

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 the filmed Eucharist in the wild places continues, streaming on Youtube (Channel Didji Gymru) Sundays from 8.15 am. You are welcome to join us any time for MP. Contact Fr Tim for log in details, if you don't have them.

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
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Fr Nigel Doyle 01792 850659
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Reader Ross Davies 390232
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This Sunday

Holy Eucharist at **St Cenydd's Llangennith 11.15 am** and **St Rhydian and St Illtyd's Llanrhidian 11.15 am.**

Youtube Eucharist from Ocean View streams from 8.15 Sunday Morning on channel Didji Gymru.

Next Sunday Eucharists as above and at **St David's 9.30 am.**

Short **Easter Vestries** will be held this month for Llanrhidian Sunday 25th after the service and for Llanyrnewydd at St David's Tuesday 27th at 2 pm.

North Gower Food Hub

Contacts:

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

Come



to the

wedding

TRINITY +EIGHTEEN

October 11 2020

The Church in North Gower



'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe (Matthew 22.11)

FOR THE LAST FEW WEEKS, our Sunday Gospel readings have depicted Jesus teaching various audiences about the kingdom of heaven which he says is present always, within us and all around us. Through parables and metaphors, Jesus has talked to us through Matthew's narrative about how to access it and live in and from kingdom of heaven consciousness. If we do what he teaches, then we will be true *Followers of the Way* like the earliest church. Sometimes the teaching has been gentle but Jesus also shakes his listeners with uncomfortable teachings to wake them from complacency or ignorance. Today's teaching is about an unsuspecting wedding guest who is thrown out of the wedding feast because he is not dressed in a wedding robe. Far from being welcomed, he is ejected "into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." It is a teaching which on the surface may seem anti-Christian. Inclusivity is a core principle in any systematic approach to the religion. However, Jesus is not systematic! He is authentic and his illustrations are not allegory but metaphorical parable.

The unwelcomed guest has excluded himself. The wedding robe is humility. Without this robe, we cannot locate or enter the kingdom of heaven in us. To awaken to humility, it is first necessary to recognise and become free of our duplicity and arrogance. These two are driving forces in the invited guests' refusal to come to the feast and the flippant manner in which they dismiss the king's slaves. They are too attached to their own constructed life-styles and associated self-importance to come to God's feast. In other words, they are choosing temporal illusion over what is actually real and eternal. What *seems* has been mistaken for what *is*. Such is equal to being in the outer darkness and gnashing of teeth or, more simply, being dead. Christ calls us to Life. But we need to clothe ourselves in Christ's wedding garment of humility, that is Love. Any double-minded clinging is simply not Love.