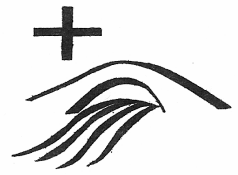


The Rectorial Benefice of Cowbridge.



Serving the communities of Aberthin, Cowbridge, Flemingston, Holy Cross, Llanblethian, Llandough, Llanfrynach, Llangan, Llansannor, Penllyn, St. Hilary, St. Mary Church, St Mary Hill & Ystradowen.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2019

Lectern Edition: 8

Pew Edition: 6 Liturgical Colour: Violet

THE COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 35. 1-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of

Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

*The Magnificat
Luke 1. 46b-55*

R My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, For he has looked with favour on his lowly servant; from this day all generations will call me blessed . The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **R**

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. **R**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich he has sent away empty. **R**

He has come to the help of his servant, Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. The promise he made to our forebears: to Abraham and his children for ever. **R**

THE SECOND READING

James 5. 7-10

A reading from the letter of James

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient.

Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11. 2-11

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his path straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Listen to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St.

Matthew.

Glory to you O Lord.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes?

Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Those baptised in the Name of the Trinity are welcome to receive Holy Communion in this church.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER.

God of mercy and power,
whose Son rules over all,
grant us so to live in obedience to
your holy will, that at his
appearing we may be raised to
eternal life; through Jesus Christ
our Lord
Amen.

Please Pray for

- **In the Anglican Communion:** we pray for Sokoto (Nigeria) and El Salvador (Central America) and the Rt Revd's Augustin Omale and Juan David Alvarado Melgar.
- **In the diocese we pray for** the Rectoral Benefice of Barry and Benjamin Andrews, Rector, Kevin Lake and Robert Parrish, Team Vicars, and Christopher Seaton, Curate.
- **We pray for all those who are sick and housebound** in our Parish and for all those who receive Holy Communion at home.
- **We pray for all who are sick**, particularly Muriel Maslin, Dawn Conrad, Maureen Dixon, Charlotte Carpenter, Christine Williams, Christopher Browner, Phillip Rosser, Helen Saunders, William Watkins, Sam Baxter, Tony Arnold, Pat Arnold, Doreen Stafford and Dave German.

If you, or anyone you know of, is sick or housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion or be visited then please let the Parish Office or one of the Clergy know as soon as possible.

- **We pray for those who have recently departed this life, among them:** May Jones, Wendy Barry Pearce, Ernie Coates, Eve Balfour and Robert Newman.
- **We pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time:** Betty Cory, Edna Ashcroft, Florence Blick, Ingrid Weekley, Betty Pauline Edwards, Richard Lewis Adams, Chris Webb, Bill Lewis, Martyn Coffin, Florence Frederick, Lorna Lewis and Albert Chick.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Notices

- **Sunday 22nd 6.30pm** St. Hilary Church Choir will lead the Christmas Carol Service. All Welcome.
- **Holy Cross Flower Rota for 2020** The new rota is available from the bookstand in the church. Should any new volunteers be willing to help, please contact Mrs Louise Griffiths on 775485. Thank you to all those who help to decorate the church throughout the year.
- **Holy Cross Christmas Flowers** Donations would be gratefully received towards the cost of Christmas Flowers at Holy Cross. Please give to Margaret Harris, Louise Griffiths or leave at the Parish Office. Thank You.

*Please remember to pick up
your copy of the
Parish Christmas Card which
contains all the
Christmas Services plus lots
more!*



The Parish Office will close at 12.30 pm on Monday 23rd December 2019 and will open again on Monday 6th January 2020 at 10 am. Pews News will be available for collection from 12 noon on Friday 27th December 2019 and Friday 3rd January 2020.

