

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

Churches of the Marsh Online

Morning Prayer is on Zoom at 9 am each weekday morning and live streaming of Sunday services and other is being set up at St David's church.

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

The Churches of North Gower:

St Gwynour's Penclawdd
St David's Wernffrwd,
Ss Rhydian & Illtyd's
Llanrhidian
St Cattwg's Cheriton
St Madog's Llanmadoc
St Cenydd's Llangennith
+ occasional outdoor
services at the ruin of St
Elen's
Llanelen

Priests and Reader

Fr Tim Ardouin 01792 391353
frtimardouin@btinternet.com
Fr Nigel Doyle 01792 850659
tadnigel@yahoo.co.uk
Reader Ross Davies 390232
ross.davies0111@gmail.com

This Sunday

Holy Eucharist at St David's
9.30 am, Llangennith **11.15**
and Llanrhidian **11.15**.
St Gwynour's has now
received permission to re-
open and will resume
services very soon.

North Gower Food Hub

Feeding Local People in
Crisis

*

Christmas donations

*

Please donate for those in
food poverty in our local
community.

*We are looking for the
following in date items:

Tinned ham
Minced pies
Christmas cakes
Selection boxes
Chocolates
Sweets
Toiletries

Thank you for your help

GOWER ECUMENICAL ADVENT COURSE

'Living in hope'

Justin is leading a
discussion course on
Zoom. It is open to
anyone across the
Ministry area. **Contact**
justindavies@gmail.com
SCM Advent Retreat
(Dec 4th-5th) Zoom and
open to all. **Contact**
theschoolofchristianmyticism@gmail.com



People of the Marsh

Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr

Bring to me
your sheep



And your
goats

CHRIST THE KING

November 22nd 2020

The Church in North Gower



Lord, when was it that we saw you... (Matthew 25)

IN EZEKIEL'S PROPHECY, we hear the word of God, "I, יהוה (YHWH – 'I AM' or 'The One that Is') will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep...I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged". The addressee is the worldly privileged and powerful one, who has bullied the faithful and cast them away from "their own land", scattering them among "nations". YHWH will give them a "shepherd" who is in essence both "David" (the archetypal holy Israelite King) and YHWH (God, Godself) and will "feed them" and "judge the fat sheep and the lean". Of course, in our reading from Matthew's Gospel this morning, the Shepherd King is shown to be Jesus, The Christ. This then is our narrative for meditation on "Christ the King", the final Sunday meditation in the church calendar before Advent Sunday brings us to the new church calendar. Incidentally, we will then switch from reading *Matthew* as our primary weekly Gospel text to *Mark*. We will shift focus then from the metaphoric climbing of the interior temple mountain of Matthew's story to how we might respond to the stormy seas of Mark's setting for the earthly life and human/cosmic message of Jesus.

When we read Scripture, we can of course interpret it as holding a mirror to our society, our time and place in history and geography, and treat it as a call to Christian action in this context. Scripture undoubtedly does this. So, for example, we can see Christ calling us to feed the hungry, visit the prisoners, clothe the naked and so on, assured that when we do we are doing so to Christ. We are clearly called to do this. However, the power to do it effectively, and free from any self-serving sense of entitlement to payback, can only come from looking deeply and honestly into the mirror that Scripture holds before us. This is an internal examination. The "sheep" and the "goats" both exist within our psychological, physical and spiritual makeup. All of it must be opened to the Light, Judgement and Direction of Christ The King.