

OUR VICAR WRITES

The Archbishop of York at his inauguration in York Minster at the beginning of December said that many Christians today were “Consumer Christians” – what did he mean? Was he thinking of those people who say they are Christian and yet feel no need to come along to church even at Christmas and Easter? He called some church-goers – pew-fillers! He seemed to criticise many of us for our lack of commitment to Jesus, our lack of dedication to the proclamation of the Gospel. He criticised those who opt in and out of their faith when it suits them, worship when they have nothing better to do, seek the ‘services’ of the church (baptism, confirmation, marriage, funerals etc) and offer nothing back to God or His Church – they are just consumers and have no commitment!

As we move towards Lent perhaps this is the time to look at our commitment to the Gospel and the proclamation of it. The open-endedness of the Gospel means that every generation is free to interpret the transfiguration, the miracles, the parables, the crucifixion and resurrection in their own way, interpreting always from their own experience of life, in their own cultural setting. Thus Christianity in India is a different animal from Christianity in Africa, or in the stockbroker belt around London, or in the Bible Belt in the USA.

The Transfiguration is almost the archetypal Christian revelation: come up the mountain with me, says Jesus. So you do – and you have an experience that you know is significant and then spend the rest of your life discovering what it really means. Because of this, the Church has always had a tough time of it. It seems likely that we are living in an age at the dawn of the 21st century where Christ and his message, and especially Christ’s way of conveying his message, are winning in the tension between authority and revelation. To put it crudely, Christ is far more popular than his Church, and his revelation has far greater power and scope to reach people today than his own Church realises or understands. If the church were a theatre, it’s as if we are labouring to keep it a going concern, struggling against dwindling audiences and terrible reviews, while outside on

the pavement Christ is successfully busking for passers-by. We still feel we have the truth to tell people if they'd buy a ticket to our show, but we still feel it has to be a properly scripted, authoritative performance.

Jesus didn't explain the Transfiguration on the Mount. His teaching challenged people to think for themselves. The Archbishop of York is challenging us to think about our faith. Please use this time as we move towards Lent to think about your faith, to think how your gifts can be used in the service of God's Church, to think what sort of a Christian we are and then to resolve to follow Christ more nearly and to see how Jesus Christ is transfiguring his Church today as we try to reach out and serve our communities – but without YOU the Body of Christ is not complete.

Bob Griffiths

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

1 10am Holy Eucharist - AS

7.30pm Ysgol Bodafon Governors Meeting (6.30pm Finance Committee)

2 Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (page 235 in the Prayer

Book)

10.30am Holy Eucharist – SP

11.45am Deanery Staff Meeting - Llanrwst

12noon Holy Eucharist – Chapel of QE Court

3 10am Holy Eucharist – SD

6.45pm Youth Group – Cinema Visit

5 FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT (Epiphany 5)

usual Sunday Services

6 7pm Pre-Baptism Meeting – Llanrhos Schoolroom

8pm Evening Koinonia – Llanrhos Schoolroom

7 7.30pm St David's Ladies Fellowship Meeting

8 10am Holy Eucharist – AS

12.30pm Cytun Clergy Fraternal meeting at Stella Maris

9 9am Llanrhos/Llandudno Clergy Meeting

10.30am Holy Eucharist – SP

- 10 10am Holy Eucharist – SD
10am Conwy SACRE Meeting
- 12 **THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT (Septuagesima)**
usual Sunday Services
6pm Diocesan ‘Y’ Service in St Mary’s Church, Halkyn
- 14 Diocesan Clergy School (all clergy attending)
2.30pm All Saints Mothers Union Meeting
- 15 10am Holy Eucharist – AS
6pm ‘Thinking Day Service’ – AS
- 16 10.30am Holy Eucharist –SP
12noon Service in the Chapel of QE Court
- 17 10am Holy Eucharist – SD
- 19 **SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT (Sexagesima)**
usual Sunday Service
The Vicar is preaching at St David’s Methodist Church, Craig y Don, at 10am.
- 22 10am Holy Eucharist – AS
- 23 10.30am Holy Eucharist – SP
- 24 10am Holy Eucharist – SD
- 25 12noon Wedding – AS
- 26 **SUNDAY BEFORE LENT (Quinquagesima)**
Usual Sunday Services
The Rev Nick Sisson, Methodist Minister in Craig y Don, will be preaching in St Paul’s Church at the 9.45am service
- Wednesday 1st March – ASH WEDNESDAY**
10am Holy Eucharist – SH & AS
7pm Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes – SP & SD
- Wednesday 2nd March – St David’s Day**
10.30am Holy Eucharist Service at St Paul’s Church

Items for the March issue of the Parish Magazine should reach the PARISH OFFICE no later than Wednesday 8th February 2006.