St. Mary Church Coffee Morning third Friday in each month at the Church from 10.30am. All Welcome. **(20th December at the church).**

Ystradowen Church Social 3rd Wednesday each month, venues vary so for more info contact Sue Squire 775556

Parish Prayer Breakfast: The next monthly prayer breakfast will be on the first Saturday in the month **(4th January 2020)** at 8.00am in the **Taynton Room, Holy Cross.**

DIARY

Monday 16th December

Feria

14.00 Eucharist at Geoffrey Ashe Court

17.00 Colwinston School Concert at Holy Cross

19.45 Home group at Eastfield House.

Tuesday 17th December

O Wisdom !

14.00 Hand Bells at Taynton Room.

15.00 Evan Jenkins meeting at Ystradowen Vestry

17.00 Colwinston School Concert at Holy Cross

Wednesday 18th December

O Adonai !

08.00 Ysgol Iolo at Holy Cross

10.00 **The Eucharist at Llanblethian**
Common Worship page 46

R. *The Lord was gracious to his land,*

10.00 Funeral of Patricia Kinman at Coychurch Crematorium

19.00 Cowbridge Male Voice Choir

Thursday 19th December

O Root of Jesse !

08.00 Ysgol Iolo at Holy Cross

10.00 Craft Group at the Taynton Room

15.00 Carol Service at De Clare Lodge

Friday 20th December

O Key of David !

10.00 **The Eucharist at Holy Cross**
Common Worship page 50

R. *Let the peoples praise you ,O God*

Saturday 21st December

O Dayspring !

*All of the Churches in our Parish are open daily
for private prayer and devotion.*

WEEKDAY WORSHIP



The **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated in St. John's Church,
Llanblethian at **10.00am on Wednesdays**
(followed by a coffee morning).

The **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated in Holy Cross Parish Church at
10.00am on Fridays (followed by a coffee morning).

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Fax: 01446 772347

Email: office@cowbridgeparish.com

Website: www.cowbridgeparish.com

The Parish Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm.

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07506 689450

rector@cowbridgeparish.com

Team Vicar

Rev'd Victoria Ashley

775381

vicar@cowbridgeparish.com

Curate

Vacant

Parish Administrator

Mr David -Lloyd Jones

Parish Office 772302

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Parish Wardens

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Parish Treasurer

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Honorary Assistant Curates

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Rev'd Norman E Williams

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normanwilliams06@aol.com

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER 2019
ADVENT THREE

8.00 Eucharist at Holy Cross	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams
9.15 Eucharist at Llanblethian	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams
9.15 Eucharist at St. Mary Church	<i>President</i>	Rev'd David Boulton
11.00 All Age Eucharist at Holy Cross	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams
11.00 Eucharist at Ystradowen	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Ian Thomas
11.00 Eucharist at St Hilary	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Victoria Ashley
11.15 Carol Service at St. Mary Hill	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd David Boulton
16.00 Carol Service at Llandough	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd Ian Thomas
16.30 Christingle at Penllyn	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd Victoria Ashley
18.30 Evening Prayer at Flemingston	<i>Officiant</i>	Mrs Glenda Oglesbee
18.30 Carol Service at Llansannor	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd Victoria Ashley

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2019
ADVENT FOUR

8.00 Eucharist at Holy Cross	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams
9.15 Eucharist at Llanblethian	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams
9.15 Eucharist at Llandough	<i>President</i>	Rev'd David Boulton
9.15 Eucharist at Llansannor	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Victoria Ashley
11.00 Eucharist at Holy Cross	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams
11.00 Eucharist at Penllyn	<i>President</i>	Rev'd David Boulton
11.00 Eucharist at Ystradowen	<i>President</i>	Canon Peter Coleman
11.00 Eucharist at St Hilary	<i>President</i>	Rev'd Victoria Ashley
16.00 Carol Service at St Mary Church	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd David Boulton
18.00 Praise and Prayers at Southways		
18.00 Carol Service at St. Hilary	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd Victoria Ashley
18.30 Carol Service at Flemingston	<i>Officiant</i>	Rev'd Stephen Adams

Readings: Isaiah 7. 10-16	Psalm 80. 1-7,16-18.
Romans 1. 1-7	Matthew 1. 18-25
Lectionary Page 12	Pew Edition page 9