

*Churches of
Llandeilo Fawr, Taliaris & Maesteilo*

**December
2014**



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Dear Friends,

The first letter of John begins with some astonishing words. –

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. THE LIFE APPEARED; WE HAVE SEEN IT AND TESTIFY TO IT, AND WE PROCLAIM TO YOU THE ETERNAL LIFE, WHICH WAS WITH THE FATHER AND HAS APPEARED TO US. We proclaim to you WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.”

That was the impact of meeting Jesus on the lives of that first generation of Christians. They were convinced, having met Him, that He was no ordinary man but rather **“the Word of life”**, the very one through whom the world had been made (see John 1:3 and Colossians 1:16) and through whom they had been brought into a new relationship of **FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD**.

It’s so very sad therefore that, increasingly, the society around us has very little idea of what Christmas exists to celebrate! Year by year, Jesus becomes less and less a conscious part of most people’s Christmas here in the U.K. They quite literally don’t know what they’re missing!

Perhaps, though, such a “clearing of the decks” is necessary. A generation is now growing into adulthood which lacks the prejudices and misconceptions about the Christian faith which are so often evident in their parents and grandparents. Having little or no experience of church life, they haven’t been put off the Christian faith, as their parents and grandparents often have been, by contact with the dead and lifeless “Churchianity” which has passed for Christianity for too long in too many of our churches and chapels.

Those first Christians knew that Jesus had changed their lives for ever, and our message this Christmas is that HE STILL DOES THE SAME!

The One laid in the manger is now the risen, living Lord and Saviour who is still changing lives forever TODAY all around the world, as the phenomenal growth of the church in China and Africa and Latin America demonstrates.

So let’s take the opportunities which come our way over the next few weeks to let people know what (and WHO) we’ll be celebrating, and to invite them to come too, and discover Jesus for themselves.

A JOYFUL AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU
FROM ALL OF US AT THE VICARAGE!

Yours sincerely,

Michael

Church website: www.llandeilofawr.org.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/stteiloschurchllandeilo>

DIARY FOR DECEMBER

- Tues 2nd** 10.00am MOPS (Mothers - or Carers - of pre-schoolers) in St Teilo's Church Hall.
7.00pm for 7.30pm, TOWARDS BELIEF
- Fri 5th** 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Teilo's
7.30pm Choir practice
- Tues 9th** 10.00am MOPS in St Teilo's Church Hall. This will be the last session of 2014. [MOPS restarts on 13th Jan 2015.]
7.30pm Choir Practice
- Wed 10th** 12. 30pm Ladies' Fellowship Christmas lunch in The Cottage Inn.
- Fri 12th** 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Teilo's
7.30pm Choir practice
- Tues 16th** 7.30pm Choir Practice
- Fri 19th** 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice at St Teilo's
7.30pm Choir practice

St. John's Church,

Maesteilo, Capel Isaac

Sunday 21st December

Christmas Carols and Readings

9.45am

followed by Mince pies and
Mulled Wine

Do come and join us: all are welcome.
What better way to start the week of Christmas?

Enquiries regarding the use of the church or hire of the church hall or meeting rooms should be made to Mrs Asha Silk on 01558 685475 (before 7pm) or e-mail: ashasilk@btinternet.com

Services and Readings for December

7th Dec (Advent 2)

8am Holy Communion
9.15am Cymun Bendigaidd
11am Holy Communion

Maesteilo

9.45am Holy Communion

14th Dec (Advent 3)

11am Morning Worship
6pm Holy Communion

Maesteilo

9.45am Holy Communion

Taliaris

9.45am Holy Communion

21st Dec (Advent 4)

8am Holy Communion
9.00am Cymun Bendigaidd
11am Nativity Service
6pm Carols by Candlelight

Maesteilo

9.45am Carols and Readings

Dec 24th (Christmas Eve)

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Taliaris

6pm Carols by Candlelight

Dec 25th (The Nativity of our Lord))

10am Christmas Communion

Maesteilo

9.45am Christmas Communion

Taliaris

10am Christmas Communion

Dec 28th (Christmas 1)

11am Morning Worship
6pm No Service

Readings for Principal Services

Isaiah / Eseia 40: 1-11
Psalm / Salm 85 [1,2], 8-13
2 Peter / 2 Pedr 3: 8-15a
Mark/Marc 1: 1-8

Isaiah / Eseia 61: 1-4, 8-11
Psalm / Salm 126
1 Thessalonians / 1 Thesalonaid 5: 16-24
John/Joan 1: 6-8,19-28

Isaiah/Eseia 52: 7-10
Psalm/Salm 98
Hebrews/Hebreaidd 1: 1-4, 5-12
John/Joan 1: 1-14

Isaiah / Eseia 61: 10 - 62: 3
Psalm / Salm 148: 7-14
Galatians/Galataidd 4: 4-7
Luke/Luc 2: 15-21

ST TEILO'S CHURCH

Powerpack & LUMEN: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sun. at 11am
Holy Communion : Wednesdays at 10. 30am