



### NORTH CARDIFF MINISTRY AREA

**“This is a new and exciting dawn for Christ Church, but we need you to come on board, to lay aside any cynicism or fear, and to recognise and celebrate the light that is shining through our church community”**

Rev Trystan

### CANDLEMAS

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:**

**For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,**

**Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;**

**A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.**

### Welcome to Christ Church News for our time of new things

It's interesting that when we think of Simeon and Anna in the Temple awaiting the Saviour. They were overjoyed to see the Christ Child. Simeon didn't question who this child was, he just knew, and so did Anna who *“in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord”*

These two elders in the Bible embraced the change that the Christ child would bring. Can we all embrace the new plans our church has for the future of our area. Taking the good news of the Christ Child to our area? Can we, as individuals, hold to the plans that have been set before us and rejoice?

Linda Alexander Editor

### CONFIRMATION



**Congratulations to Gwenllian Williams on her confirmation. She became a member of our church during lockdown and we welcome her with love.**

# Christ Church Elections Jan 23rd 2022

## OPENING TALK BY OUR VICAR REV TRYSTAN

It's been a rollercoaster two years at Christ Church. We've lost dear congregation members, some of whom to Covid itself, and we've had to react to governmental regulations and balance different views of how we safely worship. But there's also been lots of wonderful positives, which are easy for us to lose sight of, especially in light of how this pandemic is leaving many of us frustrated and exhausted. The Spirit *has* been moving in Christ Church over the past two years – remember those wonderful outdoor services last year, the zoom spiritual communions that are still going strong, podchurch services that continue to have as many people listening as are coming to our building, lively and fun funky church online, in the car park, and now in the hall, and, of course, all the other events have kept us connected during these strange times – we've hundreds of people online over both Christmases, we had wonderfully peaceful Holy week services, we explored our Bibles together for 8 months on Zoom, we met an American church online for St David's Day, and then are also the everyday and weekly work our teams are carrying out, from the chatter-box group, J-walkers youth group to our pastoral outreach, and so on.

And now, after this up-and-down 2 years, we have our move as a church into North Cardiff ministry area. So, where does that sit on this rollercoaster ride? Positive or negative? Good or bad? I'm not going to sugar-coat things. The first thing to say is that it's been a really difficult year putting things in place behind-the-scenes. The outgoing PCC had some worthwhile but robust discussions, Eleanor and Colin (along with Dominic, Gerald, John, and others) have worked incredibly hard with colleagues in the other three churches in this ministry area to ensure a smooth transition, and I have had a few sleepless nights as I've juggled the daily running of a worshipping church family with developing a fresh, strong and stable foundation for the future of our church.

But, for all the stress and strains of us doing all this during Covid times, we can unequivocally affirm that this is **good** news. And our wonderful, life-transforming faith is, of course, all about good news. And so, in light of all the work we've now done and the behind-the-scenes structure you will

now hear about, I want to urge you to join me this evening in looking to the future with the hope and promise that we Christians are called to have in our hearts.



**I believe that this is a new and exciting dawn for Christ Church, but we need you to come on board, to lay aside any cynicism or fear, and to recognise and celebrate the light that is shining through our church community.**

When Sandra and I came to Christ Church nine years ago, we came to a wonderful congregation, some of which are on the screen in front of me now. At the time, the then-warden, Ann Picken, gave me a lovely box that had information about the regulars who were attending Christ Church. I was looking through this box recently and there's over 100 people listed here, but, believe it or not, over 40 of these wonderfully faithful folk are now in the family of heaven. And yet that doesn't mean our congregation is now down by 40. In fact, before the pandemic, we bucked the trend of other churches and became the only Anglican church in this diocese to grow seven years in a row! And, even in the difficult past two years, we have still welcomed new worshippers, especially through podchurch.

**So, when we set about organising the new behind-the-scenes structure of Christ Church, we wanted to reflect the fact that, *firstly*, we need a real mix of people coming together to continue the worship, mission and outreach of our church – in other words, we need people who have been in Christ Church for many, many years, but we also need people who are relatively new to Christ Church, who have started coming in the past nine years.**

**And, *secondly*, we wanted the new structure to reflect the fact that we are laying foundations for a thriving church community when we emerge from the darkness of the pandemic and, indeed, even within the darkness of the pandemic. Jesus is the light, the light shines in the darkness, and the structure needs to help all of our family to shine for him – to be his hands, his feet – “let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”**

## Our new church structure

.... To summarise

### Ministry Area Council

The Ministry Area Council will have on it two Christ Church elected representatives. It will also have Eleanor, Siôn, and Trystan. Our unique and distinct church family will continue as usual, but, through the ministry area, we will be able to learn good practice, share skills and talent, and work alongside our sister churches to make sure that the Spirit inspires and blesses the community, young and old, in this little part of Cardiff.

