

THE PARISH TAP



February 2026

The monthly newsletter for the churches of Boughrood, Llandefalle, Llanstephan, Llyswen and Talachddu

You will find listed below all of the planned services for February with times and venues. The next edition of the Parish Tap is at the beginning of March, so please get anything you'd like featured in it to me by 10am on Tuesday 27th February, by email to judy.williams1944@gmail.com (no PDF files please) or ring 01874 625140.

Services February 2026

Date	Day	Time	Venue	Service	Minister presiding
1 st February	Septuagesima –	10.30am	Boughrood	Matins	Judy Williams
“ “	– Candlemas	10.30am	Llandefalle	Matins	Catriona Charlesworth
8 th February	Sexagesima	9.30am	Talachddu	Holy Communion	Rev Rowland Edwards
“ “	“	11.00am	Llyswen	Holy Communion	Rev David Thomas
15 th February	Quinquagesima	10.30am	Llandefalle	Holy Communion	Rev Rowland Edwards
“ “	“	11.00am	Boughrood	Holy Communion	Rev David Thomas
18 th February	Ash Wednesday	7.00pm	Llyswen	Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes	Rev Richard Walker.
22 nd February	1 st Sunday in Lent	9.30am	Talachddu	Matins	Richard Shackelford
“ “	“ “ “ “	10.30am	Llyswen	Matins	Judy Williams

A Reflection from Catriona Charlesworth, Worship Leader

I don't suppose anyone is counting how many days it is after Christmas! Candlemas, celebrated on February 2nd, is forty days after Christmas. It also marks the presentation of Jesus at the Temple and the purification of Mary. Many churches (including Llyswen) keep their cribs up until Candlemas. It traditionally marks the end of the Christmas season and any decorations not taken down on twelfth night should now be removed.

The name Candlemas derives from the practice of blessing candles to be used in church and home throughout the coming year. These candles are believed to bring protection, warmth and blessings, and symbolise the light of Christ, who dispels darkness both literally and spiritually. Candlemas may be a little known Festival to the world at large but it is a time of quiet reflection in the liturgical calendar and reminds us of the enduring power of light in the darkness and of hope in a difficult world.

Llandefalle Flower Rota

February – Eira Evans

No Flowers in Lent

Strollers Report

Unfortunately, due to the difficult weather conditions on the 7th January, we had to cancel the proposed walk along the canal bank from the Theatre. We think it's our first cancellation in 4 years; which can't be bad! We will try to repeat this meet-up on Wednesday 4th February; meeting at 10 am outside Theatre Brychieniog. Vera 07879 417459; Peta: 07967157721.

Felinfach Ladies' Friendly Society

Unfortunately the weather forecast for our January fun afternoon in the Griffin in Felinfach was so severe that it was felt prudent to postpone it until this month. So we'll try again on Monday the 9th of February at 2pm, when hopefully the forecast will be more propitious, and we can all have some winter amusement!!

Organ Fest

Friday 13th February

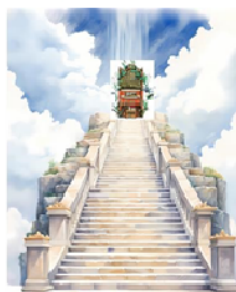
7pm St. Gwendoline's Church, Llyswen

Organists: Trina Lodge, James Luckhurst,

Paul Sweeting, Val Whiston

Readings: Judith Coles

MC: Richard Shackelford



Followed by Refreshments
Donations in aid of the
Stairway to Heaven

Thank-You

Eira, Pentrenbury, wishes to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kindness following her operation. For the cards and messages and the beautiful flowers. Many thanks to Vera for taking her to church. Thank you all so much. – Eira

Hay Music and U3A

THE SOLEM STRING QUARTET

Sunday, 15th February at 5.00pm. St Mary's Church, Hay-on-Wye.

We welcome back The Solem Quartet for a programme of Haydn, Latimer and Dvořák.

Programme details and tickets at www.haymusic.org

Tickets also from the Hay Tourist Bureau and the door if still available.

A limited number of free tickets for under 25s are available.

At our next U3A meeting on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 10.30am, musician and speaker **Peter Gill** will explore 'Musical Satire of the 20th Century', ranging from songs of the WW1 trenches to modern times. Peter will be performing a selection of the songs where the satirical lyricist's skills are recognised, so this is a morning not to be missed!

We meet in the elegant Music Room of Baskerville Hall Hotel, Clyro and enjoy coffee from 10am and lunch from 12.15pm (please book on arrival). Entrance is free for members and £5 for visitors; annual membership is only £15. For more information, see <http://hay.u3asite.uk>, email u3ahay@gmail.com or phone 01497 822523. Why not come and join us - we certainly look forward to seeing you!

You've Got to Laugh



COFFEE IN HAND. SUPPLIES AT THE READY, ALICE SETTLES IN, WAITING FOR THE FIRST COLD-CALLER TO RING.



It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles. When I say "The other day", I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago. I had my patience tested. I'm negative. To me 'drink responsibly', means don't spill it. I run like the winded. My luck is like a bald man who just won a comb.

Children's Puzzle Corner

Wordsearch

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

Find these words in the grid above

CLEAN	BIRDS	BAPTISED
UNCLEAN	VISION	PRAYING
REPTILES	SPIRIT	ANIMALS

Can you find six differences between these two pictures?



Why do bees have sticky hair?
Because they use honey combs!

What kind of tree can fit in your hand?
A palm tree!