

Do not regret growing older—it is a privilege denied to many!

Join our 80+ Happy Birthday Corner!

To include someone, please get in touch now, with name and date of birth.

Happy Birthday Blessings to:

Megan Morgan: she celebrates 100 years on 6 January!

Janet Waddington: she celebrates 84 years on 21 January!

Katie Jones: she celebrates 93 years on 26 January!

David Williams (No.9): he celebrates 81 years on 29 January!

We wish them many more years of health and happiness!

What do we show on this month's cover? I hope you will find the words on our cover to be appropriate and inspirational as we look back on the eventful Covid / Brexit year 2020, and are about to enter a more hopeful 2021. The poem was written in 1908 by Minnie Louise Haskins, and our present Queen read it, when she was the Princess Elizabeth aged just 13, and handed it to her father King George VI. He quoted it in his Christmas broadcast to the British Empire in 1939, and it sustained the nation throughout WW2. Although 2020 has been a worrying year for most, particularly those touched by illness and death; for others isolation, anxiety and mental health issues have been almost as disastrous as the virus itself. In 1624, the Christian poet John Donne wrote that "no man is an island": meaning that most humans rely on the company of others to survive. Few of us realised how important was the hug of a friend, especially in times of trouble, until it was forbidden to do so! Certain amazing people have really stood head and shoulders above the rest, to make it in retrospect a memorable year, for all the right reasons! Who could not admire the humility, graciousness and tenacity of Captain Sir Tom Moore, and the thirty three million pounds that he raised for the NHS, at one hundred years of age? His optimistic philosophy is that tomorrow will be a better day, and that we should focus on, and be grateful for, what we are lucky enough to have now, rather than bemoaning what we would like for tomorrow! Although not particularly a rugby fan, I have been so inspired by the sheer determination, and personal courage of Rob Burrow, the former Leeds Rhinos rugby league player aged 38 years. He was diagnosed in Dec 2019 with Motor Neurone Disease, and told he had maybe two years to live. Married to a very attractive and supportive wife, they have three delightful young children aged eight, five and just one year old. Compared with the physique of many players, Rob is very short and wiry, just 5 ft 5, but was fast on the pitch, gigantic in spirit, and is now a really powerful fighter for personal survival and the encouragement of others. His previous team captain Kevin Sinfield recently undertook to run seven marathons in seven days, and has raised nearly three million pounds to raise the profile for research into a cure for MND! I'm not into football either, but have been seriously impressed by Marcus Rashford, prepared at the age of 23, to take on the government, and win, to support less privileged children in the areas of homelessness and food poverty! His present goal is to ensure that these same children may learn to enjoy reading. Sportsmen at their very best, I am delighted that both Rob and Marcus have been awarded New Year's Honours! Six year old Tony Hudgell, a double amputee with prosthetic legs, has raised more than £1.5million for the Evelina London hospital that saved his life. Nine year old Freddie has raised £125,000 for the Royal Manchester Childrens' Hospital, where his best friend Hughie is being treated for leukaemia, so that they can go running together again! The Queen's Christmas Day speech, watched by 8 million, has impressed me for many years, and this year certainly did not disappoint. Elizabeth II, the most easily recognised woman in the world, has to be the greatest ever ambassador for Christianity that our world has ever known! Standing at the gate of the year, what is it that we each pray for most for our battered world and it's damaged, yet ever optimistic population? What parts of our previous normality do each one of us wish to return to? The UK can be proud that it was the first country in the world to approve two allegedly safe Covid vaccines which are already being used in some parts of the country. **Love and Charity shone brightly in 2020. Looking ahead to 2021, Faith and Hope are all we really need! With blessings for the New Year to us all!**

If the only prayer that you say in your life is "THANK YOU" - that is enough!

