

# The Beacon

March 2015

*Llangunllo*

*Heyope*

*Beguildy*

*Bleddfa*



*Agony in the Garden*  
*Great Witley Church*

Price: £6 for the year or 60p per copy

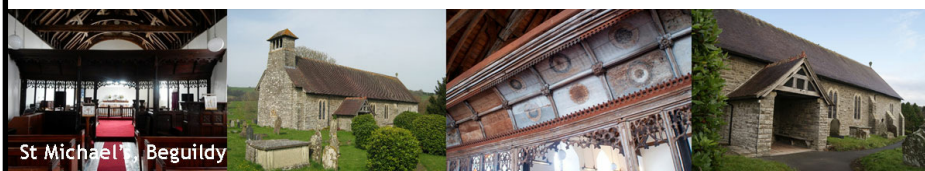


**New Website:** The Benefice has a new website! If you have any information you would like added, even for a short time, please use the 'Contacts' page to notify the webmaster, or contact the editor of The Beacon.

**New Address:** [www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk)

(The old address will remain active temporarily.)

The site contains The Beacon, service times, church and community events, a 'Features Inside and Outside' section for each church, full churchyard grave information for Beguildy and Heyope.



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### **Churchwardens**

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Sidesman: Carol Peregrine  
Flowers & Cleaning: 2-15 March, Fay  
& Marje. 16-29 March, Yvonne &  
Amanda.

### **NEW Website**

**[www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk)**

The full Beacon is on our website.



*Cover:* The stained glass at Great Witley was the work of Joshua Price in the early 1700's for the private chapel in Middlesex of James Brydges, Paymaster General. When Brydges' investments failed, Lord Foley of Witley Court in Worcestershire bought all the splendid baroque glass and fittings for the Church of St Michael's. This panel shows the agony of Christ in the Garden on Maundy Thursday, the night before his crucifixion. He is deep in prayer asking God to "Let this cup pass from me." Through prayer and the aid of the angel he is strengthened to say "Yet not my will, but thine be done." The role of the disciples is abandonment. They are fast asleep.



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### **It is one thing to talk like this . . .**

In January I was thinking how, through our Sunday services, we can introduce more people to our churches and to faith in God through the life of Jesus Christ.

My conclusion led me to think outside of the Christian worship pattern and into a new mode of Christian presentation. Besides our non Holy Communion services we would do well to experiment with a more informative and personal approach to believing in God.



We could devise a service / gathering in which:

- Christians are able to witness and testify to a transformed life
- Christians can share with us why they became believers
- we could explore what ignites the process towards faith:
  - Why does about one third of the world believe in God?
  - Why is it acknowledged by many that moral and ethical behaviour taught through the teaching of Jesus and the Apostles is a force for good across the world?

Christianity has a strong redemptive narrative which is available for the “whosoever”. This redemption, based on the Easter story, is a marvellous universal alternative to the “nothingness” which exists for those who exclude God from their lives.

It is one thing to talk like this, but does anyone in the Benefice have a mind and heart to come together for it to happen? If, so, please contact the vicar.

*John*

### **Important Notice – Electoral Roll**

The Church in Wales revises the Electoral Roll every 5 years. This year, 2015, everyone comes off the current Electoral Roll and, to reapply, they have to fill in a new Electoral Roll form, which you can obtain from your church wardens.

The new Electoral Roll needs to be displayed on the church notice board before Easter Sunday, 5th April. So, if you wish to be included on the Electoral Roll, please return your Electoral Roll form to your church warden by the end of March. Thank you.

Rev'd John Hanna

# St David's Day

**Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**St David's, Heyope**  
**11am**

***Welsh music,***  
***Welsh poetry,***  
***Welsh food !***  
**ALL WELCOME!**



## Women's World Day of Prayer

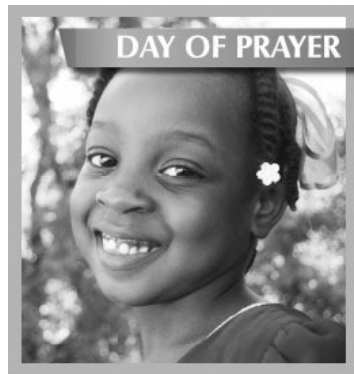
**Friday, March 6**

Methodist Church, Victoria Road,  
Knighton, 7.15pm

(for women AND men!)

The Day of Prayer service for 2015 has been written by the Christian women of The **Bahamas**. The Bahamas is an expanse of water with scattered islands, covering approximately 100,000 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean, between Florida and Cuba.

Over 36 hours, 170 countries will take part, including 5,000 services in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.



## Central Wales Railway – 150th Anniversary

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the official opening of the 20 miles of railway between Knighton and Llandrindod Wells by the Central Wales Railway Company.

The opening of the Line, on Tuesday 10th October 1865, was marked by the running of a special train from Shrewsbury to Llandrindod followed by a banquet for 150 people in a marquee in the grounds of The Rock House (which later became The Rock Park Hotel), a short walk from Llandrindod Station.

When the train left Craven Arms, it was composed of 18 coaches hauled by two steam locomotives decorated with flags and bunting. At Knighton Station, the train was met by a large crowd of well-wishers. Various dignitaries joined the train, foremost amongst whom were the Lord Lieutenant of Radnorshire, Sir John Walsh, and the local M.P., Mr. R.D. (later Sir Richard) Green Price.

The band of the Radnorshire Rifle Volunteers also boarded the train and was to entertain the passengers “with stirring marches and popular tunes of the day” during the journey to Llandrindod. As the train departed from Knighton Station, there was loud cheering from the townspeople and the air also resounded to the noise of detonators placed on the Line. A local newspaper reporter on board the train commented “the line skirts round the town, commanding a good view of the church with its quaint old tower”. Describing the scenery in the Teme Valley between Knighton and Knucklas as “very grand”, the reporter also mentioned “the Creig-don rocks, so famed as the pleasant resort of picnic parties” and “the Castle Hill – a very prominent object”. Knucklas Viaduct was described as “massive and imposing” and “has at each approach small castellated columns and commands a good view of the little village of Knucklas, lying in the valley beneath. It is built entirely of local stone”. The reporter goes on to refer to “Llwynoch (Llangunllo) Tunnel...cut through slate rock”, another major engineering achievement on this stretch of the Line.

