

Newydd

The Parish Magazine of the Rectorial Benefice of Aberavon
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December 2010

60p



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From the Rector

One of the oldest of the Christmas carols we sing is "While shepherds watched their flocks by night."

The carol was written in 1703 by the Poet Laureate in the reign of Queen Anne, Nahum Tate, in co-operation with Nicholas Brady, an Anglican priest and poet. Together they had written and published a metrical version of the psalms (putting them into rhyming verse like hymns). They used the music from an opera by Handel about Siroes, King of Persia.

Another of the men of the age who made hymns famous and eventually acceptable was Isaac Watts, whose "Joy to the World" is another Christmas favourite. He has, in fact, been called the 'father of hymn writing.'

Until this period in the 18th Century the singing of hymns in the Anglican Church was unknown. The psalms were sung - but not hymns. So this was a period of innovation in the life of our church which saw published, during the 18th Century, more than 450 different metrical psalters and many different hymn books. But they did

not receive immediate acceptance or use. Indeed it was in the last years of the 19th Century that hymn singing really became acceptable, and hymns books were to be found in almost every church.

So now, three hundred years later, we take for granted the singing of hymns and carols in church which, when these two famous carols were written, was thought to be an unscriptural, immodest, and popish thing to do!

I suppose, though, that the attitude of the people of the 18th Century hardly differs from our own.

Many of us are reluctant to try new things: many of us speak of "tradition" and look only for things that are familiar and well tried. Some won't even contemplate trying a new recipe in cooking or tasting a food they have never previously eaten. There seems to be a streak of conservatism running through us all.

What is true of the 18th Century people, and what is true of us today, must, I think, have been true of those alive in the days of Jesus too. Certainly, the opposition to his



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ministry from most of the leaders of the Jewish faith indicates a reluctance to engage with his message and consider his 'alternative' approach to God. He was thought to be too radical; it was said he was leading people astray. He was not keeping the "traditions" of faith.

As Christians we would now say that Jesus was showing them how their traditions had actually stifled them in their relationships with God and with each other: how, far from being pleasing to God, they caused offence by their lack of concern for other human beings; and, of course, how the insistence on ritual and sacrifice had led them to almost forget the God whom they were supposed to be worshipping.

And that danger is there for us too.

As someone who has always had a great streak of traditionalism in him, I know how easy it is to let the unimportant things take the place of a right relationship with God through Jesus. I am very much aware of the need to hold in tension the traditional expression of faith with the need to be open to the power of the Spirit to lead us in new ways, and to discover new spiritual insights and depths.



And at this time of year, as we approach Christmas, we are surrounded by so called 'traditions' which emanate from society, family and the church.

But change is inevitable.

What happened in my family when I was a youngster is now impossible to continue, because all my grandparents are dead, my father is in a nursing home, and my brother lives 90 miles away.

My cousin, a regular visitor every Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is also dead, as are his parents.

Our family traditions have had to change: they have had to face the reality of life, and the passage of time.

The dressing of Christmas trees, indeed the bringing of a tree into the house at all, comes to us from the Victorian era, though in Germany it had been common since the 16th Century, and was Christianised from a pagan rite that stretches back to the earliest of times. Similarly, the Advent Wreath was a pagan symbol, and in the 19th Century it was incorporated into Christianity in Germany, and then brought to the United Kingdom in the 20th Century.

Traditions are born in every age: sometimes they last centuries, sometimes just a generation. They are useful for a while and then lose meaning.

But Jesus lives for ever.

His birth amongst us a human being has had profound consequences for the entire human race; not just when he was here on earth; not just for the shepherds who witnessed his birth, but for all people in all generations, for all time.

For 'the Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us' was not a passing phenomenon; and the tradition of celebrating his birth - which came to be universally accepted 400 years after the celebration of Easter - is not something that can easily be cast aside. For this is a commemoration of God becoming a human being: it is not a human tradition that can pass from use because it is no longer of relevance or use, nor is it the re-interpretation of a pagan ritual: it is the acknowledgment that God loves us enough to become one of us.

All our human traditions come and go: none of them last for ever. But the celebration of the birth of Jesus, God made flesh, is not a mere human invention.

It is a fact of our history.

Trees, candles, lights, presents, baubles, carols, hymns, processions, puddings, meats, family customs: they matter not one jot in the scheme of eternity. But the very fact that God became human changes entirely our relationship with him and His with us, and challenges our understanding of life - and death.