The **GOVERNING BODY** of Ysgol Bodafon meets at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1st February (the Governors Finance Committee meets at 6.30pm).

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE:

There is a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10.30am in St Paul's Church.

VISITING THE SICK at home or in hospital: this is just a reminder to ask you to please notify the clergy if you know of someone who is unwell either at home or in hospital and who would appreciate a visit. The clergy do not, believe it or not, have the gift of telepathy, and would appreciate it very much if you could keep them up-to-date with news of parishioners. The clergy do not mind at all being told more than once about a person – it is better than not being told at all – so telephone the Parish Office or the clergy direct or tell them when you see them, PLEASE. Don't think someone else will tell them – they might not!

MILKOMANIA!!

Dear Milkman "just had a baby", please leave another one.

Please cancel one pint after the day, after tomorrow.

Please leave an extra pint of paralysed milk.

Milkman, please close the gate behind you, because the birds keep pecking the tops off the milk.

No milk – please do not leave milk at number 41 as he is dead until further notice.

Please leave no milk today, when I say today I mean tomorrow, as I wrote this note yesterday.

Leave an extra pint of milk, if this blows away please knock.

Please knock, my TV has broken down and I missed last night's Coronation Street, if you saw it will you tell me what happened.

No milk today as we are away for the weekend, that's why I left this note under the doormat so that nobody find it.

Sorry not paid your bill before, but my wife had a baby and I have been carrying it round in my pocket for weeks.

Please send me a form for cheap milk as I am stagnant. Milk is needed for the baby – father is unable to supply it.

Money on the table, wife in bed, please help yourself!!!

The **YOUTH GROUP** meets at 6.45pm at the Vicarage for transport to the Cinema. Cost: £2.50p. Please let the Vicar know if you are coming along – 876152 – by Thursday 2nd February (so that he can arrange the transport).

The parents of a new baby could not decide what to name their son, so they took the first letters of the names of three of their favourite relatives – Oscar, Dianne and David – and they named their son ‘Odd’.

Decades passed, and after a lifetime of enduring jokes and teasing about his name, poor Odd passed away. he made only one request for his burial arrangements: he did not want his embarrassing name on his tombstone under any circumstances.

Surprisingly, the omission has caused few identification problems. To this day, nearly everyone who notices the tombstone with no name remarks, “Isn’t that odd?”

ASH WEDNESDAY – 1st March

There will be celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at:

10am in St Hilary’s Parish Church

10am in All Saints Church

7pm in St Paul’s Church (with the imposition of ash)

7pm in St David’s Church (with the imposition of ash)

Please note that the church celebrates St David’s Day on Tuesday 28th February and there will be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist (bi-lingual) at 10am in St Hilary’s Parish Church.

FRUGAL LUNCHESES will be held every Thursday from 12noon to 1pm in St Paul’s Church Hall every Thursday in Lent. We hope you will come along to join us for these lunches, the profits from which go to various charities.

LENT 2006

some diary dates for you:

Deanery Lent Service at 7pm every Monday in March: Theme: Vocation

6th: St Grwst’s Church, Llanrwst – Rev Chris Webb, Diocesan Officer for Evangelism

13th St David's Church, Penrhyn Bay – Mr Keith Livesey. Lay Reader in the Parish

20th St Ffraid's Church, Glan Conwy – Ven B Thomas, Archdeacon of St Asaph

27th St Michael & All Angels, Church, Llandudno Junction – Rev Manon Parry, Diocesan Director of Life-Long Learning

Cytun lent Prayer & Discussion Group: 7.30pm every Tuesday in Lent at Stella Maris, Llandudno

Lent Service (Compline & Address) with Llandudno Parish at 7pm in Llandudno Hospital Chapel every Wednesday in Lent:

Themes: "5P" – Preparation, Penitence, Prayer, Passion & Play.

While addressing the crowd at Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park, Lord Soper was interrupted by a heckler who kept shouting, 'What about flying saucers?' Eventually, Lord Soper turned and silenced him with: 'I cannot deal with your domestic difficulties now.'

PARISH HOLIDAY 2006

Newcastle-Gateshead

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October

£280 per person based on

- 4 nights accommodation in a 4* Hotel in Newcastle-Gateshead
- two people sharing a twin/double room with private facilities, TV etc
- use of the hotel Leisure Facilities which include an indoor swimming pool
- Full English Breakfast
- 3 course Evening Meal
- coach travel to and from Newcastle-Gateshead
- Day trip to Durham and Beamish Open Air Museum
- Trip to Alnwick Castle and Gardens
- Day free in Newcastle-Gateshead

Booking forms are available from church, the Parish Office or the Vicar. A £60 non-returnable deposit is required when booking (seats on the coach are allocated as deposits are received).