When the train reached Llandrindod, the passengers were greeted by local people with “hearty cheering” despite heavy rain and the passengers, forming themselves into a procession and headed by the band of the Volunteers, then proceeded to the reception at The Rock House to the strains of “Men of Harlech”.

Rousing speeches were made by a number of the dignitaries present. The chairman of the Central Wales Railway Company, Sir Charles Rouse Boughton, proposed a toast first to the Queen (Victoria) and immediately afterwards to “the



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Bishop and clergy of the Diocese”, an illustration of the importance of the Church in Victorian Britain. Sir Charles said that he “believed it is one of the strongest signs of the popularity of the Church of England that whenever the toast is proposed, no matter in what district, it is always equally well received, although a large majority of the inhabitants may in some respects differ from her doctrine”.

The Rev. T.J. Thirlwall, Vicar of Nantmel, responding on behalf of at least eleven other clergymen present at the banquet, spoke of “the advantages which will be afforded by the ‘iron horse’ to the clergy of so large a diocese as St. David’s, enabling them to visit the Bishop when necessary”.

The 150th anniversary of the opening in 2015 is to be marked by events currently being planned to take place on Saturday 29th August and Saturday 10th October. In conjunction with the anniversary, volunteers are making a special effort this year to improve the general appearance of the stations along the Heart of Wales Line and in particular those stations on the Knighton to Llandrindod stretch of the Line. New volunteers willing to lend a hand in the work at Llangunllo and Knucklas stations would be much appreciated. If anyone is interested, please contact me at the following e-mail address: ‘[georgescarfe357@btinternet.com](mailto:georgescarfe357@btinternet.com)’ Thank you.

George Scarfe (Heart of Wales Line Travellers Association)



## Welsh Names

**Deiniol** - Welsh form of Daniel.

**Deryn** - Possibly from Welsh *aderyn* meaning "bird".

**Einion** - "anvil" in Welsh.

**Eirlys** - "snowdrop" in Welsh.

**Eilwen** - Perhaps means "white brow" from Welsh *ael* "brow" and *gwen* "white, fair, blessed".

**Eira** - "snow" in Welsh.

Info from [www.behindthename.com](http://www.behindthename.com)





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## It's All in the Family

Following on from February's Abraham Thomas entry, we conclude with some extracts from two postcards sent by Mrs Abraham Thomas from Russia. They are both sending Christmas and New Year wishes, one dated December 1913 containing the happy news of the birth of another Grandson. "Wishing a Happy New Year to you all my dears". She wrote of farmers and peasants wearing sheepskin coats, woolly side in, and that they drove three horses abreast into Market everyday. Poultry and meat were cheap. It was signed E M Thomas.



The second postcard was posted 26 November 1914 just before she died. "A happy Christmas to you all dear Mrs Harris, though I have very little heart to write, as I have been very unwell. We are living in a village of about 6000 inhabitants, but most of the young men have been taken for training months ago. They have just been allowed to return to their families to say goodbye before going to the front." She wrote, "they tell me it is impossible to return home before the end of the war, with best wishes for a prosperous New Year to you and yours, and to all friends. Ever yours EMT" (Elizabeth Margaret Thomas).



Margaret Harris

## Llanfair Waterdine WI

Our February meeting was "Indian Inspirations", a talk with slides by textile artist Jane Davies. She showed us some lovely embroidered garments and her own creative designs.

We look forward to a talk by Mark Hughes, our local wine expert, in March and a talk about Italy in April. If either of these look of interest to you we are always pleased to welcome guests. We meet on the first Friday of the month in the Everest Hall.

Ann Harroway

## **He's Forever Blowing Baubles.....**

**Llangunllo W.I. meeting: Tuesday 3rd Feb 2015**

Yes, last year alone Chris Fox-James of Foxglass blew 4,000 glass baubles at his studio in Llangunllo: beautiful borosilicate-glass ornaments to hang in windows, from lights, or on Christmas Trees. The ladies from the W.I. watched entranced as the fire roared, the flames leapt from the gun, and Chris deftly and without apparent fear blew the hollow, striped glass into shapes, or melted solid glass into a soft, shaped lozenge, and then injected small spots of colour to make beautiful jewellery. Chris was a lively and interesting presenter, and we are all delighted he has brought his family and his amazing skills to our little village. Chris Fox-James can be reached at [www.foxglass.co.uk](http://www.foxglass.co.uk)

The February W.I. meeting was held, after the glass-blowing demonstration, at the home of our new Treasurer, Karen Edgar. President Isabel Morris, recently elected to County, began by updating us on the Federation activities and policies, and, with Secretary Shirley Brown, conducted the main business of the meeting, starting with the Newsletter.

National W.I. Proposed Resolution: To Support Public Access to De-fibrillators

Mrs Morris reported that our W.I. had been quick to adopt a W.I. proposed resolution for 100 years, and initiated a public meeting in the Village Hall to assess support for the installation of a de-fibrillator for public use. This was done with the help of Mrs M Cain, a health worker of long standing, and Mr G Rothwell from the Welsh Ambulance Service. Our W.I. announced there had been unanimous approval, including comprehensive First Aid classes for all. Mrs D Alderson, Mrs A Newton and Mrs S Lovell would represent the W.I. on a steering group for the proper installation and maintenance of the de-fibrillator and first-aid classes, along with representatives from the Welsh Ambulance Service, the Village Council, and other key institutions.

Mrs Morris was pleased to welcome 4 new members to the meeting. Our W.I. now has 18 members, double that of 5 years ago, and we all enjoyed a convivial supper after the business meeting closed. Mrs Edgar was thanked for hosting the event, no mean feat now we are so many, and Mrs Brown reminded us that the next event was on Tuesday March 10th – “Travels With An Aeroplane” a talk by Ian Burgin with our sister W.I. group at Whitton. Anyone interested in coming to this, or requiring more information on the W.I. should call 01547 550555.

Jenny Williams



**Chris Fox-James**

*Photo by Anne Newton*



See the new FoxGlass  
ad on page 32

*Photo by Jenny Williams*



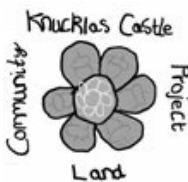
## Churches Together Open the Book

Rob, as a wild John the Baptist, baptises Jesus (John). He eats locusts on stage! Sue and the children help tell the story.