The angels said to the shepherds:

**"To you in David's
Town this day
Is born of David's line
The Saviour who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign.**

**"The heavenly Babe
You there shall find
To human view displayed
And meanly wrapped
In swathing bands
And in a manger laid.**

Here, in the simplicity of this hymn, the announcement that Messiah had come was given to some of the lowliest people, whose life style meant that they were regarded as "unclean" for they could not keep the ritual washing ceremonies of the Jewish faith. Yet to those who are unable to keep the traditions of faith, who are

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outcasts from society, is given the task of providing, on the hills of Bethlehem, the lambs that were used for the traditional sacrifices in the temple of Jerusalem. To these outcasts, the angels proclaimed the coming of the Saviour; and at the very beginning of the story of incarnation (God becoming man) we see how traditions are being challenged and even overturned.

Let us, then, learn to hold fast to the things that matter, and not worry about the inessential, unimportant human interpretations of faith. Let us celebrate with true joy that the Word became Flesh: and let us determine to allow the power of God to challenge us and mould us, however difficult we find it. For only when He changes us do we become truly able to serve him properly, and understand the depth of a love that can bring "joy to the world."

With prayers and good wishes

Nigel Canise

Fr Nigel

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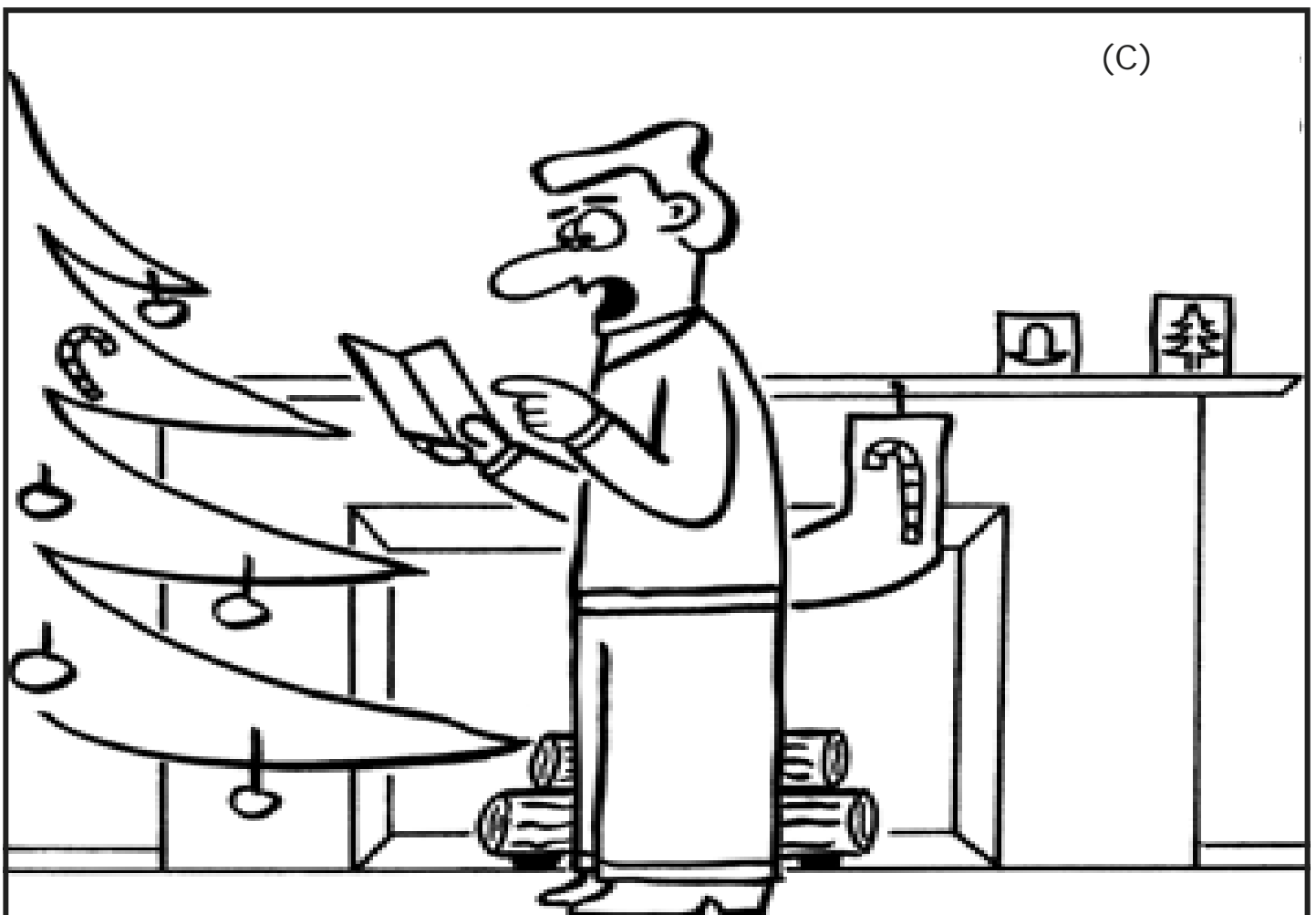
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Cancelled Concert

