

This Week: -

Tuesday St. David's Summer Outing: see below

Wednesday Wedding Zach & Lucy, Llanrhidian **Noon**

***Sunday August 14: 1 service** Tad Nigel at St Gwynour's **11.15**

*no service in St Rhydian's or St David's next Sunday

Sunday 21st Eucharist at St David's and St Rhyd's with Fr Nigel,

Morning Service at St Gwynour's with Fr Justin – usual times

*no more newsletters now for two weeks



Walk from Gowerton to St Madoc Centre in whichever style you prefer! This now annual pilgrimage is to raise funds for the continued work of this Christian community with disadvantaged young people from Wales and abroad. Please consider walking and/or sponsoring. **Saturday August 27th, 9.15 meet St John's, Gowerton.**

Gower Ministry Area Songs of Worship

Special service of hymns and songs of worship and praise with traditional hymns & Fr Tim/Leslie Sheills/Faith and Light experiments
**St Illtyd's Oxwich
Sunday August 28
6 pm**

St. David's Summer Outing: Tuesday 9th August to the Royal Mint followed by a meal at the Mason's Arms, Bryncethin. Cost of coach and admission to the Royal Mint £23, meal extra. Phone Sandra on 850524 for further details.

***Coffee Morning** in The Dolphin Inn on Saturday 3rd September at 10.30 a.m. Thank you Mike and Karen. Please support this fundraising event.

***Gower Show Today!**

***Harvest** October 2nd

Rev Canon Huw Mosford will be at St David's and St Rhydian's (Fr Tim in Llanelli)

Thursday Evening Eucharist in Gower

From end September there will be Eucharist at 7 pm Thursdays. St George's Reynoldston for 6 mths, then travelling around Gower.

Leading Prayers in July

Ss Rh & I: Ardouins; Llanyrnewydd; Susan M; Pam M

Contemplative Prayer Gower coming soon.

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Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr



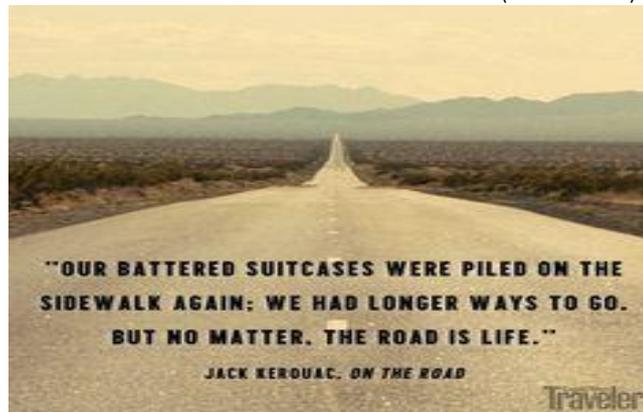
Trinity 11

August 7th

The Church in North Gower

By faith Abraham obeyed... and he set out, not knowing where he was going.
(Hebrews 11.8)

'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit...You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'
(Luke 12.35-40)



JACK KEROUAC also wrote, "I have nothing to offer anyone but my own confusion." This didn't stop the French Canadian poet from writing ten of the most powerfully influential novels of the mid twentieth century, his spontaneous *beat-jazz* style in itself an act of faith. His work *On the Road*, considered to be a defining moment in the literature of the *Beat Generation*, was written in a three week "stream of consciousness" and typed uncorrected onto a single, uncut roll of paper. The novel ended because the paper ran out. Well that's the legend at least. Then again, trying to get the same story twice from Kerouac even as to the origin of his own name was a nugatory pursuit. The only constant was that it was in some way Celtic!

Nevertheless, for me there are two ideas of value here in relation to our Bible readings today. First is the notion that Kerouac was indeed prepared to offer whoever would read it his "confusion." Second is Kerouac's focus not on defining or aspiring to *destination* but on the process of *travelling* itself: "no matter, the road is life."

Isaiah's poetic rhetoric leaves little room for doubt what God thinks about the careful religious practices and appeasements for sin of his "chosen" Israelite people. What God asks from his people is lives of faith. Faith is seldom if ever about certainty. It does however often involve travelling about in confusion! Why? Because God wants us to be confused or because God needs our faith? No. It's because God loves us and God wants us to be free - free to choose love and so to actually love. To be able to love, it is necessary to let go of *knowing*, of *certainty*, of *control*, of *projection*. In the confusion and sublime clarity of *the road*, it is possible to lose our grip on *self* and so discover we *have* already *arrived*.

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12.32)