Sue and Rob (the King) tell the story of Nehemiah re-building the walls of Jerusalem, along with the help of the Israelites and two Knighton School children.







About 12 Knucklas Castle Community Land Project volunteers arrived at the Knucklas allotments in the morning of **Sunday 1st February**. With loppers and choppers as their weapons of choice, they staged a counterattack on invading brambles, blackthorn and other sharp shrubs. The enthusiasm of the volunteers made short work of the task. Soon they were

burning the resulting brash. A special thanks to young Isabelle and her granddad Phil Morris for clearing all the mole hills. Tea and biscuits produced at about 1pm put an end to the work. Another group returned on 10th February and finished off the burning. A good time was had by all.

On the 3rd of February Ron Bywater and Andy Kenyon-Wade collected three hives of sleepy bees from David Bebbington at Sunny Bank, Knucklas and took them up to their new home in the corner of the allotment field. The original bee colonies were bought by David Bebbington over 12 years ago from a Knucklas resident by the name of Ron Pugh. Now that David has decided to give up beekeeping, it is lovely to think that these bees and their descendents will continue to produce Knucklas honey!

Ron and Andy are looking for people to join the **BEE PROJECT**. This will involve sharing the costs, the work and the honey. For more details please contact Andy on 01547 529786

In **April** Siggie will be setting up a **HEN GROUP** in the allotment field. This will involve sharing the work, the costs, and the eggs. Contact Siggie if you are interested. (01547 528223)

**The Youth Club Family Allotment Saturdays** start on the **4th of April** from 11 am - 1 pm. They will run throughout the summer on the 1st Saturday of the month. We would like parents to come too if they can, as there will only be Jacky and Siggie running everything and we need as much help as possible! Children under 5 are very welcome but they **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. There are plenty of small plots available ranging from a small raised bed to a bucket. The Youth Club shed is always left open and the tools and equipment are there for you to use with your children at any time you wish. All we ask is that you use the equipment with care and return it to the shed once you have finished with it. (For more details contact Siggie 01547 528223)

Siggie Haynes

**Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else.**

*- Margaret Mead*



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## Recipe: Crustless Spinach and Mushroom Quiche

### Ingredients:

1 tablespoon vegetable oil  
½ cup onion, chopped  
3 cups of spinach  
½ cup chopped or sliced mushrooms  
5 eggs  
2½ cups of cheddar cheese, shredded  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/8 tsp. pepper



A lenten recipe

### Directions:

- Preheat oven to 160°C. Lightly grease a 22cm (9") pie pan.
- Heat oil in large skillet over medium high heat. Add onions and saute. Stir in spinach and mushrooms and continue cooking for a couple more minutes. Transfer vegetable mixture to pie pan.
- In a large bowl, combine eggs, cheese, salt and pepper. Pour over vegetable mixture.
- Bake in preheated oven until eggs have set, about 30 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes before serving.

From [catholiccuisine.blogspot.co.uk](http://catholiccuisine.blogspot.co.uk)

Recipes for Celebrating the Feasts and Seasons of the Liturgical Year

Music in New Radnor



Sat, 14th March

String Players

from chamber music  
course at

Royal Welsh College of Music  
and Drama

New Radnor Community Hall  
7.30pm

Tickets £8 (Students £3)

Knighton and District Concert Society

Sunday, 22nd March

The Hillman Quartet

*2 violins, viola, cello*

3pm

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**Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than  
going to a garage makes you an automobile. – Billy Sunday**



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## Thoughts on Life and Faith

Rosemary Hanna

Do you find it hard to pray regularly? I find it harder the older I get. Is it because I have ME or because I'm married to a vicar? I don't know, but I do know I like variety. Concentrating on doing the same thing at the same time is hard.

I was brought up from a very young age to "say my prayers" before going to sleep. Later, at secondary school, I was given a Gideon New Testament, with lots of suggestions for readings and I read it every day, though there was much I didn't understand. At university my faith came alive, the difficult bits began to make sense and there were lots of opportunities for daily prayer and Bible study and weekly prayer and study sessions with other students.

Later I started teaching, eventually moving to Cambridge where the lack of hills depressed me, so I spent the long summer holidays walking in Scotland. Eventually I was experienced enough to walk amongst the beautiful mountains on my own. My favourite memory is of a tiny youth hostel at Achiltibuie on the northwest coast. Fortunately it was a fantastic summer, for there was no electricity or hot water. The lighting was gas; I can't remember how we cooked (no food was provided) and every morning we washed in a long sink in an outhouse. (The men had to wash under the nearby waterfall.)

The warden was a lovely man in his eighties, who spent every summer there. He was very concerned about me when I proposed climbing Ben Mor



Coigach on my own. But I was fine and I decided to spend the day learning a psalm, just in case I got lonely on my own half way up a mountain. I didn't get lonely, I met other people and the views across the sea to the Summer Isles were amazing. The psalm I chose to learn was Psalm 121, a nice short psalm, but very appropriate:

*"I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from?*

*My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.*

*He will not let your foot slip – he who watches over you will neither slumber nor sleep . . .*

*The Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life;  
the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore."*



## Holy Days in March

- 1 **St David's Day**, David (6th century) Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales
- 5 Non (5th Century), Mother of David of Wales
- 7 **Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions (203), Martyrs**
- 17 Patrick (5th C), Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland
- 18 Cyril of Jerusalem (386) Bishop
- 19 Joseph of Nazareth
- 21 Thomas Cranmer (1556)
- 24 Oscar Romero (1980), Bishop & Martyr
- 25 The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary

## Perpetua and Felicitas – Joyful Martyrs of Africa

Perpetua was a young married woman of 22 who had recently become a Christian. But the authorities had forbidden any new conversions, and soon she and some other converts were arrested and sentenced to death. This was not under Islamic State, nor Boko Haram, but under the emperor Septimius Severus in Carthage, in 203.



Imprisoned with Perpetua was a pregnant slave, Felicitas, and seven men. Perpetua sent a message to reassure her family: “My prison became a palace for me, and I would rather have been there than anywhere else.” She devoted herself to prayer, and experienced various visions depicting the spiritual battle storming around her.

