



St. John the Baptist, Hey March 2019
Receiving and Sharing the Love of God Everyday

Dear Friends

On my recent retreat I read a book called "Abba's child" by Brennan Manning. Although I found parts of it hard going, I did find parts of it very useful. The book speaks of our need to recognise ourselves as a beloved child of our Heavenly Father, and how sometimes we need to take time out, to get away from all the demands on our time that keep us from being aware of our true identity as Christians. Below is an excerpt from the book:

"It is much like the story of the harried executive who went to the desert father and complained about his frustration in prayer, his flawed virtue, and his failed relationships. The hermit listened closely to his visitor's rehearsal of the struggle and disappointments in trying to lead a Christian life. He then went into the dark recesses of his cave and came out with a basin and a pitcher of water. "Now watch the water as I pour it into the basin," he said. The water splashed on the bottom and against the sides of the container. It was agitated and turbulent. At first the stirred-up water swirled around the inside of the basin; then it gradually began to settle, until finally the small fast ripples evolved into larger swells that oscillated back and forth. Eventually, the surface became so smooth that the visitor could see his face reflected in the placid water. "That is the way it is when you live constantly in the midst of others," said the hermit. "You do not see yourself as you really are because of all the confusion and disturbance. You fail to recognize the divine presence in your life and the consciousness of your belovedness slowly fades. It takes time for the water to settle. Coming to interior stillness requires

waiting. Any attempt to hasten the process only stirs up the water anew."

As a member of the clergy, who live much busier lives than many people imagine, I am duty bound to take a retreat every year, not only to refresh myself but also to remind myself of my need to depend on God if I am to carry out His work faithfully. It often takes at least the first day to begin to settle. My mind is full of tying up loose ends and ensuring that everyone remembers what their role is while I'm away. After that I begin to settle into the retreat so I can really identify with the analogy above.

It is difficult for many people to take time out for a retreat, but I have no doubt that many who go away on holiday can relate to that feeling of taking a while to unwind and begin to enjoy the break. Most of us these days have five or even six weeks annual leave; why not consider putting one week aside as a retreat. Take time to see yourself as God sees you, not as an awful sinner but as a beloved child. It's true that none of us is perfect but God sees us through the eyes of a loving parent. There is something of our Father in all of us, but there is also something of the prodigal son in all of us - just think, if we take time to "come home" from time to time, we could enjoy the delights of the Father's embrace.

If a week's retreat, or even a few days seems like too much, perhaps a quiet day where we can begin to see the benefits of taking time out might be more achievable. I will look into organising one shortly after Easter. Please let me know if this is something that you might like to take part in.

God bless you all and may he help you to see your belovedness.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dign'.

Contacts at St John

<i>Parish Priest</i>	<i>Revd Lyn Woodall</i> lyn.woodall@gmail.com	626 3630
<i>Associate Priest</i>	<i>Capt the Revd Paul Robinson</i> paul@nomoreproblems.co.uk	628 9019
<i>Wardens</i>	<i>Eddie Baines</i> <i>Brian Saxon</i>	633 2864 633 1389
<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Barbara Ballantyne</i> stjohnhey@gmail.com	652 0700
<i>Pastoral Visiting</i>	<i>Ann Knowles</i>	620 7813
<i>Editor</i>	<i>David Green</i> david@demgreen.co.uk	652 1278

Day by Day Scheme

12 Mar	Brenda's birthday & her sad passing
16 Mar	Remembering Annie & John Wolfenden's wedding anniversary
20 Mar	In memory of Ann
23 Mar	Would have been Brenda Hall's birthday
25 Mar	Wedding Anniversary - Steve & Olivia Cocker
28 Mar	Birthday memories of Grandad Len
28 Mar	Richard & Val's wedding anniversary

Thank you to all those who are helping to ensure the future fabric of our church by supporting the Day by Day Scheme.

Getting married at St John the Baptist this year

Sat 6 Apr	Jason Atkinson & Katie Bigland
Sat 18 May	Shaun Slater & Alison Gaynon
Sat 27Jul	Nicole Clark & Philip Morgan

Holy Baptism

We welcomed into our worshipping community

3 rd Feb	Charlotte Grace Brooker daughter of Carl John Brooker & Angela Audrey Lucas
---------------------	--

Street Prayers

<i>Week</i>	<i>Street</i>
04-Mar	Ashes Lane
11-Mar	Heywood Lane
18-Mar	Den Hill Drive & Fern Close
25-Mar	Claytons Close
01-Apr	The Rise

Prayers for these streets will be offered in Church on the Sundays shown

Any requests for specific prayers

please ring the parish office 626 3630

Let us witness to the presence of the church to all in Hey Parish

A pencil maker told a pencil the following:

- 1.) Everything you do will leave a mark.
- 2.) You can always correct the mistakes you make.
- 3.) What is important is what is inside of you.
- 4.) In life, you will undergo painful sharpenings,
which will only make you better.
- 5.) To be the best pencil, you must allow yourself to be
held and to be guided by the hand that holds you.