Côr Serenata

If you bought a ticket please see the person you bought it from and you will receive a full refund. Sadly, the bad weather meant that a number of choristers and the musical director and accompanist could not get to Port Talbot. The choir were very disappointed but hope to be able to come in the new year.



Honey, our lawyer wishes us,
but in no way guarantees,
a Merry Christmas.

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In the swim

Alan Davies, a veteran St Agnes' 'boy' has published a new book about swimming in Port Talbot in the past, and other tales!

Alan, who is a poet and author as well as an amateur actor, has other books to his name, and is well know in the locality.

Copies of his book can be purchased locally, and you can not just enjoy the text but look at the pictures and ask yourself: do I know those guys swimming there?

You probably do - but they are much younger in the pictures than they are now!

Next year's magazine

There will be no increase in the cost of the magazine in 2011. It will remain at 60p per month - but you save 20pence if you pay for the year: you can just give £7.00

Paying in advance for the year is extremely helpful.

If you see magazines left at the back of church after the first week, perhaps you could deliver them to the people whose names are on them, so that they know what's going on - and we know why they haven't been to church. It's a good way to keep in touch.

It's also helpful if you can persuade people who don't take the magazine to start reading it: communication is so very important.

Good wishes and prayers

We send our good wishes and assurance of prayers

- ♦ to Duncan Roberts as he begins treatment at Singleton for cancer;
- ♦ to Gordon Oxley and Val Mears as they continue to receive treatment from the medical profession;
- ♦ to all who are housebound and feel isolated.

Christmas Coffee Afternoon

All are warmly invited to join us for a Christmas Coffee Afternoon with Seasonal Stalls on Saturday 11th December at 3pm at the Parish Centre. Tickets £3, includes Turkey Roll and Mince Pie, available from Church.



Anyone willing to donate items for the stalls including bottles, tins, small gifts etc please bring to Church or give to Christine Morris.

Anniversaries of death

Please remember that the names of those who have died are not automatically added to the list of persons to be prayed for on the anniversary of their death. You must telephone Denise and ask her to do this if it is something that you want done. You only have to do this once, and they will then be prayed for every year.

It is your responsibility to give the correct date of death.

Many thanks

Holy Trinity raised over £500 for Benefice Funds and St Agnes over £1500 at their pre Christmas fairs. Your support and the support of your friends and family was a great help. The Friends of St Agnes' are grateful to everyone who bought a raffle ticket, and helped to raise over £1050 in their raffle.

Bring back your candle

On the 8th May 2011 that will be the invitation to anyone who has ever been baptised in any of our four churches: to come to church with their baptismal candle and renew their vows, and, if they have lost the candle they were given (and the certificate maybe) to receive another.

There will be one service in each church: two at 3pm and two at 4pm.

We will need the regular church goers to be there too so that we can properly welcome those who return, and offer hospitality in the form of some light refreshments.

Please note the date and set aside some time to support this event.

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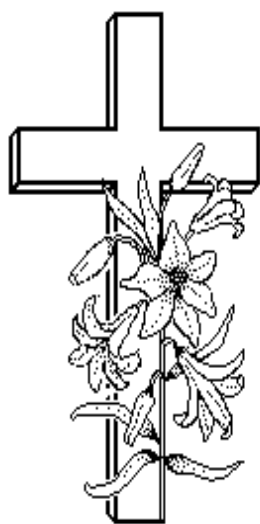
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The Faithful Departed

The following have received a Christian funeral:

Courtney Lee Morgan

Betti Dear

Dilys Pugh

We extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

Please pray for the departed and all who mourn their loss.



Congratulations

To Don and Marina Williams who celebrate their Emerald Wedding Anniversary this month.

To Mary Scott who celebrates her 80th birthday this month.

200 Club St Mary's

The winner for November is number 3, Robin Thomas.

