

This Week: Today St Rhydian's welcomes Fr Iestyn (the priest formerly known as Justin) 11.15. Reception into church of Julia 6 pm, Llanrhidian.

Monday Funeral Julia Wisler: **11 am** Llanrhidian, **3 pm** Llanelli. PCC Llanrhidian **7.30 pm**. **Tuesday** Morning Prayer St Rhydian's **9 am**. **Wednesday** Communion Swn y Gan **11 am**. Funeral Maisie Thomas, Llanelli, **Noon**. Interfaith meeting **1 pm**. **Thurs** Fr Tim Eucharist at Killay **11 am**. **Friday** Wed rehearsal **5 pm**. **Saturday** Wedding James & Rebecca **Noon**. **Next Sunday** Eucharist at St David's **9.30** and St Rhydian's (baptism Cedric) **11.15**. and with Fr Iestyn at St Gwynour's **11.15**. Bethel **6 pm**.

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.

Learn Welsh in Gower

From September:
Monday – Greyhound -
12.30 – 2.30 – Sylfaen 1 (Year
3)
Tuesday – Penclawdd - 9.30
– 11.30 – Canolradd 1 (Year
5); Pennard – 12 – 2
Mynediad 2 (Year 2)
Wednesday – Reynoldston –
9.30 – 11.30 – Mynediad 1
(Year 1). Details: Sheila Geary
07977 904896

Peace of the salt marsh
to you.

Foodank Sunday @
Llanrhidian: Second
Sunday next month (Oct)
because of Harvest.
Donations continue to be
received weekly at S
David's and S Gwynour's.

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

Gower MA Council,
Penmaen **6.30 pm**
Coffee Morning at the
Greyhound Inn, Old Walls.
Saturday 23rd September
10.30 a.m. Various Stalls,
Raffle. Please make an
effort to support this fund
raising event for church.

Harvest Sundays
October 1st at St Rhydian's
(with lunch at *The
Greyhound* after the
Eucharist).
October 8th at St David's
and at St Gwynour's (with
supper at *The Rake & Riddle*
Thursday Oct 5th 7 pm).

Centring Prayer St D's
Monday evenings returns
October 2nd.

**Gower Ministry Area
Safeguarding Training**
Oxwich Village Hall, 6.30pm
Wednesday 11th October. All
holding bishop's licences or
who take part in Sunday
Schools and other public
ministries, or who
Safeguarding roles in the
church, are asked to attend.

PCC Wernffrwd for St
Gwynour's & St David's
October 19th, 7 pm.

**Gower MA - Grant Aiding
Bodies,** St Gwynour's 12th
October at 2.00pm. GMA will
view the plans and discuss
progress of *Mission Gwynno*.
We are thankful for the
recently pledged support of
our MP, AM, Councillor and
community reps.

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Charge* 01792 391353
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Yr Eglwys yng Ngogledd Gŵyr



TRINITY THIRTEEN

SEPTEMBER 10th 2017

The Church in North Gower



"Truly I tell you..."

BORNE IN CHRIST

TELLING THE TRUTH is seldom easy. Appeasement, turning a blind eye, blaming circumstance or another, and more so if that other is not present; these are easier. But the truth, however avoided or suppressed never goes away. When Jesus speaks to us, whether through Scripture, through prayer or nature, through the eyes or voice of stranger or companion, he looks into our very soul, "Truly, I tell you..." And he calls us, who would be "Followers of the Way", to do the same.

"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault"

Sin and fault are English translations of Jesus' words and they carry a judgementalism alien to their intention. *Hurt* might be better. Go and tell her/him how you are hurting because of something they have said or done or are doing. Start with the pain. Ask why. Beyond that, "I see that you are hurting too. Have I done something to hurt you?" Be prepared to listen. Let the direction be reconciliation not retribution, and certainly not "comp"!

"...if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector"

Humility is necessary for reconciliation. Humility is not backing down because conflict has not been averted by gentle directness. If the offender has not yet found the humility to listen even to the church (*ecclesia*, Matthew's term, does not refer to church hierarchy but to the people of the church community), then they place themselves at this moment outside that community. However, *Gentile* and *tax collector* are far from lost causes to Jesus! It is to the outsider he goes. And when he goes, he says, "Truly I tell you..." And he encourages us, "The first will be last, and the last will be first..." Pick up your cross. Tell the truth. Take the pain and you will find that the pain is already borne.