As Christians, the above could apply to us.

Do you want to fast this Lent

In the words of Pope Francis

- *Fast from hurting words and say kind words*
- *Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude*
- *Fast from anger and be filled with patience*
- *Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope*
- *Fast from worries and have trust in God*
- *Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity*
- *Fast from pressures and be prayerful*
- *Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy*
- *Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others*
- *Fast from grudges and be reconciled*
- *Fast from words and be silent so that you can listen*

Found online by Rev'd Lyn

A Poem by Kathreen Shahbaz

Jesus loves you

He will strengthen you,
He will help you,
He will uphold you,
With His victorious right hand.

Jesus loves you

Christ is your reward.
Christ is my reward.
Christ is our reward.

Jesus loves you

He calls you His servant,
His blood is your permit,
You are His friend,
and this is not the end.

Jesus loves you

He told you do not fear,
Just hold my word and share,
Again, do not be scared,
Just go around the world and share.

Jesus loves you

Yes, Jesus loves you

Some thoughts from 'Revelations of divine Love' by Julian of Norwich

"God of your goodness give me yourself;
You are enough for me,
and anything less; that I could ask for
Would not do you full honour,
And if I ask anything that is less,
I shall always lack something,
BUT in you alone I have everything.
But in you alone I have everything."

Bible Readings

3 Mar The next Sunday before Lent

Exodus 34:29-end

Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)

10 Mar The first Sunday of Lent

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

17 Mar The second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Luke 13: 31-end

24 Mar The third Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9

Luke 13:1-9

31 Mar Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2:1-10

John 19:25-27



7 Apr The fifth Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

John 12:1-8

Diary Dates

March 2019

Fri 1 1pm World day of prayer at St John the Baptist

Sun 3 **Sunday next before Lent**

8am Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer
9.30am Parish Communion

Wed 6 **Ash Wednesday**

10am Holy Communion - Book BCP with Ashing
10.45am Coffee & Chat
11am Holy Communion Oakdene
7.30 pm Holy Communion with Ashing

Thu 7 7pm Come & Praise!

Sun 10 **First Sunday of Lent**

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion

Wed 13 10am Holy Communion & Licensing Sally Robinson
10.45am Coffee & Chat
7.30pm PCC

Thu 14 7pm Come & Praise! With Holy Communion

Sun 17 **Second Sunday of Lent**

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Come & Praise!

Wed 20 10am Holy Communion
10.45am Coffee & Chat
11am Holy Communion Millfield

Thu 21 7pm Come & Praise!

Sun 24 **Third Sunday of Lent**

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion

Wed 27 10am Holy Communion
10.45am Coffee & Chat
7pm Come & Praise!

Sun 31 **Mothering Sunday**

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion

April 2019

Wed 3	10am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.45am	Coffee & Chat
	11am	Holy Communion Oakdene
Thu 4	7pm	Come & Praise!
Sat 6		Wedding of John Atkinson & Katie Bigland

Sun 7 Fifth Sunday of Lent

8am	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer
9.30am	Parish Communion
11.00am	APCM

My friend had her photo taken with the Archbishop of Canterbury; I had mine taken with a much more widely recognised “theologian” - Colin from the TV series, “Rev”. He is the father of my daughter's friend and you can find him now playing “George” in the detective series, “Vera” or occasionally in “Death in Paradise”.

Lyn



1st March St David (Dewi Sant)

