

Sunday 23rd February 2025 The Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from Genesis (2.4b-9, 15-25)

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up – for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground – then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.' Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65. 1-7

1 Praise is due to you, O / God, in / Zion: to you that answer / prayer shall / vows be / paid.

2 To you shall all flesh come to con/fess their / sins: when our misdeeds prevail against us, / you will / purge them a/way.

3 Happy are they whom you choose * and draw to your / courts to / dwell there: we shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, * / even • of your / holy / temple.

4 With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of / our sal/vation: O hope of all the ends of the earth * and / of the / farthest / seas.

5 In your strength you set / fast the / mountains: and are / girded a/bout with / might.

6 You still the / raging • of the / seas: the roaring of their waves and the / clamour / of the / peoples.

7 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth * tremble / at your / marvels: the gates of the morning and / evening / sing your / praise.

A reading from Revelation (Chapter 4)

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.' And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Luke (8.22-25)

Glory to you, O Lord.

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

ALL SAINTS CHURCH , OYSTERMOUTH AND NORTON CHURCH

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TODAY.

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HYMNS AT OUR CHORAL EUCHARIST : 514 , 501 , 69 , 522

TODAY	8.30 am	Holy Eucharist (All Saints)
	10.00 am	Choral Eucharist (All Saints) - followed by tea / coffee
TUESDAY	10.30 am	Chat a coffee group starts in All Saints.
	2.00 pm	Norton Craft Group - all welcome
WEDNESDAY	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist- followed by refreshments
	1.30 pm	Bible study Group (church rooms)
	6.00 pm	Joyful Noise Junior Choir Practice in All Saints - all youngsters very welcome.
	7.00 pm	Adult Choir Practice (All Saints)
THURSDAY	10.30 am	Coffee & Catch up (Norton)
	1.30 pm	'Warriors' Church and Grounds working group - all help very welcome.
FRIDAY	7.30 pm	A FLAVOUR OF WALES with Rob Pendry
SATURDAY		St. David's Day
	7.00 pm	A concert by the Gwalia Singers in aid of Marie Curie - see poster for details.
NEXT SUNDAY		2nd March 2025 - Sunday next before Lent
	8.30 am	Holy Eucharist (All Saints)
	10.00 am	Choral Eucharist (All Saints) - followed by tea / coffee
	11.30 am	Sung Eucharist (Norton)
	4.00 pm	Choral Evensong (All Saints)

Weekly Bulletin :

Do take this sheet home with you to remind you of what's on.

Pastoral Visiting :

please let me know of those in need of visiting (at home or in hospital). Your support is vital to ensure no-one is overlooked.

Choral Evensong : next Sunday at 4 p.m. in All Saints. We are hoping if the service is supported that we can have more regular evening services.

Funerals : of **Pat Scott** will take place in All Saints on Monday 3rd March at 3.30 p.m. and of **Margaret David** on Thursday 13th March at 12.45 pm

Leprosy Mission : the new Spring Catalogue is now available at the back of church.

Tenby trip : Wednesday 18th June. £15 per head. Please sign up as soon as you can if you can join us so we can put a deposit on the bus if we can run the trip. **Family and friends are very welcome.**

A Flavour of Wales : this Friday 7.30 Do try and join us.

Good Friday Children's Craft event : 18th April 9.30 to 11 a.m. - if you can help out please let me know. Crafts can be prepared for you or you can share your own ideas.

Gwalia Singers Concert : in All Saints this Saturday at 7 p.m. in aid of Marie Curie. Tickets are available from the Gwalia Choir members.

Ash Wednesday : 5th March. Services in All Saints : 10.30 Holy Eucharist and 7 p.m. Choral Eucharist. Both services will include imposition of ashes.

World Day of Prayer Service: Friday 7th March at 3 p.m. in Mumbles Methodists - all very welcome

Chat a Coffi (Coffee with Friends) : starts this Tuesday in All Saints 10.30 - 11.30. Come and chat / learn Welsh and enjoy the company. All are very welcome. It will meet every Tuesday.

Clydach Passion Play : will be performed in All Saints on Sunday 23rd March at 7 p.m. No tickets needed. All welcome.

Easter Egg decorating workshop on Friday 28th march (2-4 pm) and **Easter Wreath Making workshop** on Friday 4th April (2-4 pm). Please speak to Anne or Elaine for details. A Coffee , Cake and Craft morning will be held on Saturday 15th March to discuss ideas. All are very welcome.

Stations of the Cross: throughout Lent (starting on Wednesday 12th March) a 30 minute service will take place in All saints. All are welcome.