We regret that there are no single rooms available – our allocation being fully booked

ST DAVID'S DAY

As 1st March is Ash Wednesday, the Church cannot celebrate St David on this day. The Church in Wales Lectionary therefore celebrates St David on Thursday 2nd March, when we hope you will join us in St Paul's Church at 10.30am for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

On New Year's Day, which this year was the first Sunday after Christmas, we continued the tradition of just one service in the parish at the Parish Church. The Vicar welcomed everyone to the service and said how appropriate it was for the churches to come together, coming to "mother", for New Year, back to where it all began for the parish in the 6th Century.

In his sermon the Vicar spoke of the importance of having an identity – a name – a name known by God. We also needed an identity as a parish. Some had stayed away because there was no service in "my church", there was difficulty too because it was New Years Day and no public transport (the last time we put on a coach to transport people it cost £100 and only one person used it!), yet there were cars with space in and as a family perhaps we should be better organised to pick people up? The Vicar also said that in the coming years as Quota and other costs continued to rise then each of the churches in the parish (and deanery) would become more dependant on each other (at the moment each church in the parish is financially autonomous) but the time would come when one or even two might need support from the others. It is important now to develop that feeling of family, the feeling of togetherness where each depends on the other, if we are to keep four churches open in the years to come. Each of us is unique, each one of us is loved by God for who and

what we are, but God gives us to one another in a fellowship of mutual love and service. Our fellowship as individual churches, as a parish and as a deanery depends on each one of us working together to build up the church and strengthen our witness in the communities we serve. It is only together that we will continue – we cannot afford, as St Paul put it, to be “luke warm” and we must overcome our reluctance to worship in a church that is not “mine”.

THE R N L I IN LLANDUDNO

Plan's are in place for a number of individual crewmembers to undertake training in a variety of specialised subjects during the early part of 2006. Off-site courses programmed include a sea survival course at Fleetwood Nautical College, which features tuition in fire-fighting, the use of pyrotechnics, and exercises with inflatable life-rafts in the college pool. Also planned is a navigation and pilitage course, to be carried out aboard a Poole-based RNLI training vessel. Courses to be held locally include evening sessions on first-aid, And the use of marine radar equipment for navigation and search and rescue purposes.

Lifeboat Guild activities for 2006 begin with members' annual dinner in early February, and the provision of a talk on the RNLI for a local church group. Enquiries about free talks and video prenetations can be made by contacting Mrs Val Hicks on 01492 530034. Information on membership of the fundraising guild is available from Mrs Lyn Brown on 01492 874415.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY MATRIMONY

25.02.06 Christopher Philip McLean & Katie Joanna Hughes (AS)
Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace. Look with favour upon the world you have made, and for which your Son gave his life, and especially upon those you make one flesh in Holy Matrimony. Amen.

FUNERALS:

14.12.05 Rita Violet Light (Colwyn Bay)

- 15.12.05 John Jennison (Colwyn Bay)
 16.12.05 Doris Blackstone (Colwyn Bay)
 19.12.05 Winifride (Gwen) Cliff (Colwyn Bay)
 20.12.05 Audrey Jones (SH & Colwyn Bay)
 21.12.05 Malcolm Platt (Colwyn Bay)
 22.12.05 Doreen Eva Walliker (Colwyn Bay)
 28.12.05 Norah Ellen Davies (Colwyn Bay)
 30.12.05 Ethel Peacock (Colwyn Bay)
 Elsie Flynn (Colwyn Bay)
 Lilian Grace Roberts (Colwyn Bay)
 03.01.06 Dorothy Adelaide Wyn Evans (Colwyn Bay)
 04.01.06 Gwenda Shortledge (Colwyn Bay)
 Betty Plimmer (Colwyn Bay)
 05.01.06 Irene Parkin (Colwyn Bay)

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered, accept our prayers on behalf of these your servants and grant them an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A man phones the hospital in a state of excitement: ‘My wife is pregnant! Her contractions are only two minutes apart!!!’ The doctor asked, ‘Is this her first child?’ The man quickly responded, ‘No you fool – this is her husband!’

