman god Bacchus and was not allowed by the Church as decoration until later in the middle ages when a superstition that it could help recognize witches and protect against plague arose. **Ancient traditions to greet the new year.** A tall dark haired man would wait outside the house, holding a tray on which there was a candle, a piece of coal, some bread and salt. As he entered, he recited: **"May this house be blessed with light and heat, bread for the table and salt for the meat. May every day with prayer begin, and peace and happiness dwell within.**" This became known as first footing!