200 Club Holy Trinity

The winner for October is Muriel Jarvis.

Carol singing

Please remember the carol singing in Station Road in the afternoon of Thursday 23rd December and in the streets around St Agnes' in the evening of the same day.

It won't work without a large crowd of us willing to sing and make a witness to the birth of Jesus. Following a suggestion of Joan Oxley we will be handing out sweets to passers by, but we won't be taking anything from them. The idea is that this will be an act of witness.



Benefice Mass

There will be only one mass on Sunday 26th December at 10.30am at St Agnes' and there will be no Evensong that night.

Condon Funeral Service



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Lunch at St Paul's

On Thursday 9th December at 1pm a fish or chicken and chips lunch will take place at St Paul's Hall. Tickets £5, includes a raffle. Bring your own drinks. If you wish to attend please contact Mrs. Hilda Mears on 882332.

PCC Meeting

The next meeting takes place on Thursday 9th December at 7.30pm at St Paul's Hall.

Glan Afan Christmas at St Mary's

On Wednesday 15th December at 7.15pm Glan Afan School will hold their Christmas Service at St Mary's Church. You are all most welcome.

Children's Christmas Service

There will be a Children's Christmas Service at 10am to 10.30am on Christmas Eve at the Parish Centre with a short Christmas story with songs and light refreshment afterwards. All school children and their parents are welcome.

Parish Carol Service

3.30pm St Agnes' Christmas Eve.

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Daily Readings from Scripture

6 th December 2010	Isaiah 35: 1-10	Luke 5: 17-26
7 th December 2010	Isaiah 40: 1-11	Matthew 18: 12-14
8 th December 2010	Genesis 3: 9-15, 20	Luke 1: 26-38
9 th December 2010	Isaiah 41: 13-20	Matthew 11: 11-15
10 th December 2010	Isaiah 48: 17-19	Matthew 11: 16-19
11 th December 2010	Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-4. 9-11	Matthew 17: 10-13
13 th December 2010	Numbers 24: 2-7. 15-17	Matthew 21: 23-27
14 th December 2010	Zephaniah 3: 1-2. 9-13	Matthew 21: 28-32
15 th December 2010	Isaiah 45: 6-8. 18. 21-26	Luke 7: 19-23
16 th December 2010	Isaiah 54: 1-10	Luke 7: 24-30
17 th December 2010	Genesis 49: 2. 8-10	Matthew 1: 1-17
18 th December 2010	Jeremiah 23: 5-8	Matthew 1: 18-24
20 th December 2010	Isaiah 7: 10-14	Luke 1: 26-38
21 st December 2010	Song of Songs 2: 8-14	Luke 1: 39-45
22 nd December 2010	Samuel 1: 24-28	Luke 1: 46-56
23 rd December 2010	Malachi 3: 1-4. 23-24	Luke 1: 57-66
24 th December 2010	Samuel 7: 1-5. 8-12. 14. 16	Luke 1: 67-79
25 th December 2010	Isaiah 52: 7-10	John 1: 1-14
27 th December 2010	1 John 1: 1-4	John 20: 2-8
28 th December 2010	1 John 1: 5 – 2: 2	Matthew 2: 13-18
29 th December 2010	1 John 2: 3-11	Luke 2: 22-35
30 th December 2010	1 John 2: 12-17	Luke 2: 36-40
31 st December 2010	1 John 2: 18-21	John 1: 1-18
1 st January 2011	Numbers 6: 22-27	Luke 2: 16-21
3 rd January 2011	1 John 2: 29 – 3: 6	John 1: 29-34

Young, single and no home at Christmas

This will be the third Christmas that you have been asked to support the work of the Church Army in Cardiff as they seek to help young people who are homeless.

Writing in the latest edition of their newsletter, Sue Way, project manager says that "with Christmas approaching it is time to plan and think about how we can make Christmas as homely and welcoming as possible for the young people within Church Army Residential Services."

Sue goes on to say that:

"In the current economic climate, it is becoming clear that those young people who are lucky enough to have continued contact with family members will not be receiving the same amount of gifts this year, as the family's focus is on their children who remain at home. We can see that this is already adding to the distress and pain that our young people experience when they are estranged from their families.

It is, therefore, even more important this year that we do all we can to ensure that the young people within our services are shown the love and care of God through our actions. We do this through celebrating the Christmas period in a traditional way of providing lunch where all the young people can come together as a wider family, and also through the provision of gifts.