ST HILARY’S PARISH CHURCH

ROTAS IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Readers:	11am	6.30pm
February	5 Family Service	A Jones
	12 J Narey	T Faulkner
	19 Phyl Evans	K Roberts (W)
	26 Irene Webster	A Russell
March	5 Family Service	E Williams
	12 V Jones	A Jones
	19 A Hughes	G Williams (W)
	26 A Hutchings	T Faulkner

Sidespeople:	11am	6.30pm
Feb 12 & 19	Mr B Ashley Mr Leighton Davies	Messrs Faulkner
Feb 26 & Mar 5	Mr P Dent Mr D A Jones	Mrs A Jones
Mar 12 & 19	Mr D Evans Mrs P Evans	Mr A Russell
Mar 26 & Apr 2	Dr R Hughes Mr J Boole	Mr H Gent

Collections in December:

Cash: £769.37 FWO: £676.00 Total: £1445.37

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

GUEST PREACHER: On Sunday 26th February the Rev Nick Sissons, Minister at St David's Methodist Church in Craig y Don, will be the preacher at the 9.45am service (on Sunday 19th February the Vicar will be preaching at St David's Methodist Church at their 10am service).

ALTAR FLOWER LIST

Date	Altar	Chapel	Mem. Book
5 th	Mrs I Heywood	Mrs M Cross	
12 th	Mrs D Roberts	Mrs D Roberts	Mrs D Roberts
19 th	Mrs D Roberts	Mr Boole	Miss Monks
26 th	Mrs M Hopkins	Mrs Hopkins	Mrs Hopkins

Collections. (December)

Cash £447.72. FWO. £1091.44. Total £1539.16

At the time of writing these notes we are still in the first days Of the New Year and with little or nothing to report I offer a Few verses for contemplation!

I have never given very deep thought to a philosophy of life,
Though I have a few ideas that I think are useful to me:

Do whatever comes your way as well as you can.

Think as little as possible about yourself.

Dwell on things that are interesting.

Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others you should put a
Good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give.

“Eleanor Roosevelt, 1884 – 1962”

First Lady of The United States of America, Writer and Diplomat.

JSW

MOTHERS UNION NOTES - EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY.

On Monday February 13th our Speaker will be Mrs.Kathleen Smith,
Who will tell us about her cruise calling at the Baltic Capitals.
Do come to support Mrs.Smith.

Monday February 27th will be an informal meeting.

Corporate Communion for all our members on Thursday
February 2nd at 10.30am.
Reader :- Mrs.Alice Wild.

Coffee Mornings every Thursday 10.30am to 12 noon

Coffee and Biscuits 60p

All are welcome.

Audrey Williams

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Rotas in All Saints:

Intercession Leaders at the 11am service:

February 5 Mr J Wright

March 5 Clergy

12 Clergy

12 Mrs S Crawford

19 Mr N Reggett
26 Clergy

19 Mr G Havard
26 Clergy

Sidespeople:

8am

11am

February	5		Mr G Havard & Mrs B Havard
	12	Mr P Brown	Miss J Barrington & Mrs S Oldfield
	19	Mrs V Gradwell	Mr N Reggett & Mrs B Reggett
	26	Miss P Murphy	Miss M Worthington & Mrs T Teixeira
March	5		Mr B Roberts & Mrs M Roberts
	12	Mr R W Doyle	Mrs C Giles & Mrs H Brookes
	19	Mrs E A C Doyle	Mrs A Cross & Mrs S Oldfield
	26	Mrs M Meldrum	Mrs S Crawford & Mrs T Teixeira

Readers at the 11am service:

February	5	Mrs C Giles & Mr B Roberts (Mrs B Reggett)
	12	Mrs S Crawford & Mr G T Havard (Mr J Wright)
	19	Mr N reggett & Mrs B Reggett (Miss J Preece)
	26	All-Age Worship
March	5	Mr J Wright & Mrs D Laight (Mr B Roberts)
	12	Miss J Preece & Miss M Worthington (Mrs S Crawford)
	19	Mr B Roberts & Mrs C Giles (Mr N Reggett)
	26	All-Age Worship

COLLECTIONS – DEC 2005

CASH £292.37 FWO £1006.50 TOTAL £1,298.87

MOTHERS UNION NOTES

We had an enjoyable Christmas lunch at the Clemance in Conwy and this time we decided to go home after the meal.

Our meetings in February will be on the 14th and 28th at 2.30pm but please wait for details to be announced because of works being done in Bethel Schoolroom. The Corporate Communion will be on 1st February.

