

This Week: Today – Holy Eucharist at St David's 9.30, St Rhydian & St Illtyd's 11.15 Morning Prayer with Worship Leaders and Sunday School at St Gwynour's 11.15

This Week: Monday Interfaith briefing 10 am, Prayer/worship for staff St Madoc Centre 1.30, Centering Prayer at St David's

7 pm. Tues Morning Prayer Llanrhidian 9 am MU with talk by Sue Waite, Llanrhidian hall 2 pm, Celtic drumming for schools, Penclawdd 2 pm
Weds Communion Swn y Gan 10.30 am, Fr Tim lead retreat St Michael's, Pontardulais 7 pm. **Thurs** GMA Armistice Service, Penclawdd School 6 pm. **Fri** Gowerton School remembrance Service 8.30 am, Internment ashes, Royden Wolsey at Llanyrnewydd Noon

Next Sunday (Remembrance Sunday) Holy Eucharist at St David's 9.30, MP St Rhydian & Illtyd's 11.15; Service of Remembrance at Penclawdd Senetaph 10.30 followed by music and songs from the wars, hymns for peace, cakes etc at Penclawdd Community Centre

Gower Ministry Area Dates

Nov 8th GMA Armistice service, Penclawdd School 6 pm – 7.30

Nov 11th Remembrance Service on the Memorial Green at Penclawdd 10.45 am. There will be Eucharist at St David's 9.30 and MP with Ross at Llanrhidian 11.15.

Nov 14th (Weds) Interfaith Forum, Swansea University, chaired by ++John. James Callaghan Theatre 6 pm. All welcome. Questions from the floor included. Interfaith music jam at Taliesin Noon and Tuesday Nov 13th Noon at Bay Campus. Come and play, dance, watch...

Nov 16th Synod Penllaergaer 10 – 3pm. Clergy, lay leaders...ask Fr Tim if you would like a lift there.

Llanrhidian Bangers and Mash

Pre-Advent fundraising meal at Purple Badger, Friday Nov 9th 7 for 7.30 pm
Tickets £6 from Jill McPherson 391005
Please support and enjoy!

Contact: Fr Tim Ardouin
01792 391353

frtimardouin@btinternet.com
www.churchinnorthgower.com
www.frtimardouin.com
www.schoolofchristianmysticism.co.uk

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

Songs & Poems to Celebrate Peace

Penclawdd Primary School
Thursday 8th November 2018
6.00pm

Performing at this event:



The North Gower Partnership Choir
Pupils from Gowerton Primary Llanrhidian Primary
Waunarlwydd Primary Penclawdd Primary Penyfro Primary and
Gowerton School

'Three Cliffs in Harmony'
led by Mairwen Kirk

Musicians from Penclawdd Brass Band
led by Tony Small

Come and help us imagine the joy in 1918
when the Great War ended.

Free Admission

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. Please pray this together whenever you meet.



deep peace in Christ to you

Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr

not far from

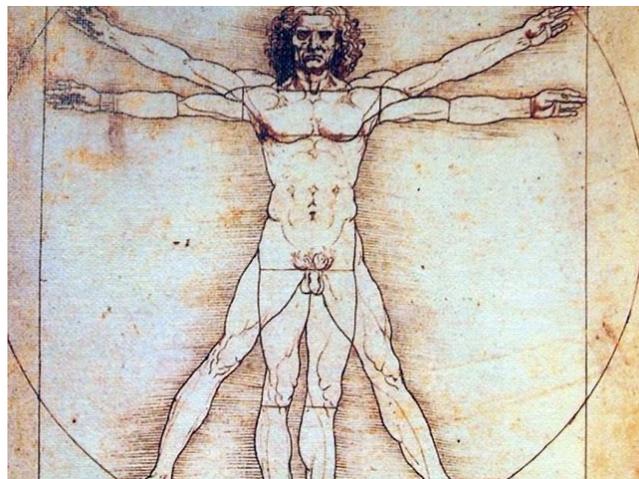


the ever
and ever

KINGDOM 1

November 4th 2018

The Church in North Gower



"Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love..." (today's Collect)

"One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?'" (Mark 12.28)

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

THE SCHOLAR approaches Jesus in this morning's Gospel reading with a testing question about the Torah. It is a test of orthodoxy perhaps and is legalistic with moralistic undertones. Religion to this day is often seen in such a way, like a scaffold of 'correct' beliefs and rules designed to help 'believers' join the dots to salvation and so be worthy to enter some variously prescribed version of after-life eternal bliss. For Christians, largely because of words often found in the gospels on the lips of Jesus, this is often thought about in terms of *kingdom of God*, *kingdom of heaven* or just *heaven*. Due to political dominance through the ages of empire versions of Christianity, earthly kingdom type imagery has often been efficacious, leaving many generations spiritually groaning under the weight of impossible morality. Of course, this is not surprising; people whose default setting is an inherent sense of failure to live up to pre-programmed ideals, are susceptible to authoritarian control.

But Jesus says the scholar is not far from the kingdom of God. This law-scribe has shown Jesus that actually he can perceive the love of God beneath his own religious and social programming. For Jesus, this kingdom has nothing to do with earthly kings or political leaders. *Malkuthach*, central to Jesus' message and normally translated "kingdom," is really about what guides us in our souls; it is that which empowers us to go forward in the face of all difficulties, a creative potential aching to be realised. *Malkuthach* is linked in Aramaic to *shamayin* – heavens - less a place than a movement of being, like "light and sound shining through all creation" (Dr Neil Douglas-Klotz).

Jesus was never a teacher of morality but rather he opened the consciousness of whoever had ears to listen, so that they might see God within themselves, timeless, eternal, and so be able to enter in this life the kingdom state, consciousness or guiding principle of God. In doing this a person becomes ripe to inherit oneness, completeness in the 'world to come'.