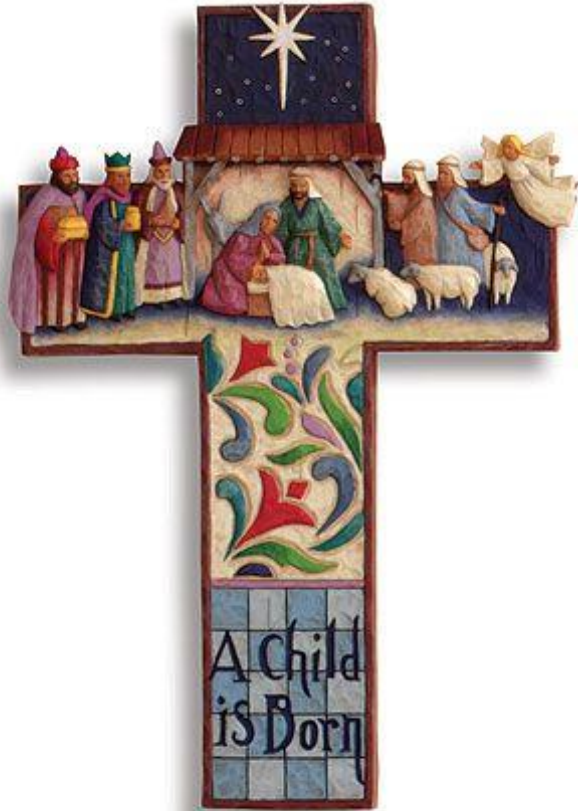


# ***Roath News***



## ***Christmas and Epiphany 2017/2018***

Free but donations always welcome

## THE PARISH OF ROATH, CARDIFF

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| <b>The Vicar:</b>                      | Rev. Stewart Lisk Tel: 20487854;<br>07794157604<br>email: <a href="mailto:stewartlisk@live.co.uk">stewartlisk@live.co.uk</a> |
| <b>Curate:</b>                         | Rev. Dr Rhys Jenkins   |
| <b>Reader:</b>                         | Mr Geoff Smith Tel: 20499498.  |
| <b>Parish Wardens:</b>                 | Parish Vicar's Warden<br>Mr Robert Hyett Tel: 20471247<br>Parish People's Warden<br>Mrs Gill Day Tel: 20495496               |
| <b>Parish Treasurer:</b>               | Mr Jim Bendon Tel: 20482082  |
| <b>PCC Minutes<br/>Secretary:</b>      | Mrs Anita White Tel 02920 491340   |
| <b>Roath Church<br/>House bookings</b> | RCH Booking Secretary<br>Mrs Anna Mason Tel: 07720641653   |
| <b>Parish Website:</b>                 | <a href="http://www.roath.org.uk">www.roath.org.uk</a>   |

*The Clergy are always available to minister to the sick and dying. Please inform the clergy of sickness. Holy Communion may be received at home by those who are unable to come to church.*

*The Parish Surgery is open on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) between 6.00.p.m. and 7.00.p.m. in Roath Church House to arrange **Baptisms and Weddings**. (Contact no. 20487854).*

*Confessions and the Sacrament of Healing by arrangement.*

**Copy date for the next magazine (Lent) is  
5<sup>th</sup> February**

**From The Reverend Canon Stewart Lisk, Vicar of  
Roath, Area Dean of Cardiff, Chairman of Churches  
Together in Roath.**

Dear Friends,

Many people ask me at this time of the year ‘Are you ready for Christmas?’ I am afraid that I usually have to reply, ‘No!’ Some people we know get their Christmas present shopping done before the end of October! In the shops it is soon after the children return to school that the special aisles appear with Christmas goodies, cards and wrapping paper and the piped music is in November already Christmas carols and songs.

Some people I know find this annoying and complain but I suppose in a way our preparations for Christmas should start early. In the Church Calendar you might say they begin on the 25<sup>th</sup> March, because that is the day we mark the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In other words, the day God sent his messenger the Angel Gabriel to tell Mary that she was going to bear a son. He was to be no ordinary baby but rather the Saviour of the World, the Son of God, the man we know as Jesus Christ. For Mary this was quite unexpected yet she as any pregnant mother had to prepare herself for the birth of her son. As every parent knows the arrival of your first born makes a huge difference to your life – a new person comes into the world to love and to be cared for in every way.

The birth of Jesus made a huge difference not only to the Holy Family, to Mary and Joseph, but also to the whole world. As he grew into maturity Jesus brought the good news of God’s love for the world and an offer of

forgiveness and joy to all people. His birth is only significant because of his subsequent ministry and teaching, his death and Resurrection.