ST DAVID'S CHURCH

It must seem quite a while now since we were celebrating Christmas but it really was a happy time at St David's Church. The first event for Christmas was on the 18th of December when, during the family service (at which some of the carols were accompanied by our little music group) the children of the Afterschool Club performed a short nativity play with a moral! O yes, everyone was there – Mary, Joseph, the angels and the shepherds (-even a very up to date policeman concerned about the safety of the gold!) but someone was missing. The Baby Jesus! Now it could be that with all the preparations for Christmas people today tend to forget the Christ child whose birth we are celebrating? There's a thought. This service was followed by coffee and mince pies in the hall and we'd like to express our thanks to everyone who had worked so hard to make it such an enjoyable occasion. Then on Tuesday, 20th December, Mr Ken Holland with an augmented choir and various readers presented another 'Christmas Garland'; a lovely mixture of carols and appropriate readings for the Christmas season. This concert was followed by mulled wine and mince pies. There was no charge for admission but £28 was contributed to church funds. Again, many thanks to Mr Holland and all who took part in what was another enjoyable occasion. Then, of course, came the Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve. This is always a lovely service. The Christmas tree beside the Altar with its twinkling lights, the Advent candles and the crib and all the beautiful floral decorations really bring our Church to life after the four rather sombre weeks of Advent. We are very grateful to Ginny, Alan and Keith for conducting such a splendid service and of course, Mrs Kath Evans and all the people who helped her to decorate the church. Incidentally, Kath wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the decorating of the Church either by donations of cash or flowers and greenery or who helped to make the floral arrangements. It was a wonderful effort and much appreciated by everyone. There were the usual 2 Sunday Services on Christmas morning but on New Year's Day the only service for the whole parish was at our 'mother' church,

St Hilary's at 10.30am. Again, this was a very nice service, well attended by people from all 4 churches in the parish and afterwards many of us enjoyed coffee, barabritth and biscuits in their hall, chatting to people we don't often get the opportunity to meet.. And so ended 2005 and the year 2006 began. It really was a pity that more people didn't attend the Epiphany Evensong for the Deanery on 8th January, because they would have enjoyed it. It was a cold evening, to be sure, but the church was warm and the service inspiring. We were treated to an excellent sermon by the visiting preacher, the Rev Nigel Williams of St Paul's Church, Colwyn Bay (& incidentally the husband of our former curate, Nia), the choir sang 'We 3 Kings' to a setting composed by our organist, Mr Ken Holland and, when the service was over refreshments were served at the rear of church. Altogether, it may have been a solemn occasion but it was a very enjoyable one too.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Feb 5th – vacant

Feb 12th – vacant

Feb 19th – J cooper

Feb 26th – vacant

BRASSES – MRS MEG JONES

COLLECTIONS FOR DEC 2005

Cash £422.10 FWO £1002.40 Total £1424.50

ST DAVID'S LADIES FELLOWSHIP

In the absence of Mrs Jeanette Davies, our treasurer, Joan Cooper, opened our meeting on 10th January. As usual we started with a prayer and at the beginning of the year 2006 we remembered all those people who last year through natural or manmade disasters had suffered so intensely and we asked God's help for the various aid agencies and many other people who are still trying to help those people to get some normality back into their lives. Our speaker was Mrs Joyce Hind who recounted to us very vividly her visit to Burma along with her husband, Ken, who was revisiting the battlefields of his time in the British army 60 years ago. Her account was

fascinating and she was thanked very sincerely by Joan on behalf of us all, for sharing her memories with us. Our next meeting will be on 7th February when the speaker will be Mrs Ceanne Harper, telling us about her visit to Ecuador – another pleasurable evening to look forward to.

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

Feb 5 th	8am Mrs D Darby	11am Mr J Roberts, Mr P Williams Miss J Cooper, Mrs D Wilson
Feb 12 th	Miss J Cooper	Mrs V Coates, Mr R Coates Mrs K Evans, Mrs V Miller
Feb 19 th	Mr D Cuttell	Mrs A Rowland, Mrs D Wilson Mr J Roberts
Feb 26 th	Mr J Jones	Mr G Williams, Mrs D Evans Mr N McNulty

OPENING AND CLOSING OF THE CHURCH ROTA

Feb 6 th – Mr R Coates	Mar 6 th – Mrs M Gregory
Feb 13 th – Miss M Ridings	Mar 13 th – Mr R Coates
Feb 20 th – Miss G Owen	Mar 20 th – Miss M Ridings
Feb 27 th Miss J Cooper	Mar 27 th – Miss G Owen

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Just to remind you that the Women's World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, 3rd March. There will be a service in St David's Church during the afternoon but more details will be given in the March magazine and on notices displayed outside the church and in various other places.

NEW – DANCING IN ST DAVID'S HALL

Fancy coming Ballroom dancing? Modern Ballroom, sequence and Latin social dancing all in St David's Church Hall, commences Saturday 7th January 2006 at 8pm. Admission £3.50 including refreshments. For more information please phone Ted and Doris Harding on 0778 686 2671