

NewsLite

Issue 6
July 2021

An occasional publication of happenings at
St Faith's Great Crosby



Read all about St Maelog's historic Church
and what it means to Rev Denise inside

St. Maelog's Church, Llanfaelog, Anglesey

As most of you are aware when I'm not around during the summer months I am usually at our caravan in Rhosneigr, Anglesey.

The Island, with its stunning beaches, headland walks and sunsets to name just a few of its wonderful charms has drawn generations of families over the years who never tire of making the journey to North Wales and over either the Menai or Britannia Bridges onto Anglesey. As well as the many attractions I am privileged enough to have been a part-time member of the congregation and ministry team at St. Maelog's Parish Church in Llanfaelog for many years. The parishioners and clergy were incredibly supportive during my ministry training and early years of ministry. I was even able to enjoy a placement with them during that time. Some of you may remember many of them travelling to Liverpool Cathedral by minibus for my ordination.

The church is dedicated to St. Maelog, a Celtic saint who settled there some 1500 years ago and it forms part of the Celtic Circle, a rich treasury of historic churches. St. Maelog's present building was built around 1848 and although it has kept much of its original character it has since been extensively reordered, with local artists contributing much to the craftsmanship in wood and glass. The 'Tree of Life' is the theme for the altar, pulpit, communion rails and font, all made from oak by a local craftsman from the village.

There is a St. Celia window in pre-Raphaelite style and a music window designed and made by a choir member before she went to study art at university.

There is so much more of interest to see inside the church but the churchyard itself is also well worth a visit. It is listed in the 'Norfolk Taxation' documents of the 12th century and almost certainly dates back before then. There are several shipwreck graves and also a barrel mortuary where unrecognised bodies from wrecks were stored as they waited for identification. There are war graves and graves of victims of an air crash at sea in August 1941 along with police and army officers who died in the rescue attempt.

There are so many fascinating features to see both inside and outside this beautiful village church but above all else the spiritual atmosphere, along with the warmth of welcome makes it a very inviting place to visit and worship God.

Reverend Denise

View from the Engineers Desk.

The lockdown restrictions seem to be lifting at last as more and more of us receive the double jabs and we are starting to move towards a 'normal' way of life. Here at St Faith's, we now have a choir (reduced in number but not quality) and we look forward to being able to join them in full voice.

Joe has arranged a series of Saturday concerts starting on 10th of July with a concert by Richard Lea who is organist at the Metropolitan Cathedral. The series includes several new names to St Faiths and our very own Gregor Cuff in August and classical guitar music from John O'Collen and the angelic voice of the aptly named Angelina Dorlin-Barlow .Look for the posters

It will be wonderful to resume the concerts and I trust that we will soon see the return of all the regulars enjoying the fresh food, good chat and first-class music.

The hall has been put to a novel use! - After over a century of meetings, functions, Brownies, Scouts, dances, parties and other parochial events it has become a temporary health clinic. Local chemists are vaccinating over 500 people a day - perhaps you have been one of them?

There are also some other new faces in the church hall as Liz and her team from Kind Hearts Café are offering tea, coffee, snacks and cakes each Thursday from 12 until 2.00. They donate all the proceeds towards the homeless and are well worth supporting. Early reports on their lunch menu suggest that they are well worth supporting.

We were saddened last month with the passing of Ken Bramwell. Ken had been a long-time server and served every vicar since Fr Hassall until his health failed a few years ago. We will remember him for very many years to come.

The APCM is always a fraught time for the Vicar and Treasurer as they struggle to condense the spiritual and financial highlights of a year into a few pages of the Annual Report and solicit reports from those who have been responsible for the slightly more mundane activities that form the life of St Faith's. Copies of the report are available for everyone and make interesting reading so please pick up a copy and see what makes the church work.

We are of course still looking to elect a Warden to work alongside Gareth. Please look around and see if you can persuade someone to take on this very worthwhile role. The election will take place after the service on 4th July.

That's enough from me for this edition but don't forget to send me any contributions for NewsLite - news, articles, gossip, etc - you know what you like to read.

I've saved the best 'till the end - -

We all send our hearty congratulations to Angela (Woodley) and Keith who are to be married on July 21st at St Faith's. We wish them a long and happy marriage!

Congratulations also to Paul Lennon & Jodie Serrano to be married on 28th August. They were to have been married last year but covid had other ideas!

Keep safe and keep well,

Rick

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Next time you are in church

. . . . take a look at the wooden screen across the chancel. It was designed by Sir Gilbert Scott of cathedral and 'phone box fame and commemorates the three other churches endowed by Douglas Horsfall - St Agnes, St Paul & St Catherine. The screen was commissioned by him in memory of his son Robert Elsum Horsfall who had laid our foundation stone in 1898 but who was killed in the First World War. The fourth statue is that of St Chad, linking us to the college of that name in Durham where Douglas Horsfall was on the governing body.

St Chads college is still our Patron all though with reduced "powers of presentation" than 120 years ago!

Services at St Faith's during July and August

Weekly:

Sundays at 11 am - Parish Eucharist

Other Services:

Thursdays at 12.00 noon

1st, 8th, 29th July

5th, 12th, 26th August - Parish Eucharist

Sundays at 6.30

4th July - Evensong

1st August - Evensong