I suppose we should ask ourselves when we consider ‘Are we ready for Christmas?’ are we ready to receive into our lives the Lord Jesus and his message? Are we prepared to celebrate his birth by following in his way in our lives? Is Jesus’ coming into the world going to make a difference to how we live with our families and friends? Is his role as the Prince of Peace going to affect the family of the nations as we seek to live together in harmony and peace as he would wish?

I do hope that many of you will enjoy the Christmas celebrations in our churches. There are carol services, Nativities, and special communion services in all the churches in area to which you are very welcome. I hope the festive spirit of this precious time will touch you and your loved ones at this annual reminder of God’s love for the world.

With every good wish and blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart', positioned below the closing text.

Eulogy: Karen Howard November 2017  
Member of St Edward's Congregation in recent years

"I am pleased that Gwyn and George asked me to talk about Karen, but upset that the need has arisen. I have known Karen for some 40 years, from the time that the family relocated to Pentyrch. Very soon after moving here, Karen was one of my choristers, with her musical talent shining through from the very beginning. I used her violin and piano skills often and I recall fondly the time we sang Vaughan Williams' arrangement of the Old 100<sup>th</sup> with Karen on violin and Andrew (her brother) on trumpet. She was always a chorister I could rely on.

I held a senior position in a Cardiff Comprehensive School, and I took a keen interest in the academic progress of my choristers. I was so pleased when Karen achieved well in school examinations and accepted a place at Leicester University to read Music. Following a very good degree, she decided to teach (something that did not surprise me) and moved to Liverpool for her Post Graduate Certificate in Education, where her school placement, I understand, was in an inner-city school of some considerable deprivation. She told me of her pleasure in seeing pupils from such deprived backgrounds responding to, and achieving well in music: this was something that was to be a feature of her teaching career. In that PGCE year she was nominated the outstanding student, and later in Southampton she was awarded the outstanding teacher of the year..

Returning to Cardiff, her first appointment was at Howells' School, an all girls' private school. After two years she took up a position at Stanwell School in Penarth and then as Head of Department in St Cyres' School, also in Penarth. Throughout her career, her commitment could not be faulted, both within and outside the classroom. Stage productions were of an exceptionally high standard as were the examination results her pupils achieved. I visited St Cyres School on a number of occasions in my role as a tutor at Swansea University. There I was able to see how well integrated she was within

the staff room, and how happy she was with her role within the school and with the achievement of her pupils. I should make it clear that I was in the school to see my own University students in another subject discipline. Her Headteacher at St Cyres was Mr Brian Lightman, who when he retired became the President of the Association of School and College Leaders. He is here in the congregation today. I should like to read part of the letter he sent to Gwyn and George.

*“Karen was an exceptional person. She was without a shadow of a doubt one of the most talented teachers I have ever met in my long career in education. We were so lucky that she came to St Cyres. Not only was she incredibly talented in the classroom but her influence and impact was massive across the school. There were the wonderful productions of course but more than that was her presence giving many hundreds of children from all kinds of background the opportunity to excel and to experience the power of music. I know of many young people who would not have lasted in school to the end of their compulsory education if it had not been for Karen’s guidance, mentoring and cajoling. She did so much for their self-esteem.*

*What you will be less aware of was the help, support and welcome she gave me as head. Often she would come to me with ideas and suggestions or indeed tell me when I was getting something wrong. Heads need people like that and I valued it enormously.*

*But Karen was far more than an exceptional teacher. She was also a deeply caring and compassionate person remembering birthdays and other occasions and sending beautifully prepared cards to the three of my children who got married.”*

After some years at St Cyres, she sought a further challenge and took up an appointment in 2004 as Head of Performing Arts at an inner city school in Southampton – a school that had received a poor OfSTED report. I discussed with her the difficulties and pressures of teaching in such a school, both before she took up her appointment and during her first year there. It was quite obvious that she was enjoying the experiences that school gave her. I was not at all surprised by Karen’s decision to seek out such an appointment; this was the sort of

challenge I knew she would relish. She ensured that music education became an integral part of the learning experiences of all children, from those in the school's feeder primary schools, to those throughout the secondary school. I learned in discussions I had with her of her work with five feeder primary schools, which culminated in a concert of over 1,000 pupils involving orchestral and vocal performances. She even used the whole of year 7 pupils (first year in secondary school) in a massed choir at a Christmas concert: not unusual in Wales, perhaps, but unknown in Southampton. In just over a year, she directed/produced school performances of "Grease", "Bugsy Malone" and "Guys n Dolls". One of her pupils she fast-tracked, very successfully, into "A" levels in years 10 and 11. The pupil achieved grade "A" in Music and went on to study at the Chethams School of Music in Manchester.

