

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

## Churches of the Marsh Online

**Morning Prayer** is back on Zoom at 9 am each weekday morning and filming of the Eucharist in the wild places of Gower has resumed. As schools and offices re-open we may move to 8 am for MP so that the daily rhythm may be sustained. You are welcome to join us any time. New timings will be announced.

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 Cadoc's Cheriton  
St Madoc'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](mailto:frtimardouin@btinternet.com)  
Fr Nigel Doyle 01792 850659  
[tadnigel@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tadnigel@yahoo.co.uk)  
Reader Ross Davies 390232  
[ross.davies0111@gmail.com](mailto:ross.davies0111@gmail.com)  
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## Churches opening

There is a Eucharist at St Cenydd's Llangennith today **11 am** with Tim, and next two weeks with Nigel and Ross.

St Rhydian and St Illtyd's Llanrhidian is now open Sundays **2 pm** until **4 pm** for private prayer.

Social distancing and related measures are in place in both instances.

There will be an outdoor service on the marsh announced when the weather is good enough.

## North Gower Food Hub

If you are struggling financially and need a food parcel please contact any of the following, in confidence:

Community Councillor  
Fr Nigel Doyle 01792  
850659

Community Councillor Jo  
Gooding 07989214487  
Community Councillor  
John David 01792  
390105

For donations, collection points at: Llanmadoc Community shop, CK stores, Penclawdd.



People of the Marsh

# Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr

Let Christ



Be

Christ

TRINITY + TWELVE

AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Church in North Gower



*Bury Holmes by Gareth Thomas. This week's filmed Eucharist comes from there, known in Gower as Cenydd's Island after the 'saint' who on the island in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century and founded the church in Llangennith.*

*'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'*

(Matthew 16.23)

**IT IS ONLY** a moment in Matthew's gospel between Jesus' appraisal of Peter as the rock on which he will build his church and to whom he will bestow the keys of heaven, and this cutting reprimand. No sooner has the Christ renamed Simon his eager but impetuous disciple *Cephas (Peter, The Rock)* than he is shouting at him, "Get out of the way Satan!" The "Rock" straight away has become a "Stumbling Block". So what's going on?

Although Jesus is speaking directly to Peter here, it is within the context of a teaching directed to a number of close disciples in the mountains of Hermon as the Matthean narrative turns from the Galilean ministry toward Jerusalem and the Cross. Jesus has elicited the response from them, voiced by Peter, "You are the Messiah (i.e. *the Christ*)."

Peter now merely voices the quite natural, and no doubt the expected understanding of his followers that the Christ has come to liberate the people and therefore it is unthinkable that he could be put to death by the very order or regime that is oppressing the people! Jesus let us remember is the rabbi, the spiritual master, and the in-training Apostles are his students. Of course, Jesus does not mean that Peter should take the rebuke personally. The teacher has set the student up!

However, the lesson is a serious one and it is for us all. Following Christ, even discovering the kingdom of heaven within, does no exempt us from suffering. Indeed, we might suffer more because to see behind the veils of illusion and at the same time understand that the systemic beliefs of the world blind most people to what is real, is profoundly painful. This is our cross and we must carry it. If carry it we will, then great light comes into the world.