Soon Felicitas gave birth to a girl in the prison. On the day of the Games they left for the amphitheatre ‘joyfully as though they were on their way to heaven’. Perpetua sang a hymn of praise as animals were prepared for killing the prisoners: leopards and bears for the men, and a maddened heifer for the women. The heifer did not succeed in killing them, and after the young women exchanged one final kiss of peace, Perpetua herself guided the gladiator’s knife to her throat: “It was as though so great a woman...could not be despatched unless she herself were willing.”

Their joy and unflinching courage inspired many other early Christian martyrs. Their memory lives on: eight episodes of Perpetua’s life are represented on a 14th century altar frontal at Barcelona.

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who sailed to find herself and  
the world of tropical islands.

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**Start with what is right rather than what is acceptable. -Franz Kafka**

## Petra's Licensing



Revd Petra Beresford-Webb with friends and family after licensing to Llanafan Fawr on Feb 16th. All the great and the good from the diocese were there along with friends from Bleddfa.

**I often quote myself. It adds spice to my conversation.**

**- George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)**

## Llanbister School News *(Some Beguildy children now attend Llanbister)*

Class 2 have enjoyed a visit to Llandrindod Wells High School to meet the successful author Anthony McGowan. As they are learning about Native Americans they have created some fantastic villages.

Class 1 loved their musical demonstration of the Harry Potter & James Bond themes by Sue Williams, the school secretary, on her euphonium. They also tried (with varying success!) to produce a note themselves and they couldn't



believe that if stretched out the instrument would reach to 6 metres long.

The Charity Shop held in conjunction with Nantmel was a great success, thanks to all who were involved.

Kym Berry

## CHILDREN'S PAGE



### St ANGELA

It is not that long ago that most girls never had the chance to be educated. But one determined woman started the process, and her name was Angela Merici. She was born in Italy on 24 March 1474. Both her parents died when she was only 10, and then when Angela was 13 her elder sister died too, which led her to dedicate her life to God. When she was only 22 she started a school for young girls in her home town and this was so successful that she was invited to start schools in other places. Her faith led her to make pilgrimages to the Holy Land and to Rome.

It was when she was in Rome in 1524 that she suddenly lost her sight. Pope Clement VII asked her to stay in Rome to take charge of an order of nursing nuns but she refused and went home to Brescia. When she was almost 60 she started the Order of St Ursula, which is still involved in teaching today. Even though she was blind, St Angela Merici had a vision of what was possible with God's help.

## SCHOOL SUBJECTS

This timetable has the lessons scrambled up – can you unravel the school subjects? Answers below.

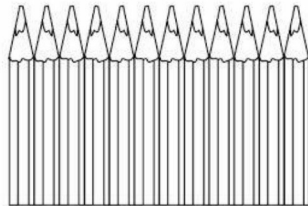
Period 1	CATESTHAMIM
Period 2	ROYTHIS
Period 3	GHELSIN
Period 4	CHNFER
LUNCH	
Period 5	RAT
Period 6	MYITCHERS
Period 7	MESAG

### What did I get for my history test?

Well, first the good news – you spelled your name correctly.

**Teacher:** You missed school yesterday, didn't you?

**Pupil:** Not really.



### What do elves learn in school?

The elf-abet.

⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘

**Answers:** 1.Mathematics 2.History  
3.English 4.French 5.Art 6.Chemistry  
7.Games

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## Scouting – My Experiences

It was 1954. I returned home from the Army after two years' National Service. Fourteen months or thereabouts had been spent in Japan, and readers may have read about that in previous 'Beacons'.

My home was Southport and my church there was Victoria Methodist Church. They had started Scouting and I was recruited to become a leader. It meant buying a uniform (shorts of course, even for leaders).

We had a good sized Sunday School room with a vestry allocated to the group. I cannot remember where they stored their camping equipment.

I remember a camp in the country, between Southport and the villages of Parbold and Newburgh. It is still there. The latter is where my niece lives now. I was back working at a bank in Southport and I went to join the camp, on the train on Saturday after morning work. I remained living full time in Southport until January 1957 when I was transferred to Rochdale.

See you next time about that and my continuation of Scouting.

George Linaker



**The years teach much  
which the days never know.  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson**



**Palm Sunday**  
Jesus entering Jerusalem

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## Teme Valley Gardeners' Club

It was a very cold and bitter evening on 9th February and fewer members than usual arrived to hear a talk by Zoe Griffiths of Wye Valley Lavender Farm. The talk was entitled 'Lavender in Wales' and with the aid of a short film, Zoe explained why she had decided to grow lavender in the field that had once been the home of her pet horse. We were shown the lavender field at different stages and the process of gathering and bunching fresh lavender and also drying it for future use.



Lavender is used widely for culinary purposes, in toiletries and potpourri and it also has medicinal uses. Zoe brought with her a selection of products for sale; they all used her lavender in them: biscuits, candy, toilet water, lip salve etc. and also bunches of dried lavender. The farm is open for visitors through the summer and Zoe will serve you tea and a slice of lavender flavoured cake, as you sit and enjoy the beautiful views that surround the farm.

Our next talk is on March 9th and is entitled 'The Year Round Shrub Garden' The speaker is Mark Paviour (M.A.Hort), of Paviour and Davies Plants based at Wigmore. The nursery specialises in trees, shrubs and perennials of Chilean and Argentinean origin along with other more unusual and rarer plants from Tasmania, New Zealand and China. Mark has been involved in horticulture professionally for 35 years, in aspects as diverse as traditional walled gardens, arboreta and historic gardens. We hope that he will be able to bring plants for sale.

We are always pleased to welcome visitors to our meetings which are held at Knucklas Community Centre, commencing at 7.30pm, admission £3.

Audrey Fox

### **Llangunllo Boundary Walk**

A group of locals propose to walk the old Llangunllo bounds over a period of three days: **2, 3, & 4 May** with a bit of a celebration in The Greyhound on the final evening. We would like to hear from you if you're interested in joining us.

More details are available from:

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**It is easier to fight for one's  
principles than to live up to  
them.**

**- Alfred Adler (1870 - 1937)**

**Faithless is he that says  
farewell when the road  
darkens.**

**- J. R. R. Tolkien (1892 - 1973)**

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## **Knucklas and District Notes**

**St David's Church, Heyope:** As I write, our St.David's luncheon at the Castle Inn is yet to take place, as is the St.David's Day Patronal Festival on Sunday March 1st at the church.