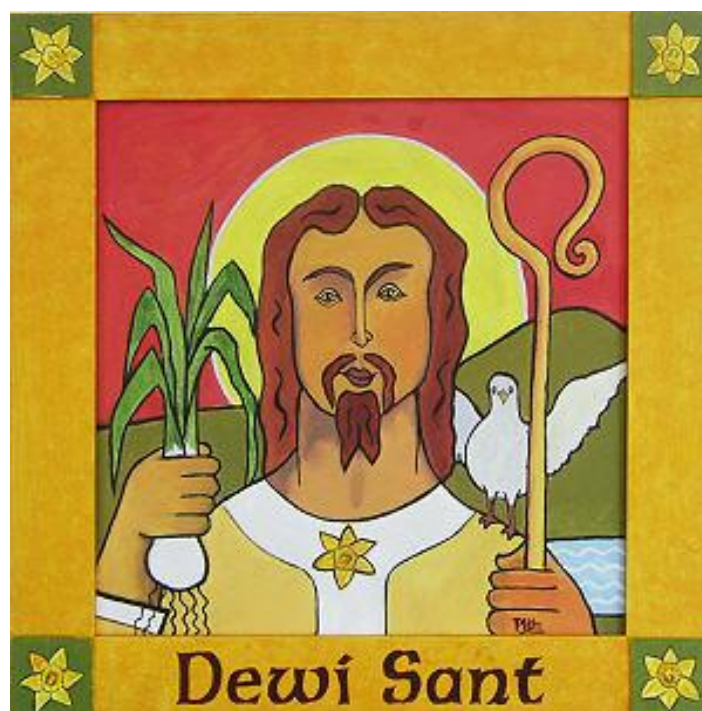
On 1st March Wales celebrates its patron saint, David – or, in Welsh, Dewi or Dafydd. He is indisputably British, and is revered wherever Welsh people have settled. As with most figures from the so-called ‘Dark Ages’ (he lived in the sixth century), reliable details about his life are scarce, but there are enough for us to form a picture of a formidably austere, disciplined and charismatic leader, who led the Church in Wales through turbulent years and fought tenaciously for the faith.

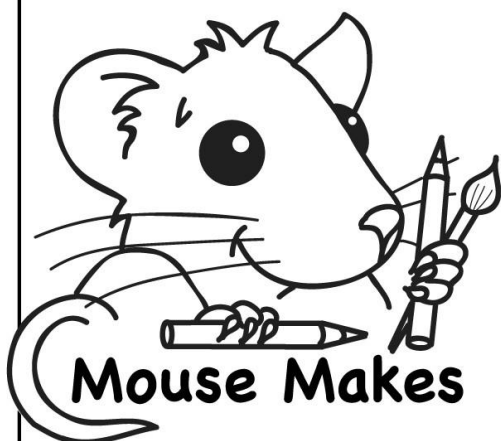
It’s likely that he was strengthened in his ministry by time spent in Ireland, where the Church was stronger and more confident. Early records tell of a meeting of Irish church leaders with three ‘Britons’, as they were described, among them ‘bishop David’. His mother, Non, is also celebrated as a saint in Wales, where a number of churches are dedicated in her name.

That he founded a monastery at Menevia, in Pembrokeshire, seems beyond doubt. It later became the site of St David's cathedral and the settlement which is now the smallest city in the United Kingdom. From Menevia David embarked on preaching and teaching missions across Wales, and probably beyond. His eloquence was legendary.

At a famous Synod of the Church, held at a Carmarthenshire village called Brefi, he preached passionately against the Arian heresy – indeed, so passionately that he was (according to some accounts) immediately named as archbishop of Wales. The village is now known as Llandewi Brefi – *brefi* in Welsh is a hillock, and legend claims that it appeared miraculously in order to provide the eloquent bishop with a pulpit. His monks avoided wine and beer, drinking only water. Indeed, he and they lived lives of rigorous austerity and constant prayer, in the manner of the Desert Fathers of the Eastern Church. The date of David's death is disputed – either 589 or 601. It wasn't until the twelfth century that he was generally accepted as the patron saint of Wales, and pilgrimages to St David's were highly regarded in the following centuries – including two made by English kings, William I and Henry II.

It's traditional for Welsh people to wear daffodils on St David's Day (*Gwyl Dewi Sant* in Welsh) – but there seems no particular reason for it, beyond the fact that they tend to make their early spring appearance round about his day – oh, and they look nice!





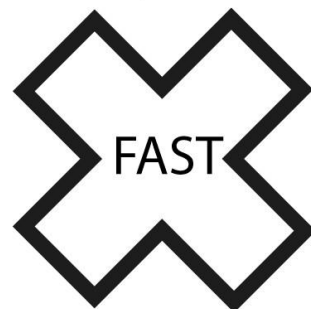
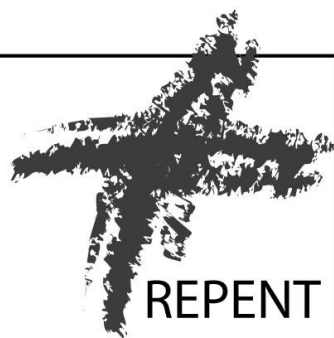
During Lent read through the Gospel of Luke and each day pray for God to help you become more like Jesus

Lent is the name given to the **40 days** before Easter and is a time to *pray*, to *read* the bible and to *turn* to God. The first day of Lent is **Ash Wednesday**, a day to *repent* and say *sorry* to God for the wrong things we have *said* or *thought* or *done*.