We are always grateful and blessed to be assisted in this with donations from very many people and are looking for the same assistance again this year."

This is where we come in:

Christmas cards



The idea of not giving Christmas cards to each other, because we see each other in church every week, but making a donation to the Church Army Hostel for young homeless people has certainly caught the imagination at the last two Christmases, but a number of people have pointed out that in practice people just put a token £1 coin in the plate, and still hand out cards in church to all

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and sundry. It has been suggested by St Mary's church committee that we need to really embrace this idea properly, and actually stop handing cards to those we see all the time, and put a realistic £5 in the box, and ONE card on the board in each church. And now is the time to bring in your card and your donation.

Looking at levels of giving in the past two years we have already sent £600 to the Church Army so that they have plenty of time to plan, and an idea of what they can spend. We are confident you will continue to be as generous this year.

You will be delighted to know that Sue Way has also written of the success of some of the youngsters in their care:

Once again this year some of our young people found themselves homeless during the preparation for their GCSE and A Level exams. Despite the change in their circumstances, and living in a hostel environment. one gained two A grades and a C grade at A level, and is going to university in 2011 to study accountancy, and another gained one A, one B and two C grades at A level and started a degree course in Liverpool in September 2010.

To be able to achieve such things in such circumstances is a great tribute to the young people, and to Church Army.

A recent Welsh Assembly Government site audit inspection has brought positive feedback. Those of you with access to the web can look in more detail at news about Ty Bronna at www.churcharmy.org.uk/carsc

Sue has asked for your prayers for:

- ◆ staff members undertaking professional development courses;
- ◆ young people who have little or no support from their families this Advent and Christmas;
- ◆ all who will be alone at Christmas.

and urges you to give thanks in your prayers for

- ◆ the continued overwhelming generosity of those who support them;
- ◆ the opportunities to fulfil Christian ministries and show the love of Christ in the care and understanding provided by the staff;
- ◆ new colleagues who have passed their probation and joined the team at Ty Bronna, and for the enthusiasm they bring to their work.

Mission and charity giving 2010

Every month the weekly coffee morning money at St Mary's, St Paul's and St Agnes' is given away.

Jesus told us that if we give we will receive, and that the more we give, the better off we will be. He also taught us to treat other people as we would want them to treat us, and to care for one another in love.

In addition to the coffee mornings we use Lent boxes, BSR boxes and receive donations from various groups and this year we have been able to send to

Ty Hafan	£132.00
Biblelands Society	£397.23
Church Army	£600.00
Additional Curates' Society	£1058.04
Haiti & Pakistan flood appeals	£200.00
Christian Aid	£1283.98
SNAC	£92.00
USPG (Anglicans in world mission)	£1573.04
Water Aid	£600.00
Mission to seafarers	£190.60

Many thanks to you all. This work of looking beyond our own needs helps us to fulfil the teaching of Jesus, and in a way also helps us to realise just how fortunate we are, materially, in our lives.

It would be so easy, especially at times when money is tight, to give up on helping others. But then we would be forgetting one of the most fundamental principles of our faith, and would be in great danger of letting selfishness rule in our lives.

Well done, everyone.

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Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

10.00am	Children's Service	St. Mary's Parish Centre
3.30pm	Parish Carol Service	St. Agnes'
6.30pm	First Mass of the Nativity	Holy Trinity
11.45pm	Midnight Mass	St. Mary's

Christmas Day

9.15am	Mass of the Day	St. Paul's and St. Agnes'
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Christmas Services continued

St Stephen's Day (Sunday 26th)

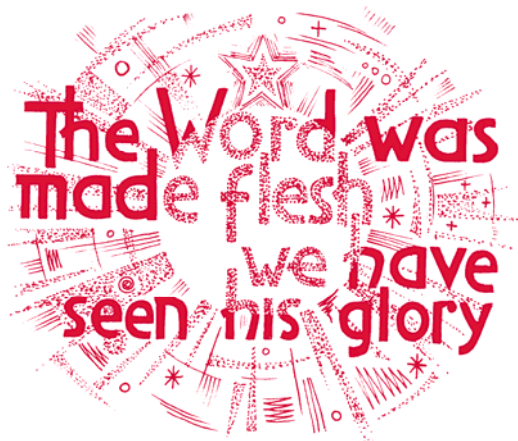
10.30am Benefice Mass St. Agnes'
(No other services today in any of the churches.)