By the time that you read this we will be fully into the church season of Lent with the colour purple prominent and with weekly group-sessions at the Vicarage in Knighton, as well as at other venues in the town.

Women's World Day of Prayer is being observed at the Methodist Church in Knighton on Friday 6th March with some of our people taking part. The service has been designed this year by the women of the Bahamas.

Mothering Sunday is on the 15th March with Holy Week, leading up to Easter beginning on Palm Sunday, March 29th. (That is the day when the clocks go forward by an hour, with the Spring Equinox a few days before.)

Our church visitors' book is interesting to browse through with several positive comments on our church building and grounds.

The Church of England now has its first woman bishop and it will probably not be long before the Church in Wales follows suit. It is 21 years since women were first ordained to the priesthood in England; there are a few in Wales too.

**Chuches across the Teme:** Following a long and serious illness, the Revd Diana Hoare, priest in charge of the Middle Marches Benefice, which includes Llanfair, Bucknell etc., has announced her resignation as from the end of April. She intends to return to her former house and career as a stone carver in St David's. After some ten years over here she will be missed and is sorry to be going. She writes to her parishoners: 'I very much look forward to welcoming you to Pembrokeshire for refreshment and inspiration.'

Other activities sponsored by churches in the Clun Forest Deanery include a Pop in Café and Quick Lunch at Bucknell, a Pop-up Vintage Tearoom at Bishops Castle, lunch-hour concerts in Shrewsbury, "Fresh Expression" of the Christian Faith at Newcastle and a local ministry group meeting in the Stiperstones area.

About his first impressions of the area, the new Bishop of Hereford writes that, despite many positive factors, he is concerned that the Hereford Diocese has the lowest level of giving (money) of any diocese in England. He goes on to say: 'There is an urgent challenge to share our faith with others. I understand English reticence and the need to be sensitive and appropriate, but the Christian faith is for all'

**Around the Locality:** Our climate recently seems to have broken all records by not breaking any – somewhat unusual, but good not to have any extremes for a while. Much of the U.S.A., meanwhile, has been experiencing very cold weather. As we move into spring and the days become lighter and the Sun more strong, things look hopeful as we see the new lambs, and many people who have been ill regaining some health, despite problems this year with the ‘flu vaccine.

The spring bulbs are always a cheery sight and gardening will be getting fully into gear. Ash die-back disease is creeping into Wales but has not, so far, made an impact around here. It has been wonderfully quiet and peaceful locally these last few years yet with plenty of organized activity for any who want it. Regular meetings for various interest groups take place at the Community Centre and there is a powerful programme of folk music in and around Knucklas. It is also a fabulous time for films with numerous acclaimed productions, many of them British, such as Paddington, The Grand Budapest Hotel, The Theory of Everything, Boyhood, and Pride (set largely to the south of Powys) etc. etc. And, as a bonus, there is a magnificent array of British actors and actresses giving award-winning performances in these, and even in American films. Many of these life-affirming films are within easy reach of Knucklas thanks to Flicks in the Sticks on the Shropshire side of the Teme, but also in Knighton, Presteigne etc. Testament of Youth is already on T.V.

This year is a round-figure anniversary of a number of significant events including: 150 years since the publication of Alice in Wonderland, 100 years since the (U.K.) founding of the W.I., at LlanfairPG on Anglesey (originally to help in the war-effort by production of food on the home-front). Then it is 30 years since Eastenders first appeared on T.V. (I remember an ‘expert’ predicting that it would be a failure!), 70 years since the end of the Second World War and 50 years since the death of T.S. Eliot, American-born but living and writing great poetry in the U.K. Some of his most memorable lines are: ‘all is always now’, and ‘The last temptation is the greatest treason, To do the right thing for the wrong reason’.

Welcome to Knucklas, Sue Shaw, recently from the Forest of Dean, happily resident in Glyndwr.

Robert Forbath

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This photo was taken in 1925 at the Bleddfa Old Rectory before the extension was built. The church sold the house in 1924 to Betty May Davies. Shown here is her brother, Cecil David Hallam Williams. Mrs Davies sold the house in 1927.

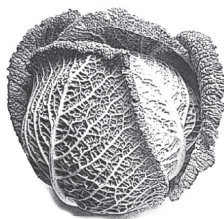
*From the collection of Malcolm Forbes. Information from June Pugh.*

## **Easter Art at Discoed**



Drop in at St Michael's Discoed, daily 10-5.30 until 16th April to see an exhibition of artwork representing the twelve apostles. Each was done by a different local artist. Plus this amazing 'Last Supper'

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## Caring for Crug-y-Byddar

On our workday in February Martin and Fred, volunteers from the *Caring for God's Acre* team, constructed a double compost bin, made from pallets provided by the Harris family from the neighbouring farm. Thank you very much to them for these, as it made the task much easier than if we had had to buy and bring them up from Knighton.

We cut back the hostile blackthorn hedge so it will grow well this spring, and raked the grass in areas, which needed a bit more attention. This will encourage more wild flowers to grow through later on. We then carried most of the grass

cut last November down to the new compost bins. We will probably have to add a third bin as there was so much.

If there is anyone nearby who could occasionally mow the grass up the central path, the effect would be to encourage people to visit and enjoy the Churchyard more. It would not need more than one or two cuts a month, or whatever anyone can manage. Maybe several people could volunteer and just do one each?

The next workday is Tuesday, August 11 when we will scythe the grass and prune the rhododendrons. This may be possible to run as a scythe training session.

Hilary Howcroft



**Hedging Hilary**

*Photos by Hilary & Laura*



**Martin & Fred building compost bins**



**Fay**

## Art of Peter Clare for Contemplation



We continue during Lent with Peter Clare's **Stations of the Cross**. Last month we saw Jesus falling under the weight of his cross. Here we see him falling repeatedly. Consider how the image changes as He repeatedly falls.

In the next image the soldiers strip Jesus of his cloak. What is the effect of soldiers wearing only metal helmets. Why is Jesus so small? Why is he dressed in red?

In the last agonizing image soldiers nail him, helpless, to the cross.

