



## Who's Who?

The PCC

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# The Parish of Trellech and Penallt December/January 2015/16

*A Very Happy Christmas to Everyone*

*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,.....And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa 9.6*



## SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2015

<b>6th Dec.</b>	<b>Feast St Nicholas</b>	
11.00.	Old Church Penallt	Holy Eucharist
16.00	Trellech	Patronal Festival Party
<b>13th Dec.</b>	<b>Advent 3</b>	
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	BCP Eucharist
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Family Christingle
<b>20th Dec.</b>	<b>Advent 4</b>	
09.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Said Eucharist
11.00.	Catbrook Hall	Carol Service
16.00	Old Church Penallt	Carol Service
<b>24th Dec.</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	
16.00	Penallt	Nativity at the barn
23.30	St Nicholas Trellech	Midnight Mass
<b>25th Dec.</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	
09.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Family Eucharist
11.00.	Old Church Penallt	Family Eucharist
<b>27th Dec.</b>	<b>St John</b>	
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	Said Eucharist
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Said Eucharist



### Funerals

16 <sup>th</sup> October	Derrick Cooling - Priest
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Joan Emily Brown
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	David Kennard
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Gerald Russell

### Holy Matrimony

2 <sup>nd</sup> October	David Harper and Lily Howells
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Barry Maxted and Veronica Bone

### Last Month

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November** The Coffee Morning was a success raising a total of £127 for the Church

### ADVENT GROUPS - A TIME FOR MISSION

Advent is an ideal time to consider mission, for the coming of Christ into the world must have been part of God's mission plan for his people, and because at our Diocesan conference last month, Bishop Richard announced plans for 2016 to be a year of mission in our diocese. I hope every member of our congregation will be willing to host or attend a home group leading into Christmas to consider these things, and we will welcome any in the wider community who would like to join us in this. Each group will be asked to meet 4 times to be challenged to their understanding of mission by reflecting on the following four headings:

- **How or what would you describe as the Mission of our church.**
- **Explore words that reflect your understanding of mission.**
- **Explore God's mission to the World in the coming of Christ.**
- **Does our understanding of mission match that of the Lord's?**

Material will be available to help and guide you through these discussions, but the meetings will be free to follow where the discussions lead. Can I therefore ask as many as possible to try to join a group? If the timing makes that not possible do please get together with others, friends & neighbours. It doesn't matter if you are only 2 or 3. It is so much more fruitful to explore together. If you would submit your ideas and even a possible Mission Statement to me, the PCC will use them to report via our Newsletter, & church notice boards, and prepare the next steps in us creating a shared vision and mission statement for the future. Lists of house groups will be in both churches for people to sign up to or offer to host if more groups at different times are needed.

Rev Sandra Howells

## SERVICES IN JANUARY 2016

<b>3rd Jan.</b>	<b>Christmas 2</b>	
09.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Matins
11.00.	Old Church Penallt	Holy Eucharist
<b>Wed.6th Jan.</b>	<b>Epiphany</b>	
19.00	St Nicholas Trellech	Deanery Eucharist
<b>10th Jan.</b>	<b>Baptism of Christ</b>	
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	BCP Eucharist
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Family Communion
<b>17th Jan.</b>	<b>Epiphany 2.</b>	
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	Holy Eucharist
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Eucharist with healing
<b>24th Jan.</b>	<b>Epiphany 3</b>	
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	Holy Eucharist
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Holy Eucharist
<b>31st January . Epiphany 4</b>		
18.00 -	Will be our united service at Trellech Methodist Chapel.	

### THE FAMILY SERVICE

Every second Sunday of the month we hold a family service when children are actively involved. These four were playing percussion instruments during singing of a children's hymn. All are welcome, grown ups are welcome to support our Kids, its fun and it's the future of our Christian heritage. Remember 11.00 in St Nicholas Church



Kids taking part

## December Diary

### Sunday 29th November

4pm St Nicholas Church. We Host an ecumenical Advent Carol Service and welcome our guest preacher, His Grace, The Most Rv. George Stack, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cardiff.