St John the Evangelist (Monday 27th)

10.00am Mass St. Agnes'

The Holy Innocents (Tuesday 28th)

10.00am Mass St. Paul's



The Fifth Day of Christmas (Wednesday 29th)

9.30am Mass Holy Trinity
11.00am Mass St. Mary's

The Sixth Day of Christmas (Thursday 30th)

10.00am Mass St. Agnes'

The Seventh Day of Christmas (Friday 31st)

10.00am Mass St. Mary's

The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus (Saturday 1st January 2011)

10.00am Mass St. Agnes'

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Drugs arrests

Police have made eight arrests following drugs warrants executed in the Port Talbot area. Five men, aged 33, 38, 38, 40 and 44, and three women, aged 20, 26 and 30, were arrested during the operation which targeted addresses in Villiers Court and Coral Court.

A 44-year-old man was charged with possession of heroin with intent to supply, while the other seven remain on police bail pending further enquiries. Two of the group are from the Bristol and Middlesex area, while the remaining six live in the Port Talbot area.

A quantity of drugs, believed to be heroin, was recovered during the operation.

Inspector Karl Eenmaa of the Port Talbot Neighbourhood Policing Team said officers were continuing to work to target drug dealers in the community.

“Police are working to target organised crime groups who are coming into Neath Port Talbot and Swansea from outside our area,” he said.

“These individuals pose a risk to our communities and we will continue to target them before they can establish themselves in this part of South Wales.

“Neath Port Talbot is made up of settled communities and we will not tolerate drug dealers infiltrating this area. They are most certainly not welcome here.”

Inspector Eenmaa added:

“I would like to thank the residents of Port Talbot who continue to assist us in our ongoing operations to tackle drugs. Without their assistance we would have difficulty in identifying the offenders in order to take positive enforcement action against them.”

Anyone with information about drugs or criminality in their community should contact police on 101

or

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Vestry Meeting

An additional Vestry Meeting will be held on Monday 10th January 2011 at 6.30pm at St Agnes' Church.

The business will be to determine the number of people to be elected to the Parochial Church Council and the church committees.

For a number of years, even when Fr Steven was here, suggestions were made to reduce the PCC in numbers and increase the size of church committees. There has continued a persistent request to look again at the way things were done when the Benefice was first established.

This Vestry meeting will only have this one item of business.

The PCC is the body that is charged with formulating principles for the Benefice in order that we can work in accordance with the law of the land (which for us now includes the requirements of the Charity Commissioners) and the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

The PCC is charged with responsibility for the mission and evangelism of the whole parish, the care of the fabric of all four churches and the finances of the Benefice. The PCC is not meant to

carry out the every day work in all four churches, but to look at the policies that govern how we work, to have an oversight of all that we do, to bear responsibility for everything we undertake, and to ensure that the work is done through the church committees and congregations in each church.

What we need in the Benefice at this juncture in our history is more people on the church committee of each church, so that we can get more work done and share the workload.

But we are limited as to the number of people we can elect to the PCC by the Constitution of the Church in Wales. The sensible thing to do is to set a much higher number of places available for each committee so that it becomes more representative of each congregation, but to reduce the numbers on the PCC so that it can work more effectively and efficiently.

Although we have discussed this since I arrived here the request to revisit this has been made by seven members of the PCC.

Fr Nigel

A review of numbers elected to the PCC

When the Benefice was set up nine years ago, it was decided that there should be two subwardens in each church and three people from the congregation of each church be elected to the Parochial Church Council, giving every church five members of the PCC. Churchwardens and subwardens are ex-officio members of the PCC, so once elected to that office they are automatically members of the church council.

This gives us, today, twenty persons from the four churches, plus the clergy (at present three) plus the Churchwardens plus any co-options. If the secretary and treasurer are not elected they need either to be replaced or to be co-opted. At present there are twenty six members of the PCC.

These people form the church committee in each church. But to have five people elected means for a congregation of 60 persons that only one twelfth of your people are involved, whereas with a congregation of 25 to 30 you have a sixth of your people involved. But even with a third of the congregation on the committee, five people can't really see to all the work.

When we last discussed these issues, it was agreed not to change the way we do things, but to allow co-options to the church committees of no more than three persons, bringing the total on each church committee to a possible eight. But these co-opted persons could not be members of the PCC.

When you have eight people elected from a congregation of 25 to 30 you still have about a third of your people on the church committee; when you elect eight from a total of sixty you have just under a seventh of your people on the church committee. So some churches really do need to have more people on their church committee to help manage the day to day work of the individual churches.