We contemplate these images of Jesus to discover something of his sacrifice. In so doing we may become more aware of the suffering of others across our globe, perhaps those also staggering under heavy loads. Indeed, we may glimpse our own suffering and therein find meaning.



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## In Memoriam – Sheila Pearson (1928 -2015)

Sheila died in January. Her well attended service was held at Saint Mary's, Bettws y Crwyn. It was beautifully lit by candles and decorated with snowdrops. (Sheila had planted the snowdrops along the track to the church.)

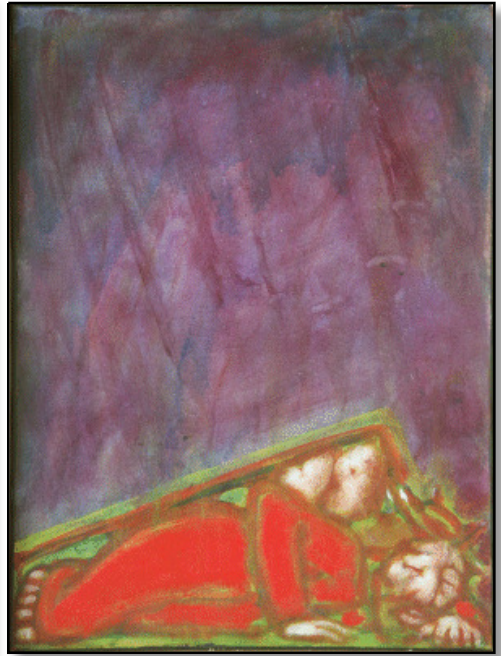
As a young woman, Sheila trained as a Nightingale nurse and served in many places during her fruitful life. She came to Knucklas some years ago after Bruce, her husband, died at Bettws y Crwyn. She only stayed with us for a few years before moving to Abbeyfields in Bishop's Castle, but in her short time here, she attended St David's, Heyope and was a good neighbour to everyone.

Revd Richard Shaw, the preacher, told us of her active involvement in community and church life at Bettws, including restoring their medieval screen. Our sympathies to her daughters, Lucy and Gemma, to her grandchildren and the rest of the family.

May she rest in peace.



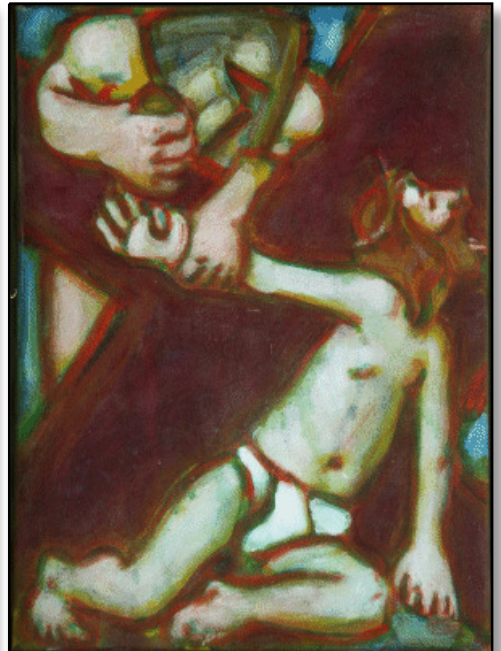
Jesus falls the second time



Jesus falls the third time



The soldiers strip Jesus



Soldiers nail Jesus to the cross





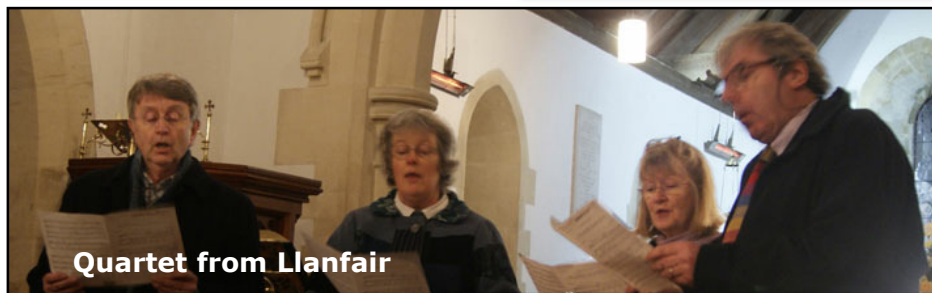
**St Michael's:** On a very cold February 1st, a congregation of over one hundred witnessed the baptism of three-week-old Ffion. Shown here are her parents Kyona and Ben with her brother, Jake, and the happy godparents.



**Carwen & Ken cutting the cake**



**Karen serving Prosecco**



**Quartet from Llanfair**

**St Edward's Church, Knighton**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 at 7.00pm**

## **A Meditation for Holy Wednesday**



including music from  
**Mozart's 'Requiem'**

Llanfair Singers  
Sean Farrell - Organ

### **Love is in the air.....**

Well, it certainly was for evening worship at St Cynllo's coming appropriately, as it did, the day after St Valentine's Day. The theme of love wound its way through the service just as it has the marriage of Carwen and Ken Maggs who had asked us all to join with them in celebrating their golden wedding anniversary.

We were able to borrow the organist, Judy North from Heyope, thereby releasing Carwen to just enjoy the proceedings, and a quartet of singers from Llanfair provided an additional musical item.

The readings, one of which was read by Richard Maggs, their son, all picked out passages which spoke most eloquently of the many wonderful aspects of love.

That thread was taken up in her address by Christobel who had kindly stepped into the breach when John fell ill. Kath Poole had looked out a poem, written by her late mother, called 'Golden Wedding', which brought a special local and very personal element to the proceeding.

After the service a generous and varied selection of savouries, cakes and biscuits magically appeared from all directions with the added benefit of some rather splendid Prosecco, and the centre piece, a stunning celebration cake, delighted our eyes as well as our taste buds. Genuine warmth and affection were displayed as we toasted the golden couple and I'm sure I wasn't the only one who felt that we are truly blessed to have a community that daily tries to live up to the maxim of 'love thy neighbour'.

Pam Livingstone-Lawn

**Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.**  
- Scott Adams



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## The March Daffodil

Accordingly the flower for this month is the **Daffodil** also known as **Jonquil** or **Narcissus**.