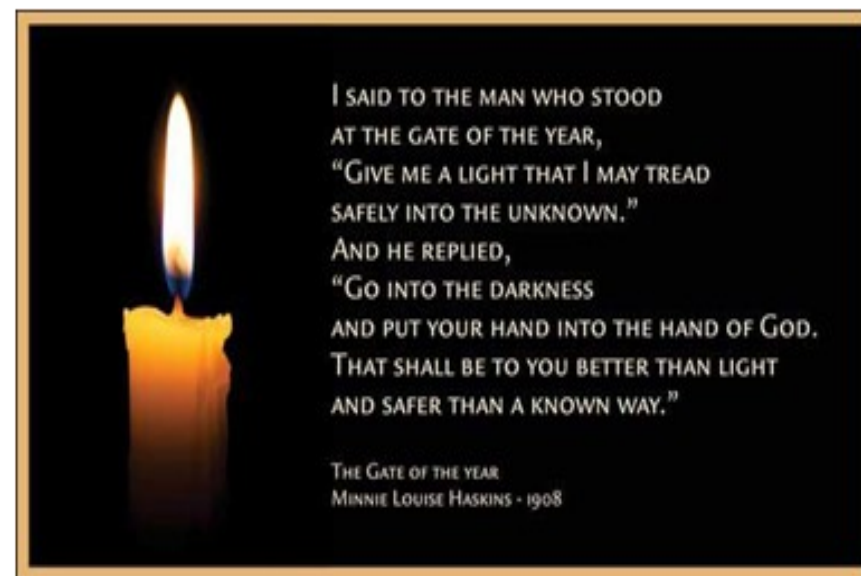
**BRO CYBI / HOLY ISLAND MINISTRY AREA
PASTORAL CARE CIRCLE
JANUARY 2021**

Ministry Area Leader/Vicar: Rob Wardle 07710 173177

Associate Vicars: Neil Ridings: 01407 861663

Jane Bailey: 01407 810827

Andy Herrick: 01407 861084



We are looking forward to life getting back to some sort of normality, so that when you cannot come to church, the church will come to you again!

Our pastoral care visiting team has grown in size, to allow us to reach out to even more people, as soon as we are allowed. We know that in some areas loneliness can be a huge problem, especially if your family live away, or if you are new to the area.

Please don't feel that you are on your own—we are just a phone call away! Some of you might like us to call for a friendly chat, others might like to receive Holy Communion, either in your own home, in hospital or in a care or nursing home. Others prefer a telephone call, just to be reminded that we are thinking of you. Remember that if we don't know that you need us, we sadly cannot help you, so someone please get in touch on your behalf!

**For anything to be included in this leaflet, please contact:
Pat: 01407 860412 or email:patriciahughes2017@gmail.com Thank you.**

Your prayers for the sick are asked for:

Sunday: Gwen, Hannah, Huw, Alan Taylor, Sandra Recourt, Ann Cuthbertson, Keith Bryant, Betty Pepper, Rosemary Tucker, Avril Foulkes, Elizabeth Walker, Christopher Evans., Michael S, Rob B, Alison Walker; Wyn, Clare and family, Enid Jones, Sue C, Laura, Sue

Let us know the name of anyone who needs our prayers, and their carers.

Wednesday : Trevor Peacock, Angela Hillman, Menna Screech, Barbara Smith, Gwilym Lewis, Huw Thomas, Megan Morgan, Edith Shepherd, Glenys Barton, Margaret Williams, Glenys Williams, Maurice, Michael S, Rob B, Myfanwy Newman.

If you need us to pray for you for any reason at all, please let us know.

Rest in Peace : 'I am the resurrection and the life' ...

Betty Ashton, Gareth Roberts, George Jeffrey, Margaret Balfe, David (DJ) Jones, Lynda Miles, Robert Frith, Eric Wyn Owen.

Please pray for the families and friends who grieve for their loved ones.

Death leaves a heartache that no one can heal, but love leaves a memory no one can steal.

Anniversaries of death:

Jan 03-09: David Hems Williams, Hywel Manley Williams, Arwyn Abbit, Gareth Jones

Jan 10-16: Joyce Hughes, Arthur Preston Thomas, Lilian Jones, Owen Ivor Jones, Simon Andrew Stott, Myra Longes.

Jan 17-23: Pam Lewis, Peter Trevor Screech.

Jan 24-30: Kingsley Walker (Priest), John Gareth Hughes, Violet Ethel Maycroft, Walter Williams, Tom Williams.

Jan 31-Feb 06: Catherine Roberts, James Dunsmuir.

Grieving is nature's way of giving us time to accept the loss of those we love. It's a time to be very gentle with yourself.

If you have lost loved ones, and you wish to remember them in the Anniversaries of Death section, please get in touch as soon as possible. The fact that one of our clergy performed the ceremony, unfortunately does not mean that the name automatically transfers into the Anniversaries section. You need to request it please.

It is very comforting to many people, to read and hear the name remembered.

WALES UNITES: 7pm on Christmas Eve. We understand that Silent Night was even sung on doorsteps, many hundreds of miles away. What a result! Thanks to all!