We are limited by the Constitution of the Church in Wales to a maximum of twenty five elected persons, and seven co-options to the PCC. But do we need all these people to implement the policies of the Church, and have an oversight of compliance with the law?

continued on next page ...

What are the powers and duties of the Parochial Church Council?

The Church in Wales Constitution Chapter Four part C sets out the powers and duties for us:

1. The PCC must meet at least four times a year.
2. It is the duty of the Incumbent and Council to consult together and so-operate in matters of concern and importance to the Parish.
3. The functions are
 - (a) promotion of the whole mission of the Church
 - (b) consideration of matters concerning the Church in Wales or other wise of religious and public interest, but the discussion of any doctrinal matters by the Council shall not extend to any formulation or declaration of doctrine:
 - (c) propagation and implementation of any provision made by the Governing Body, the Representative Body, The Diocesan or Deanery Conferences
 - (d) the discharge of duties placed upon it by any Regulations made under the provisions of the Constitution;
 - (e) preparation of the parochial budget, which shall include the various church expenses, the parochial contribution to the diocesan share and home and overseas missions, and any other branch of church work, together with arrangements for raising the moneys required;
 - (f) advising on any matter properly referred to the Council;
 - (g) communication with the Diocesan or Deanery Conferences on such matters as the Council deems appropriate;
 - (h) an annual review of the expenses for which the clergy should be reimbursed by the parish and
 - (i) the production of a report and accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 or any modification or re-enactment thereof and any regulations made thereunder and in accordance with the Church in Wales Accounting Regulations (such report and account being signed by the Chairman.)
4. All parish finance (except the Incumbent's discretionary fund) shall be under the control of the Council.
5. In the exercise of its functions the Council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any properly constituted church meeting.
6. The Council shall be the normal channel of communication between the parishioners and the Bishop and shall have the right to make representations to the Bishop concerning the affairs of the Church, the cure of souls in the Parish, alterations in services and ornaments.

continued on the next page...

Do we need twenty six people to carry out the duties of the PCC outlined on page 25?

Let's start with Church Committees.

I don't think there is anyone who will disagree with having more people on the church committees. I think we all see the need to involve more people and get new blood into the system: fresh ideas should always be welcome.

I intend to propose to the Vestry that

"Where the average attendance in the previous year has been between twenty and forty adults the total number of people elected from that congregation to the church committee be no more than eight."

"Where the average attendance in the previous year has been over forty adults the total number of people elected from that congregation to the church committee be no more than twelve."

This does not mean we have to have 8 or 12, but that we have the possibility of going up to that number if people want to be involved.

But then we need to turn our attention to the PCC numbers.

I have enormous sympathy for the persistent belief that the PCC is too large to properly discuss the things it needs to discuss, and that having so many people on the PCC distracts them from the work of their own congregational committee.

If we look at who has to be on the PCC we have

- ◆ The clergy
- ◆ The Churchwardens
- ◆ The Subwardens

and if not elected

- ◆ The Treasurer
- ◆ The Secretary

continued on the next page...

Do we need subwardens?

This is one question we can ask ourselves.

We are not obliged to have subwardens. They can, however, be a useful focus for getting things done in each church. It can be good to know who is leading the team in each church. So, if we decide that, yes, we do want to continue with having subwardens in each church, then they are automatically members of the PCC and the PCC number then starts at 15:

four churches with two subwardens each	=	8
the clergy	=	3
the churchwardens	=	2
the secretary and treasurer	=	2
total	=	15

If we decide that, no we do not want to continue with having subwardens in each church, PCC number then starts at 7:

the clergy	=	3
the churchwardens	=	2
the secretary and treasurer	=	2
total	=	7

and you would need to elect from each church persons to represent you on the PCC to whatever total we agree will make the Council efficient and effective in carrying out its duties.

We need to have in our mind a total number of people, and work from there. Here are three options:

1.

The subwardens represent the individual churches and the PCC will be 15 in total plus any co-options that may be needed.

2.

Each church elects two persons to the PCC and we no longer have subwardens. The PCC will be 15 in total plus any co-options that may be needed.

3.

The congregations elect sub wardens for each church. They also elect one person to the PCC from each church. The PCC would be 19 plus any co-options that may be needed.

28 Newydd - December 2010

The Rectorial Benefice of Aberavon
www.parishofaberavon.org

Registered Charity number 1130785

A Vestry meeting will be held on Monday 10th January 2011 in the Church of St Agnes in this Benefice at 6.30pm. All persons whose names appear on the Electoral Roll of the Benefice are entitled to attend and to vote.

