This Week: Today – Holy Eucharist St David's 9.30 am, Llanrhidian 11.15. Celtic Morning Prayer St Gwynour's 11. 15

This Week: Monday Prayer at SMC **1.30** PCC Llanrhidian at Stavel Newydd (Beryl's house) **7.30**. **Tues** Morning Prayer Llanrhidian **9 am**. **Weds** Assembly at Llanrhidian, Tim & Glyn **9 am**, MU at Llanrhidian Hall (with Fr Tim) **2 pm**.

Thurs Trustees and friends of SMC prayers **9.30 am**; burial of ashes, St David's **Noon**; Celtic Eucharist, St David's **7 pm**. **Next Sunday** Holy Eucharist at St David's 9.30, St Gwynour's 11.15, Morning Prayer at St Rhydian & Illtyd's 11.15

SOME DIARY DATES Mondays at St David's –

Centering Prayer 7 pm Thursdays at St David's Celtic Eucharist 7 pm Thurs |an 31st MAC Penmaen Hall 6.30 pm Mon Feb 4th – Llanrhidian **PCC** Sunday 17th Induction Rev Canon Peter Brooks at St Teilo's Bishopston3 pm Saturday Feb 23, Marsh Light, All Age Church, Penclawdd Community Centre 11.30 am Thurs Feb 28, MAC tbc Tuesday March 12th Lay Ministry Gathering & Celebration - All Saints, Oystermouth 7 pm

Lay Worship Leaders

Tuesday March 26th -

Clergy Synod Llandrindod

Chrism Eucharist - 12-00

Tuesday 16th April

There will be training and support sessions at St Mary's Pennard 7.30 until 8.30 on the following evenings:-Feb 11th, 18th, 25th March 4th, 11th, 18th These are for anyone thinking about offering themselves to lead worship in church and for existing leaders, licenced or awaiting licencing, who would like to refresh, share experience....

Volunteer Drivers Wanted

Could you drive the people of Gower to where they need to go (doctors appointments, shops, dentists etc)? 50p a mile paid. Please ring Hildegarde on 851942 to volunteer.

Father, we hold before you our family in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon and we open our hearts and minds to your Spirit: Bless us as we gather in your name; Guide us as we grow into the likeness of your Son; Lead us by your Spirit to go out and make disciples of others. God of our journeying, be our way and our truth and our life; our beginning and our end. We pray through Jesus our Lord. Amen. *Diocesan prayer, SwanBrec

SHARED LENT SERVICES IN NORTH GOWER

This year, Lent will begin as usual at Llanrhidian on Ash Wednesday at 10 am (March 6th) but then we're going outside for our Celtic services on Thursday evenings (all meet at 7pm): March 7th Renewal of Baptism on the Marsh (park at St David's); 14th Penclawdd – earth meets sea meets sky (meet car park opposite Cariad); 21st outside Llanmadoc Church; 28th Llanmadoc Bulwark (meet at cattle grid, Llangennith side); April 4th St Cadoc's, Cheriton; 11th Llanelen (meet Llanrhidian Holiday Park, main car park). In Holy Week we will travel through the six churches, beginning at St Gwynour's on Monday.

Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr

One God



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5 Before Lent 3rd February 2019 The Church in North Gower



Then we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people...and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ (from Today's Collect)

WE PRAY this morning to the Source of Light that, through the Gospel of, concerning, about, more than all that, according to Christ, will shine into the hearts of all God's people. If God created all people, all creatures, plants etc, then the shining we ask for is for everyone and everything. This is a beautiful prayer and it comes from the deepest awareness of Christ. But we need to stay with this deepest awareness if we are to be at all effective as agents of the Gospel we believe we proclaim.

Christian author, Amos Smith, wrote: "My core truth about Jesus isn't rooted in mainstream Christian tradition. It's rooted in Jesus' essence. It's about the deep stillness of silent prayer and a theology big enough to give that blessed stillness words" (Healing the Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots, 2013). The love that St Paul wrote about in 1 Corinthians, which simply remains when all else is stripped away, and the Cosmic reality that wise Simeon and prophet Anna knew to be Christ as they beheld the child Jesus, may be talked about in theology and in ideas but even the most finetuned doctrines cannot contain or transmit its essence. If we simply identify with that which we think we know, then we are closed. Knowing always brings conflict into the world because it comes up against someone else's concept of knowing, which being of the mind is necessarily different. The only way to retain the sense of knowing is to annihilate the other. The way of Love, of Christ, is to let go of knowing, come to stillness, wait in

silence. If we do it, we may teach it. Then may come great light.

Churches in North Gower: People of the Marsh Find us on

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