Karen was an honest, conscientious person of great integrity who was always totally committed to the tasks she had in hand. She took great pride, not in her own achievement, but in the achievement of her pupils, both academically and in performance. When I needed support with church music, Karen was always keen to be of assistance: she was a far better musician than I, but that never was a problem for Karen. I remember with affection her encouraging me and later accompanying me in arias from Handel's Messiah, and particularly "He was despised and rejected of men" at a Passiontide service and "O thou that tellest good tidings" at a Christmas service..

I know you were all shocked to learn of Karen's death. I hope we will all be able to remember her enthusiasm for teaching, for music, for performance, her concern for others and her infectious smile. Sometimes she was like a whirlwind in her enthusiasm, but what joy she brought to so many."

*John Gough*

## **KINSHIP GEMS SUPPORT / ADVICE CAFÉ**

- ) Are you a Grandparent raising a child?
- ) Do you need a little help?
- ) Would you like to meet others just like you?

What is “kinship care”?

Kinship care means an arrangement where children live with a relative or a close friend, not their birth parents. These children may have already suffered some kind of loss or trauma. The only alternative to kinship care is local authority care – and possibly adoption.

A place to meet for a friendly chat and a cuppa.

To take place at St Edward’s Church Hall, couple of times a month,

(Time & days to be arranged) Children are also welcome.





**Prayer of Re-dedication of the  
St Anne's War Memorial Panels  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Almighty God, King of All Nations and Father of the Prince of Peace, be with us all at this time of Remembrance.

We thank you for the dedication and service of all those who have died in war, especially those commemorated on these memorial panels.

We remember with gratitude those who gave generously to establish this memorial and for the craftsmanship of Robert in his restoration of these panels.

May all who gaze on them recall the lives of St Anne and her daughter the blessed Virgin Mary, the sacrifice of all those whose names are inscribed and the message of love and peace that our Lord Jesus proclaimed here on earth, and we re-dedicate and bless this memorial to the glory of God and his Church.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
Amen.

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Thanks to the people of St Anne's, and Mr Robert Stogdon.



## NEWS FROM THE LYCHGATE



At the time of writing, we are still in the season of Kingdom Sundays, the last of which is next Sunday. At the time we would have called it The Sunday Next before Advent, and informally it was known as “Stir up Sunday.” This is because the collect reads, “Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people.” It was also traditionally a time to make Christmas pudding, Christmas cake and mincemeat for mince pies. So will we still “stir up” a Christmas Feast or will we toddle off to Messrs M&S and Sainsbury’s etc., to provide us with these goodies? Times they are a-changing!

The lovely concert, in memory of Jeff Hall as reported in the last magazine, raised over £1,000, for the British Heart Foundation. This reflects the affection and esteem in which Jeff was held by the people of this parish. We thank everyone involved in this project, and thanks too, to Pam Hall for the gift of the baby grand piano.

The piano has come into its own during the last few Sundays, played by Gary with much dash and sparkle. Our organ has had troubles and because “spare parts” have to be bespoke they will take a time to come. We do however hope to have the organ by Christmas. We will then be able to sing, “Loud organs his glory forth tell in deep tone” with real feeling.

Mal Rowson reminds us that Advent is a time when we particularly remember the homeless in Cardiff, by supporting the Huggard Foundation. There will be a “cooking pot” for your loose change at the door of the church. Also collections from

the “Christmas Card to Everyone”, the memory tree in the Porch and the Crib Service will be added to this.

Thankyou to everyone who contributed to, organized and worked in the Christmas Fayre for St Margaret’s. As usual it was a joyful occasion. A sterling £1,190 was raised.

Sheila Rowe, she of the pretty knitted hats, and undisputed winner of the Easter Bonnet award this year, has recently had her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. Also Pam Hall of previous mention has turned 75. Many Happy Returns to both of them.


Once again greetings to those of you who cannot attend church just now. It’s particularly sad to miss services at Christmas time. We send our good wishes to Karen Lisk who has recently been poorly, with a few days in hospital. She is a very busy person who contributes much to our parish life, not least as our Egg Lady.

Sally reports we sign off by wishing everyone at St Margaret’s and their families a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We hope that Santa brings you everything you have wished for and that the New Year will be a lot warmer than now.