The business of the meeting will be

1. To celebrate the Holy Eucharist
2. To determine the number of people elected to the Parochial Church Council and the congregational church committees at the Annual Vestry each year.

Nigel Canise

Rector of Aberavon
1st December 2010

Every Monday
from 1.15pm to 2.45pm

Every Thursday
from 9.30am to 11.30am

All are welcome

Regular visits from Language and Play

Health care advice



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*Fr Nigel,
Jane, Roger and Kate
Fr Matthew & Sarah
wish you all*

**A HAPPY
AND
BLESSED CHRISTMAS**

30 *Newydd* - December 2010

Monthly Communicant figures for September

3rd	145
10th	150
17th	139
24th	156
31st	143

Please note:

Post cannot be received at the Parish Office, please use the Rectory address for any mail that you wish to send to the Benefice.

To arrange a wedding or a baptism please call at the Parish Office on Mondays or Thursdays between 12pm and 3pm

A priest can be available to hear your confession at any time.
Please telephone for an appointment.

**If you know someone has gone into hospital please telephone and let us know. There is a special number for contacting the Anglican chaplains at Neath Port Talbot Hospital
07917526761**

The Office is a place of business. It is essential that you come and go as quickly as possible so that Denise can get on with her work and other people can be seen in privacy.

If you have items for the magazine please let Denise have them by the 20th of every month. If you can email them this saves her time in re-typing.

Parish Directory

Rector

The Reverend Canon Nigel Cahill
The Rectory,
Forge Road,
Port Talbot
SA13 1US

01639 883630
rector@parishofaberavon.org

Assistant Clergy

The Reverend Jane Slennett
42 Carlton Place,
Porthcawl,
CF36 3ET

01656 784840
deacon@parishofaberavon.org

The Reverend Matthew Trick
Holy Trinity House
Fairway
Port Talbot
SA12 7HG

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curate@parishofaberavon.org

The Benefice Wardens

Mr Simon Burton 01639 680702
sburton@parishofaberavon.org

Mrs Elizabeth Jones 01639 794559
elizabethjones@parishofaberavon.org

The Parish Readers

Mr Len Jones 01639 898939
ljones@parishofaberavon.org

Mr Simon Burton 01639 680702
sburton@parishofaberavon.org

The Parish Treasurer

Mr Michael Howe 01639 794138
treasurer@parishofaberavon.org

The Parish Secretary

Mrs Denise Tamlyn
The Parish Office 01639 886740
office@parishofaberavon.org

The Parish Office is only open on

Monday 12pm to 3pm

Tuesday 10am to 1pm

Thursday 12pm to 3pm

St Mary's Subwardens

Mrs Mary McCarthy 01639 891818
mccarthy@parishofaberavon.org

Mrs Jean Moloney 01639 881516
jmoloney@parishofabeavon.org

St Paul's Subwardens

Mrs Ann Rees 01639 898537
arees@parishofaberavon.org

Mrs Margaret Williams 01639 776503

St Agnes' Subwardens

Mrs Edna Williams 01639 886649
ewilliams@parishofaberavon.org

Mrs Paula Durnell 01639 770829
pdurnell@parishofaberavon.org

Holy Trinity Subwardens

Mr Mike Isaac 01639 793501
misaac@parishofaberavon.org

Mrs Gill Davison 01639 870528
gdavison@parishofaberavon.org

The Mothers Union

Mrs Joan Oxley 01639 774366

Parish Worship

On Sunday the Holy Eucharist is celebrated

<i>in St Agnes' Church, Forge Road</i>	at 9.15am
<i>in St Paul's Church, Pendarvis Terrace</i>	at 9.15am
<i>in Holy Trinity Church, Fairway</i>	at 11.00am
<i>in St Mary's Church</i>	at 11.00am

Evening Prayer is sung at St Paul's at 6pm each Sunday

Occasionally we hold a Benefice Mass in one church, so please consult the web site and look inside the magazine to check times.

www.parishofaberavon.org

On Weekdays the Holy Eucharist is celebrated

Monday	at 6.30pm	in St Agnes'
Tuesday	at 10am	in St Paul's
Wednesday	at 9.30am & at 11am	in Holy Trinity in St Mary's
Thursday	at 10am	in St Agnes'

Please look inside the Magazine for times of services on Holy Days.
Details may also be found on the parish website.

The Rectorial Benefice of Aberavon : a registered charity no 1130785