

GOD BE WITH YOU: Y TAD, Y MAB. A'R YSBRYD GLÂN.

This Week: **MON** Home Communion & care home fr **10 am**. SMC Trustees, Parklands **6.30 pm**. **TUES** Morning Prayer, Llanrhidian **9 am** MAC Penmaen **6.30 pm**. **WEDS** Christianity and Islam, Gowerton Comp **2.30 pm**. **THURS** SCM **9.30 am**, Contemplative Prayer, Taliesin **1.30 pm**, Gowerton Comp **4 pm**, Celtic Eucharist, St David's **7 pm**. **FRI** Centring Prayer Retreat, Nicholaston House **10 am – 4 pm**. **SAT** Wedding meeting, Llanrhidian **10.30 am**.

Next Sunday: ADVENT SUNDAY Eucharist St David's **9.30 am** Sts Rhyddian & Illtyd's **11.15**; Morning Prayer with Worship Leaders at St Gwynour's Penclawdd **11.15** fb Christmas lunch.

Marsh Light Christingle!

Diolch to the leaders and all who came! See you Christmas Eve at St Gwynour's for the next one 😊



Reynoldston village. Tours regular from 10.30 am – 4

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.

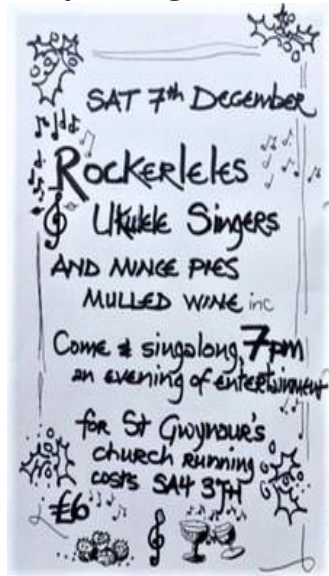
*Diocesan prayer, SwanBrec



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Upcoming Dates



December 1st St Gwynour's Christmas Lunch, Rake & R, **1 pm**.
December 2nd Mince Pies & Raffle, St David's **7 pm**.
December 7th Stable Trail, all day, Reynoldston. Ukulele Concert, St Gwynour's (see above)
December 8th Llanrhidian Choir Concert, Llanrhidian Church **6 pm**
December 15th Llanrhidian School at 11.15 service – Lent and Carols
December 19th St David's Christmas Supper, Rake & R **7 pm**

"God will bring people and events into our lives, and whatever we may think about them, they are designed for the evolution of His life in us."
Thomas Keating

Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr

Shepherd, King

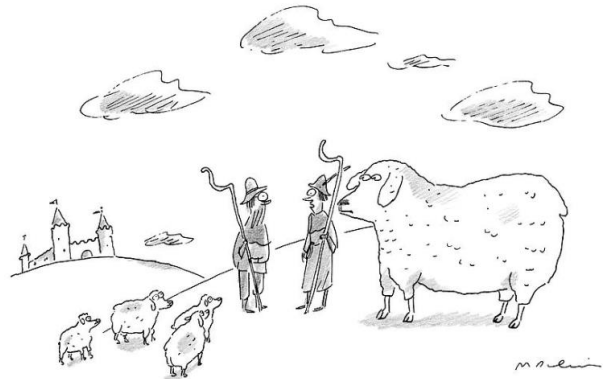


of dust and stars

CHRIST THE KING

24th NOV 2019

The Church in North Gower



"I prefer shepherding one big sheep instead of a lot of little ones."

"... keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet"

(from today's Collect)

"I myself will gather the remnant of my flock...I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them (Jeremiah)

"...we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea..." (Psalm 46)

AS CHRIST BLEEDS TO DEATH on the cross, Luke's Gospel tells us that one of the two men of violent rebellion crucified on either side of him added his voice to the noise of the mocking executioners and spectators, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' His voice echoes the very conceptual understanding of reality of those he had sought through violence to depose of power. The Christ/Messiah/King for him is one who mimics and endorses self-motivated, self-resourced, systemic and/or institutionalised power. If the man Jesus nailed to two planks of wood a few feet from him is this thing, then why is he not liberating God's chosen people Israel and putting those who had struggled for the cause on his right and left to administer the one true kingdom?

Christ's body is collapsing in on itself in the most excruciating pain that the self-important noise of the world could possibly inflict on it. Christ's brain must be screaming in the agony of it. Yet, in that darkest, most blood draining moment, there comes the voice of the shepherd king, who loves all humanity still and weeps for us in the sweat and dirt of our non-understanding, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Through the noise, Christ has not lost touch with יהוה YHWH/ I Am, The Being.

And here we are now, Christ's church surrounded by the noise and sometimes mocking of a world that still doesn't know. We are called to speak of God's Love and show the way to the Kingdom. How can we be the shepherd? By returning to the Kingdom in us. By learning again how to pray as Christ prays and so let his Light flow...