God Bless and until next time



Julia & Sally

A handwritten Christmas card on a white sheet of paper, placed on a light-colored wooden surface. The card features the text "Jesus: Best gift. Ever." written in a bold, black, cursive script. The card is decorated with green cypress branches on the left side and red holly berries on the bottom right. A portion of a brown envelope is visible behind the card on the right side.

Jesus:  
Best  
gift.  
Ever.

## **Notes from the North number 29**

Sorry about the delay. I was a bit stuck for time at the last due date. Now a little less stressed, a couple of items to report. You may remember that last year my middle finger on the right hand locked. It must have been such a good feeling for the finger that it has happened again. I had mentioned leading a session earlier this year for the first time, so I shall not boast about my progress again, it leads to unexpected falls. I am to see the lady who fixed it last time. My appointment is on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, so I may be able to ring again before the New year. I shall let you know.

On 27<sup>th</sup>. I am booked to attend a 'driving awareness course'!!!!. Guilty of course, So I am now very aware of the road side cameras. I shall try to avoid such in future.

I have received my first Christmas card, actually a Calendar, from Australia. One of my school friends who emigrated with his family in late 50's.

I had better start writing some.!!! There do not seem to be many days left in this year.

I have still not conquered printing the photos from my phone. We have had some more busy moments recently, so that has been put on the back burner again.

I have had to give up singing with the choir. My back objects to standing too long, and singing at the same time. Heigh-ho another symptom of aging.

Our church hall is still in the process of having the transfer of ownership completed. It might be next month!!. It was a very well used facility in the community, and there is no alternative facility available in our locality.

There is also progress at the Tesco site. It is almost opposite the church hall and we are expecting a considerable chaotic traffic arrangements and it also is very close to the vicarage which will be subject to the inevitable noise and disruption!!!!

In this part of the country some words have different meanings. Maiden for instance, Up 'yere it is used to hang wet clothes on, I wonder what the reaction from your 'Maidens 'would be if they were subject to such treatment. Kath and I always thought a clothes horse was the term to describe such an object

How about a ginnel? Or a snickett? It describes a short cut, usually where there are many houses and spaces had been left for them, I do not remember such a feature in South Wales.

Our Remembrance service was held close to the Memorial on Liverpool Road. It is obviously an annual event, and it is always attended by church congregation, Scouting groups, schools, and other uniformed groups, together with former Armed forces members. The Salvation Army provided the music at the head of the procession which came from another assembly point and as the Main Road was closed the several hundred of us were able to remember the purpose of the event and join in.

One of our Church wardens has carried out a tremendous amount of research on Penwortham persons who fought in the First World War, and we have the details read out in church close to the dates on which they lost their lives.

Another year nearly complete.

I shall be concentrating on the "card list".

We hope you all have a Happy Christmas and the New Year will bring all you hope for.

Best of wishes from David and Kath..

**SUNDAY AND WEEK-DAY WORSHIP  
IN THE PARISH OF ROATH**

(For Holy Day Celebrations see Weekly Newsletter)

**ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH WATERLOO ROAD**

**Sun: 8.00 am Holy Eucharist  
9.30 am Sung Eucharist  
9.30 am Sunday School R.C. House  
(each Sunday except 1<sup>st</sup> during school terms)  
6.00 pm Sung Evensong  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in month – Evensong/Holy Eucharist**

**Wed: 9.30 am Holy Eucharist**

**ST. EDWARD'S CHURCH BLENHEIM ROAD**

**Sun: 11.00 am Sung Eucharist & Sunday School  
7.00 pm Choral Evensong  
Wed: 10.15 am Holy Eucharist**

**Conventional District of Tremorfa  
ST PHILIP'S COMMUNITY CHURCH  
TWEEDSMUIR ROAD**

**Sun: 9.30 am Family Communion  
Tues: 3.15 pm 'Messy Church' (in term-time)**

**Copy date for the next magazine (Lent) is  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

Please send hard-copy (typed, hand-written or cut-out) to the Parish Office; email contributions to:  
Jean Rose, [jeanmargaretrose@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanmargaretrose@yahoo.com)  
or Sue Mansell, [smmansell@icloud.com](mailto:smmansell@icloud.com)  
or Gwynn Ellis, [rgellis@ntlworld.com](mailto:rgellis@ntlworld.com), (preferably using Arial font 12)



**Articles in this magazine reflect the views of their authors, and not necessarily those of the editors, or the official teachings of the Church.**