Romans, who brought daffodils to Britain, believed the sap of the flower had healing powers and it is from Greek mythology that the word *narcissus* comes from. A nymph named Echo was in love with a young Greek named Narcissus but he ended their relationship.

Heartbroken, Echo hid and died in a cave. The handsome and egotistical, Narcissus saw his reflection in a pool of water and in an attempt to get a better look, fell in and drowned. The Greek myth says he then became the flower.

Christians have adopted the daffodil as a symbol of Easter as it was believed that the flower first bloomed during the time of Christ's Resurrection. The legend says it was in the Garden of Gethsemane during the actual time of The Last Supper.

The daffodil is the symbolic flower for **Wales** while the national emblem is the Leek. In Welsh 'cenhinen' is leek and daffodil is 'cenhinen pedr' or Peter's leek. Over time both were confused which is why each have been known as our official flower.

In Germany the flower is known as Ostergloken or 'Easter bells' and in England they are known as 'Lent Lillies' where Prince Charles receives a single daffodil annually as a tradition. It is considered a rent payment for the unattended lands located in the Isles of Scilly. Druids saw that daffodils symbolized purity and made it their national flower.

The word *daffodil* can be traced back to the 1500's replacing the original name of 'affodyle', which meant 'that which comes early.' The word 'de affodil,' a Dutch adaptation of the Greek myth of asphodel is where the origin of the flower name is said to come from. The asphodel flower, according to the Greek myth, was associated with death as the flower blossomed over the meadows where the souls of the dead were said to wander.

info from [www.whatsmybirthflower.com](http://www.whatsmybirthflower.com)



**In Lent the days get longer. 'Lent' is an abbreviation of the Old English word 'lencten', which means 'lengthen'.  
No more ghastly dark tea-times!**

## Felindre W.I.

The Felindre WI meeting took place on the 4th February. Rhona our president welcomed 12 members on a very cold evening. We discussed our annual outing in August. It was agreed that we visit Stow on the Wold to see Lyn (a past member) and her husband Peter. A most interesting programme has been devised by Frances.

Diane Millbery, our speaker for the evening, was the first event of the year. The subject was "Boost your well being". We were shown exercises to do to relax us and much laughter as well as exercise was enjoyed by all. A really positive and fun evening.

The competition for the evening was the "jolliest socks/legwarmers": 1st Rebe Brick, 2nd Rhona Barnett, 3rd Eleanor Nickolls.

The competitor with the most points gained over the year: 1st Rebe Brick, rose bowl, 2nd Sue Woodhall, candle stick .

STUFFY we are not, so new members and visitors are always welcome. Why not join us at our next meeting on the 4/3/2015 for a cookery demonstration by Kath Horn. We look forward to meeting you.

Pat Buckley

### Llangunllo Hall 200 Club

#### November 2014

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£10 Clive Jones, Ferley

£5 Dorothy Sharock, Llangunllo

£5 Jane Andrews, Brighton

#### December 2014

£20 Doug Ford, Wolverhampton

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£5 Chris Pugh, Oak View

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#### January 2015

£20 Jo Lloyd, Oakwood

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£5 Jane Borthwick, Llangunllo

£5 Ken Maggs, Llangunllo

#### February 2015

£20 John Morris, Llanbister Road

£10 Gemma Shemans, c/o Llangunllo

£5 Linsey Lloyd, Bleddfa

£5 Joyce Lewis, Carters Farm

**Many people will walk in and out of your life. But only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.**

**- Eleanor Roosevelt**



## **Flicks in the Sticks – ‘Cinema Paradiso’**

**Sat, March 21st – 7 for 7.30**

Everest Hall, Llanfair Waterdine

This Classic Foreign Film, the Director's Cut, in Italian with English subtitles lasts 174 minutes. We will offer a selection of Italian wines and snacks in an effort to change a March evening in the Everest Hall to a balmy summer evening in Sicily! There will also be an interval. We have already received bookings from far afield so it may be a good idea to book a table or some seats. Ring Judith Tollman on 01547 510672.

## **What is Christian Healing?**

The churches in and around Knighton area have held two Services of Prayer for Healing since September. The tradition of Christian healing I come from at the Iona Community is for a life of wholeness, both physical and mental wellbeing.



In the first part of the service we pray for quite a number of individuals (usually by their Christian names): we believe our prayers complement the medical profession. At the same time, we pray for the healing of divided communities and nations, and the healing of the earth itself. When Jesus said “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God”, surely he was recognising the important healing work which they do.

When we pray to God to heal a person or a situation, He knows that person or situation far better than we do, and He knows the particular healing He wants to bring them. We can trust God that our prayers **will** be answered, although we do not know when or how healing will happen.

In these services, there is an opportunity to receive the Laying-on of Hands with prayer for healing, or to share in this ministry. This can be either for the individual or for another person or situation.

The next Service of Prayer for Healing will be held on **Thursday April 23rd at 7pm** in one of the Knighton churches (*venue to be confirmed*). If you think that this quiet, reflective service of prayer for God to heal and transform our lives may be for you, you will be very welcome to come.

Peter Cope

*Chair, Churches Together in Knighton & District*

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# GEOFF HALL

## FUNERAL SERVICES



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## Diary for March 2015

- 1 Work Day at Knucklas Allotments, 10.30 onwards
- 2 Felindre Village Hall Committee, 7pm
- 5 Lent Group, 7pm, Victoria House, Victorial Road, Knighton.  
Quiet Hour at 1 Ystrad House, Knighton (Margaret Davis) 10.30-11.30am  
and 4-5pm.
- 6 Women's World Day of Prayer, Methodist Church, Victoria Road, 7.15pm.  
Llanfair Waterdine W.I., Everest Hall at 7.30pm. Mark Hughes on 'Wine'.
- 9 Teme Valley Gardeners' Club, 7.30 at Knucklas Community Centre. Mark  
Paviour on 'The Year Round Shrub Garden.'
- 10 Llangunllo W.I. at Whitton. Ian Burgin: "Travels With An Aeroplane". Ring  
01547 550555 for time and place.
- 11 Makers and Crafters (Craft Club), Knucklas Comm. Centre, 2-4pm.
- 14 Music in New Radnor. String Players, 7.30 at Community Hall.
- 12 Lent Group, 7pm, Victoria House, Victorial Road, Knighton.
- 17 St David's Ladies Guild, Gethin Williams 'Life in Burma.' 7.30,  
Knucklas Community Centre.
- 19 Lent Group, 7pm, Victoria House, Victorial Road, Knighton.  
Quiet Hour at 1 Ystrad House, Knighton (Margaret Davis) 4-5pm.  
Folk Evening at The Castle Inn, 7pm onwards.
- 22 Knighton and District Concert Society, 3pm at St Edwards Hall. The  
Hillman Quartet
- 25 Makers and Crafters (Craft Club), Knucklas Comm. Centre, 2-4pm.
- 26 Lent Group, 7pm, Victoria House, Victorial Road, Knighton.
- 30 Holy Week begins.