Jane writes: Dear friends, Many of you will have received the letter from Rev. Rob explaining that, due to the current increased risk from Covid 19, our churches would be closed over the Christmas period. As the situation remains uncertain, it has been decided to cancel our forthcoming **Walsingham Epiphanytide Mass**. Let us hope and pray that the situation soon improves and we can then set a date for our next one. Stay safe in these difficult days and let us continue to keep each other in our prayers. **Love and blessings. Jane**

Thanks to everyone who gave so generously to our **Food Bank** request: **God bless you all!**

Quotes for the new year 2021. Bless the food that is before us, the home that is around us, the family that is beside us and the love that is between us, Amen. **God doesn't want you to stay the way you are, he wants to mould you into what he intended you to be.** The world may drag you down a hundred times, but God will always be there to lift you up a thousand times. **A new year is God's gift. Enjoy the faithful blessings he so delights in giving.** Today, forget your past, forgive yourself and begin again. **Small deeds done, are better than great deeds planned.** Welcome the new year—a second chance to get things right!

Interesting facts about the month of January: The name is taken from JANUS, the Roman god of new beginnings and endings. He is sometimes depicted with two silhouetted faces, one facing backwards reflecting on the old year, the other looking forwards, anticipating the new. Janus was also known as the protector of gates and doorways. **On the 2nd, in 1492**, after an eight month siege, the last Muslim emirate in Granada, Southern Spain surrendered to Castile and Aragon, marking the end of Islamic rule. **On the 9th in 1806**, the funeral in St Paul's, of Horatio, Lord Nelson, hero of the battle of Trafalgar was one of the greatest public events London has ever seen. The coffin lay in state for three days in the Painted Hall in Greenwich, (Royal Hospital for Seamen), after which it was carried in a royal barge draped with black velvet up the Thames to Whitehall. It rested overnight in the Admiralty, guarded by Nelson's chaplain Alexander Scott. Tens of thousands lined the streets. The cortege, consisting of Nelson's fellow officers on the VICTORY, Greenwich pensioners and thousands of soldiers, was so long that by the time the head of the column reached St Paul's, the funeral car was still at Whitehall. **On the 20th in 1265**, England's first parliament met in Westminster Hall, not called by the king Henry 3, but by Simon de Montfort, who had led the rebel barons to victory at the Battle of Lewes eight months before. It was unusual in that it included ordinary representatives (known as the 'Commons') from all parts of the country, not just the clerical and aristocratic elite, and therefore posed a challenge to the king's monopoly of power. It only lasted one month, but became the model for Edward 1's new style parliament 30 years later!

Rob writes: We sadly decided to close our Churches whilst we are in this tier 4 lockdown. We had all hoped that our Churches could stay open, but the increased risks from the new strain of Covid 19 and the vulnerability of many of our congregations meant that all our Churches must close for public worship for the time being. Once again, we find ourselves confined to our homes; many of us were unable to spend Christmas with our friends and family. Nevertheless, it was still Christmas and we still celebrated the coming of the Christ child into our world as the Church has done for nearly two thousand years. Christ is still our Saviour, despite lockdowns and Covid19, despite Brexit and despite all the trials and hardships of this life; we hold on to this vulnerable child and the Hope that we know he brings. Sometimes when all around us seems like chaos we must step back, to focus on the most important things. For me, it is the knowledge that I am loved unconditionally and that whatever is in front of me, God will carry me. I had been so looking forward to seeing you this Christmas: but we will have to wait, we are getting used to waiting and that may be no bad thing. Those of us who were able to get out carol singing before the present lockdown, enjoyed three nights of cold but dry weather! We had a night in Rhoscolyn and two nights in Morawelon. We had such a good time, singing and moving from street to street, singing outside people's houses, on greens and corners and outside shops and in the middle of narrow streets. We had such thankfulness from those who heard us. People came out to listen and to sing with us and we've had more good feedback since. We had a lot of fun and the whole Magee family joined us for one night on Morawelon. In the new year, we will be getting out more. The carol singing on the streets is an example of how we will be taking ourselves out into the community. We will be in our Churches as well, our worship in our buildings will always be part of our spiritual life. And we will also be serving our community where they are and in ways which bring them help and service. I will also be telling you about new projects which are starting to happen and we will begin to roll out the plans in our Ezra – 'Where do we go from Here' report. If you have not already seen this, and want to read it, then please do get in touch with me. Also, please do get in touch with me if there is anything you need or if you want help with anything, I will always do my best. I feel so blessed to be part of this Ministry Area, where there is so much commitment and dedication to the Church and to each other. Personally, I want to say huge and heartfelt thanks for everyone's help and support during this past year. Your patience with me, your care and the kind messages I have received have helped enormously. I feel very well looked after by you all! Please do rest assured that we pray for Bro Cybi every day. **Love and blessings, Rob.**