### Wednesday 2nd December

2pm. We welcome Trellech Primary School into St Nicholas Church for their Advent Christingle

### Old Church Christmas Festive Fayre

**Saturday 5th** 2pm to 4pm at Pelham Hall - Festive refreshments, gift stalls inc. wood turning, cakes, children's corner, & raffle with generous prizes,

### Sunday 6th December

4pm at St Nicholas Church - Feast of St Nicholas- Father Christmas Children's party. Parents and church members welcome - mince pies and coffee for them. No cost for children, but they must come dressed as Santa and be one of his helpers by bringing a Christmas wrapped shoe box containing a gift/ gifts for a child their own age who might otherwise not get a present. There are only 25 places, for children aged between 5 and 8 yrs old so you need to book a place in advance. Contact : the Vicar – 716622 ; Julie and Paul Warren, tel 860835, or Charlotte Swayne, tel. 860681. See also centre page.

### Tuesday 8th December 19.30

St Nicholas Church. Christmas Quiz night, organised by Friends of St Nicholas Church. Bar and refreshments will be available.

## January Diary

Please note that the dates for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are **18th to 25th Jan 2016** The theme Salt & Light

**Wednesday 20th** - 7pm Unity Walk – Mon. Baptist church, to St Mary Priory Church, to Roman Catholic Church, to Mon. Methodist Church. 10 min. in each to include a reflection on Salt and/or Light , and a time for prayer. Closing with Hot drink and cake at the Methodist Church to close in fellowship.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 13.00** - Bring and share Fellowship Lunch at St Nicholas Church Trellech , followed by a short act of worship

## MAINTENANCE MINISTRY AND MISSION - a continuing story from the PCC

The Parochial Church council is being faithful to its agreed framework to try to ensure all that it does is balanced and measured against these three headings, and progress is being made in each category.

**Maintenance** - Terry is keeping in touch with the faculty process for the heating and Lychgate work and we are hopeful that we will get approval to move forward with this very soon. Meanwhile I am sure people will have noticed the great improvement in the Old Church graveyard, with the clearance of all the dead grass and the cutting back for the winter. The new noticeboards for Trellech have been ordered and work has been done on the lighting and electrics, as well as the servicing of the boiler ready for the winter.

**Ministry** - the All Souls Service was again very well attended this year and the welcome, support and love was much appreciated by those who are bereaved. We are grateful for those who came to support it. With consultation with the PCC and the organists we have made some changes to streamline the Christmas services. There will only be one event at each end of the parish on Christmas Eve, with the early community nativity service in Penallt and a midnight mass for the whole parish in Trellech. Both services are to serve the whole parish. Christmas morning a service will be in both churches as usual. The Sunday after Christmas will be said services in both churches. On the Feast of the Epiphany we will be hosting a service for the whole Deanery. These changes are reflected in the service rota. Home communions and pastoral visits continue and if you know of anyone who is ill or in need of support please let the vicar know.

**Mission** – The PCC have been exploring the need for understanding mission and this is now to be explored in our Advent Study Groups. It will also be a central focus in the life of the Diocese next year. Please read the article about it in this newsletter.

**The Promise Auction** is being prepared as I write this article, and will have happened by the time you read it. It was planned to embrace the whole concept of **Maintenance, Ministry, and Mission**. **Maintenance** - to raise funds for our churches, **Ministry** - to be seen as a caring church in the community, supporting the Surgery and the voluntary work for abused women, and **Mission** - to be seen positively reaching out into the community by working in partnership and building bridges within it. I hope the church membership come/come to support the PCC in this initiative. Meanwhile the PCC acknowledge with gratitude all that is done in the church by different groups and individuals which further these three aims and helps to build a stronger church, and as we support the many events leading up to Christmas it is the prayer of this Parochial Church Council that Christmas be a time of Joy Peace and Blessing for all people.



St Nicholas Church Celebration Party