April 1 A meditation for Holy Wednesday, Llanfair Church, 7pm.

<b>Services at Haydn's Chapels in March 2015</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Maesyrhelem</b>	<b>Pound</b>	<b>Gravel</b>
<b>Mar 1</b>	6.30 Service	2.30 Communion	11.00 Communion
<b>Mar 8</b>	6.30 Communion		
<b>Mar 15</b>	10.30 Service	6.30 Service	2.30 Family Service
<b>Mar 22</b>	10.30 Service	2.30 Family Service	6.30 Service
<b>Mar 29</b>	6.30 Service	2.30 Service	11.00 Service

Everyone is  
welcome on these  
walks.

- Please come suitably clad with walking boots or stout shoes, warm clothing and waterproofs, according to the weather.
- Bring a packed lunch and a warm drink.
- Everyone welcome, but no dogs please.
- Walkers walk at their own risk, and the leader has the right to alter or postpone a walk if the conditions are unsuitable.

**All walks start at 10am.** Enquiries: 01547 520266

**Wed March 4.** Map Reading and Navigation course. Places limited – members only.

**Wed March 11.** Mistletoe Walk, 7 miles moderate. Start at Exp 203 SO 598682 Swimming Pool Car Park at Tenbury Wells.

**Wed March 18.** Abbey Cwmhir, Glyndwr's Way. 7 miles moderate, short ascents. Start at Exp 214 SO 054712 Park opposite museum/farm.

**Sat March 21.** Lluest, Severn Way, 9 miles moderate (450 meters ascent). Start at Exp 215 SO 111915 Newtown Riverside Car Park.

**Wed March 25.** Far Hall & Llysin Hill. 7.5 miles, moderate. Start at Exp 200 SO 163712 roadside on common.



Winter snow and sun on  
Aberedw Hill

### Knucklas Baptist Chapel

Mar 8 6pm Mr Jon Judson

Mar 22 6pm Rev Michael Humphreys  
(Communion)

*The grave of Christopher  
Chapman in Westminster  
Abbey, bearing the date  
1680, says:*

What I gave, I have,  
What I spent, I had,  
What I left, I lost  
By not giving it.

Readings		Beguildy	Heyope	Llangunllo	Bleddfa
March 1 St David's Day	Psalms 16.3,5-8 1 Thessalonians 2.2b-12		R Forbath Mary Wilding		
March 8 Lent 3	Exodus 20.1-17 1 Corinthians 1.18-25 [John 2.13-22]				H Howcroft M Forbes
March 15 Mothering Sun.	Exodus 2.1-10 2 Corinthians 1.3-78 [Luke 2.33-35]	T.B.A.		T.B.A.	
March 22 Passion Sun.	Jeremiah 31.31-34 Hebrews 5.5-10 [John 12.20-33]		Mary Wilding Judy North		M Forbes Peter Lane
March 29 Palm Sun.	II Kings 9.1-6, 12b-13 Mark 11.1-11	J Peregrine			

## Churches Together in Knighton & District

### LENT GROUPS

You are very welcome to join any of these groups:

*A Beautiful Friendship* (based on the film *Casablanca*)

The Vicarage, Church Street on Tuesdays 2.30pm

24 February for 5 weeks

further information from Melia tel: 01547 528566

*Mark's Gospel* (based on a study by Rowan Williams)

Methodist Church, Victoria Road on Mondays at 2.30pm

from 23 February for 6 weeks

further information from Margaret tel: 01547 528154

*'Praise Him'* (a York course based on the New Testament)

Victoria House, Victoria Road on Thursdays at 7pm

from 26 February for 5 weeks

further information from Rosemary tel: 01547 529296

*Acts of the Apostles* (a study of the book)

4 Church Road on Wednesdays at 10.30am

from 18 February

further information from Mary tel: 01547 520812

*The Beatitudes*

6 Jackets Close on Tuesdays at 3pm

from 23 February for 5 weeks





further information from Joyce tel: 01547 520947

Wishing you a Holy Lent. Things to try:

- A bit of **self-denial**. Give up a minor luxury – especially if you give the money saved to a charity.
- A special gift to a charity (a little bit every day in the piggy bank!)
- Read a book: Archbishop Welby's Lent book by Desmond Tutu: "In God's Hands" OR the New Testament OR your choice.
- Go to church.
- Find a time and place to pray. Find a place to be quiet and listen.

Sundays in Lent are 'an oasis'. Sunday is never a day of fasting, but a weekly celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.



<b>Church Services in March 2015</b>				
<b>Date 2014</b>	<b>Beguildy</b> St Michael's	<b>Heyope</b> St David's	<b>Llangunllo</b> St Cynllo's	<b>Bleddfa</b> M Magdalene's
March 1 St David <i>White</i>		11am St David's Day Festival at Heyope		8.30pm Compline LWJ
March 8 Lent 3 <i>Purple</i>				11am Holy Communion JH
March 15 Mothering Sun. <i>Purple</i>	11am Songs of Praise JH/LWJ		6.30pm Family Service	
March 22 Passion Sun. <i>Purple</i>		11am Holy Communion JH		11am Morning Worship LWJ
March 29 Palm Sun. <i>Red</i>	Benefice Service Palm Sunday Worship at Beguildy JH/LWJ			



Full moon rising by 16th century San Jeronimo  
El Real in Madrid. - Photo by Dave Smyth

Please send material for the April Beacon by 20th March.  
 Email: [laura\\_woodside\\_jones@hotmail.com](mailto:laura_woodside_jones@hotmail.com)  
 Post: 1 Heyope Road, Knucklas, LD7 1PT Tel: 01547 520266