

TOGETHER | TEULU@

The Parish of Treharris Trelewis Bedlinog & Llanfabon

WHERE FAITH MATTERS | LLE MAE FFYDD YN CYFRIF

On behalf of the parish family of churches, may I take this opportunity to offer you a very warm welcome to St John the Baptist and St Matthias. A special welcome if you're joining with us for the first time, either in-person or from at home, be assured that there are no strangers here; only friends who haven't yet met. It's really good to have you join with us today:

Father Gareth Coombes | Parish Priest

TODAY

10:30am Parish Eucharist | St John the Baptist, Nelson

4:30pm Holy Eucharist | St Matthias, Treharris

Services are broadcast through the parish Facebook page

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

The Readings

Acts 4. 5-12; 1 John 3. 16-24; John 10. 11-18

The Psalm | 23

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; the Lord is my shepherd;
the Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want.

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Speak Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the words of everlasting life.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 26th April 2021
S Mark the Evangelist

Tuesday 27th April 2021
Easter Feria

Wednesday 28th April 2021
Easter Feria

11:00am The Office of Morning Prayer

Thursday 29th April 2021
Catherine of Sienna; Writer

10:30am The Office of Morning

Friday 30th April 2021
Easter Feria

12:00pm Private Funeral: Jeffrey Davies +RIP

Saturday 1st May 2021
Ss Philip and James; Apostles

JOIN WITH US NEXT SUNDAY | BOOKING REQUIRED

Services for Sunday May 2nd 2021 | The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30am Parish Eucharist at St Matthias, Treharris

4:30pm Holy Eucharist at St John the Baptist, Nelson

NOTICES & INFORMATION

NELSON RFC | COMMUNITY LUCKY 4's No winners last week; winning numbers 2 10 11 18; to play today's draw contact Fr Gareth and play online via PayPal or Bank Transfer; £1 to play; just choose 4 numbers for a chance to win this week's prize fund which is sitting at £3,250 Helping to support the mission and ministry of St. John's Church, Nelson.

TAFF BARGOED FOODBANK thank you to all those who have donated items this past week. We are currently low on toiletries and basic cleaning products such as washing up liquid, toilet cleaner, jay-cloths, anti-bac spray, as well as the usual items which are always welcome. Items can be dropped off at St. John's Church Hall any morning Monday-Fridays between 9:00am and 12:00pm.

Alternatively, why not make a donation online to support the work of Taff Bargoed Foodbank; supporting local people at a time of crisis.

If you, or someone you know needs help in these difficult times please do let us know by calling 01443 450 832.

SERVICES IN CHURCH | BOOKING REQUIRED

We have cautiously resumed Sunday worship in church; advance booking by telephone is required to attend in person, and we ask that you follow the strict guidelines and procedures that remain in place. If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend any services in church. Services will continue to be live-streamed through the parish Facebook page. For those not online, a recording of the service will be available as soon as possible and available by calling 01443 606 260. As always, if you need any support or information, please do get in touch:

Fr Gareth | Parish Priest

To book a space for a service in church, please call 07866 465 822

A REFLECTION FOR TODAY | THE GOOD SHEPHERD

We do not know what Jesus looked like and there is no physical description of Jesus in the Gospels. The Jews had a history of not liking graven images and so Jewish depictions of people around the first century are scarce. One of the earliest images which we do have of Jesus is that shown of him as The Good Shepherd. During the persecution of the Christians under Rome, Christian art appeared on Christian tombs. Christians were buried not burned, because they believed in the bodily resurrection. In the first picture on the left we can see a wall painting from the Catacomb of Callixtus from the early third century. Shepherds were common forms of art showing the pastoral life. Jesus is disguised as Orpheus, young, beardless and in a short tunic. Whilst we do not know what Jesus looked like, whatever his physical appearance, it is clear from the reading in John today that he felt no difficulty in describing himself and his ministry in a manner which we would think of in terms of hard working, dirty, manual labour. The images of a shepherd which we sometimes have gives a rather false and fluffy depiction of how hard it was to be a peasant shepherd in first century Palestine. The Shepherd worked a hard life on the edges of society, unable to keep the religious laws. The life was one of constant challenges and dangers from nature and from other men who would threaten the sheep. Shepherds were not clean either ritually or physically, because theirs was a life which entailed sacrifice to care for animals who could not care for themselves, no time to go to synagogue. Jesus describes himself as a worker, willing to put himself in harms way to protect the ones that he loves, not as a remote figure in authority. Jesus is disparaging towards the religious leaders because they were only interested in themselves. Now their time is up and Jesus is showing a new way, a way in which the love of God is revealed towards his people by a shepherd who is faithful and true. We can only guess what Jesus face might look like, but we see clearly his character and we know his voice; that still small voice that leads his sheep.

CONTACT US

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