P W R P W O R D O R G F
I S C R I P T U R E O O
T O O A L R E A D F D R
E R K Y D I T H E L P T
M R E M E M B E R E R Y
P Y F O R G I V E C E D
T S L E N T N R J T P A
A S H W E D N E S D A Y
T W O R S H I P U E R S
I E J E S U S E S N E D
O F A S T H I N K Y E Y
N I B I B L E T G I V E

Can you find these words in the word search above?

LENT • ASH WEDNESDAY • FORTY DAYS
JESUS • WILDERNESS • TEMPTATION • PRAY • FAST
DENY • REPENT • SORRY • FORGIVE • GIVE • HELP
PREPARE • REFLECT • THINK • READ • SCRIPTURE
BIBLE • WORD • REMEMBER • WORSHIP • GOD



Bible Bite

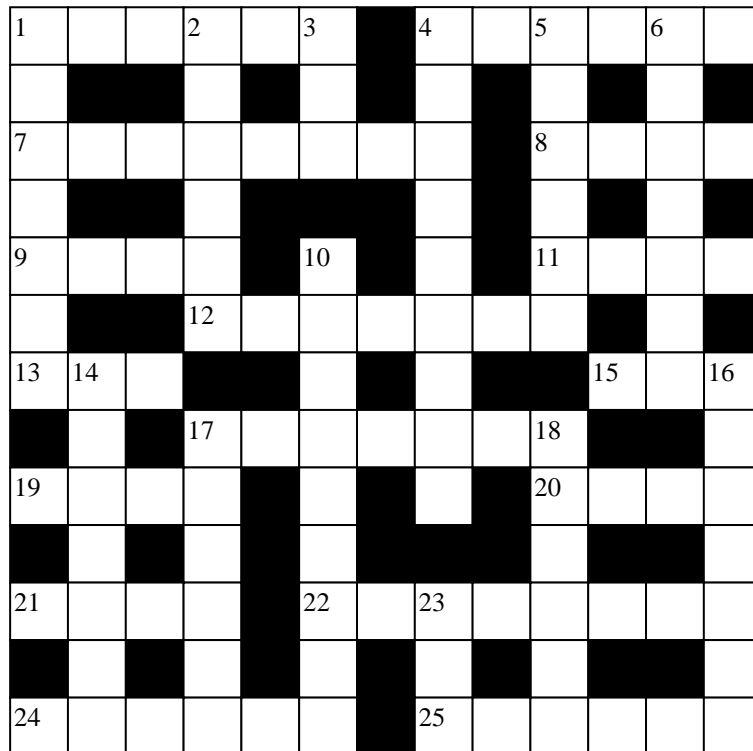
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the Law of Moses wanted
to test Jesus' knowledge of the laws in
the Bible, so he asked Jesus a question.



MARCH CROSSWORD



CLUES

ACROSS

1. Perpetrate (6)
4. Having physical power (6)
7. Jam (8)
8. Fire (4)
9. Exist (4)
11. Highest adult male singing voice (4)
12. Having a quiet quality (7)
13. Put in place (3)
15. Bottom of the sea (3)
17. Unfairly prejudiced (7)
19. Incentive (4)
20. Enclosed space in building (4)
21. Long song for a solo voice (4)
22. Group of troops in a fort (8)
24. Time of intense difficulty (6)
25. Essential facts (6)

DOWN

1. Edible molluscs (7)
2. Male schoolteacher (6)
3. Road making substance (3)
4. Resolute (9)
5. Cheeky child (6)
6. Worn with collar (7)
10. Tall plant with edible shoots (9)
14. Sovereign ruler (7)
16. Peremptory requests (7)
17. Fractures (6)
18. Carries off superfluous water (6)
23. Massage (3)

Solution to February crossword. Across: 1. Conducts, 5. Yeti, 9. Bees, 10. Eagle Owl, 11. Vital, 12. Flaming, 13. Dysfunctional, 18. Chapati, 19. Bends, 20. Boroughs, 21. Rock, 22. Lawn, 23. Astonish. Down: 2. Obesity, 3. Distaff, 4. Traffic lights, 6. Emotion, 7. Illegal, 8. Alkali, 13. Decibel, 14. Sparrow, 15. Uranus, 16. Overrun, 17. Abducts.