### Christ Church Committee

The CCC will replace the old PCC. It will include Sion, Eleanor, and me, as well as a people's warden, a vicar's warden, our treasurer, a lay chair, the secretary, and four elected members. On top of that, the committee itself will co-opt onto that committee a number of people to represent different areas of church life – people who have kindly offered to sit on the Committee. For example, areas of church life will be represented by various people: Ethan/Alex Hall, Linda Alexander, Tim Ashwin, Lynn de Feu, Sarah Mizen, and Carol Webb.

### Christ Church focus groups

Finally, in the coming months, we will set up focus groups, to focus on different area of Church life. The groups will ensure that all areas of church life are given equal priority in giving feedback on important matters to the committee. As such, focus groups will look to transform the present and inspire the future of our church community. There will be a focus group for each of the following areas of church life: worship, buildings, finance, new Church Hall, children & young people, mission & outreach, pastoral, communications, and spirituality.

A number of people have already been invited to sit on various groups, but it would be wonderful if anyone else wanted to put their name forward to be considered on a group. There are spaces left on a number of the groups, so please do contact me if you think your talents and interests could help us in one of these groups. As well as these focus groups, we have a number of officers in place for specific areas: health and safety (Roy Dowell), eco-church (Alex and Ethan Hall), data protection (Tim Ashwin), insurance (Adam Singh), publicity (Roger Feesey), webmaster (James Gray), electoral roll (Brenda Rogerson), and so on.

**Rev Trystan**

## Our New Church Wardens



I have been attending Christ Church for over 17 years; previously I had been a member of St Edward's Roath. I am very proud to be asked to be the next People's Warden.

I am hoping that I am a familiar face to many of you, possibly through Funky Church and J Walkers, Good Companions, 6pm even-

ing services, daytime Connexion group, pastoral team, and, going way back, the choir.

As People's Warden I want to undertake more than the expected duties and responsibilities of the role. I hope to be of service to everyone in Christ Church. When I was at school (which happened to be run by Australian Anglican nuns and was housed in one of the palaces of the Archbishops of Canterbury!), we were taught and had to learn by rote: "The Church is a people".

At Christ Church we have a beautiful church building located in an amazing area of Cardiff, and we will have an incredible church hall in the future. But 'we' are our church – the people of Christ Church. I hope that I can serve by being a voice for you when needed so that we can continue to grow together as one body under Christ.

**Val Jones**

**Christ Church People's Warden**

For the past 6 years, it has been a privilege to have been your 'People's Warden' at Christ Church. I have now been asked by our Vicar, Trystan, to continue being a Warden but this time in the capacity as his Vicar's Warden, following the retirement from this role of Haydn Hopkins.



The past two years of living with the Covid Pandemic has been a very difficult time for us all but our church community has gained strength in our worship via Pod-church, Virtual Communion and communal worship in Church, when restrictions have allowed us to do so.

I am pleased to be part of the Team that will be taking us into the new North Cardiff Ministry Area and I am confident that Christ Church will retain its individuality and at the same time benefit from close and productive links with our neighbours at Lisvane and Llanishen.

**Colin Francis**

**Christ Church Vicar's Warden**



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Revd Canon Ian Rogerson : Revd Siôn Brynach

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Brenda Rogerson 0292062184

**Treasurer**

John Hodgson 029 20764485

**Gift Aid Secretary**

Gerald Bradnum 029 20751177

**PRAYER** We wish you, and all those reading this magazine, a time of healing and refreshment. If you have a particular prayer request please phone Val Jones our Pastoral Care Leader on 07587 007508 You can also email info@christchurchcardiff.co.uk or pop your prayer request into the letterbox on our church door.



**THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR SERVICES BY APPOINTMENT.  
WE NOW HAVE A RESTRICTED NUMBER OF PLACES  
DUE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES.**

If you wish to attend the Sunday Morning 10.00am service please email us at info@christchurchcardiff.co.uk with your name and telephone number.

**THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE.**

**THERE IS A PODCHURCH SERVICE EACH WEEK.** This is open to anyone and the link can be found on facebook or just follow this link [www.soundcloud.com/christchurchcardiff](http://www.soundcloud.com/christchurchcardiff)

**WE ARE CONTINUING TO OFFER A SERVICE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION ON ZOOM WHICH STARTS EACH SUNDAY AT 11.30am**

**PLEASE EMAIL TRYSTAN, OUR VICAR IF YOU WANT TO JOIN AN ONLINE ZOOM SERVICE OR PRAYER MEETING**

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**A Little Lent Reading**

You might like to consider reading, during Lent, the book written by our Vicar, Rev Trystan Owain Hughes.

Available from all good book shops.

