

Offa Mission Area
St. Mary's, Chirk with St.
David's, Froncysyllte



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 TYFU FFYDD • DOD Â GOBAITH • DANGOS CARIAD
 GROW FAITH • BRING HOPE • DEMONSTRATE LOVE
 DIOCESE OF ST ASAPH

SUNDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2024
ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Notices

Church website: <http://www.stmaryschirk.org.uk/>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryschirk/>

TUESDAY 1st OCTOBER	10am-12noon: Mini-Market in St. Mary's Church Hall
WEDNESDAY 2nd OCTOBER	9.15am – 11.15am: Toddlers' in St. Mary's Church Hall
THURSDAY 3rd OCTOBER	10.15am: Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's Chirk 6.00pm: St. David's Church Committee in St. Mary's Church Hall
FRIDAY 4th OCTOBER	7.00pm: St Mary's Harvest Supper in the Church Hall (see below)
SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER	9.30am: Family Service at St. David's Fron 11.00am: Harvest Family service at St. Mary's Chirk

New Curate: Please pray for Rev'd Gary Anderton who is joining us. His first Sunday is 3rd November.

Mission Area Evensong: tonight at 6pm at St. Mary's Church, **Chirk**. The preacher will be Ven Gerwyn Capon our new archdeacon. It would be lovely if you could welcome him on behalf of our churches.

St. David's Church Committee: is on Thursday 3rd October at 6pm in St. Mary's Church Hall.

Full bell peal attempt: on Saturday 5th October at 10am. This is a lovely way to celebrate what has been achieved so far with our bells and ringers.

Prayer Group: The next meeting is on Friday 18th October at 4pm at Caffi Wylfa community room.

Harvest

Foodbank: Throughout the year we remember people less fortunate than ourselves. At all Harvest Services we are collecting donations. Oswestry Foodbank has especially asked for donations of Tinned ham / spam; small packets or tea / jars of coffee; cereal; tinned soup; and biscuits and treats. Thank you

Flowers for Harvest: The list for helping with decorating the church is now up at the back of church. We'd be very grateful of help. Donations of flowers and greenery are always very welcome.

St. Mary's Harvest Supper will be on Friday 4th October at 7.00pm in the Church Hall. Tickets (£5) are now available from the Church Wardens and "Fine Things. There is a list at the back of the Church for donations of fruit pies, crumbles or any dessert. If puddings are not your forte then maybe you would like to donate a raffle prize". Those wishing to bring a bottle of wine or other drink are invited to do so.

St. Mary's Harvest Family Service: is on Sunday 6th October at 11am. Please bring your Foodbank items.

St. David's Harvest Service and Tea (sandwiches, cakes etc.): is on Sunday 13th October at 3pm. Preacher: Rev Pam Hallam (Mission Area deacon based at Ruabon).

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal 2024: Please help us provide gifts for children with very little and bring joy to them this Christmas. You can either help by giving a cash donation (which will be used to buy gifts and fill shoeboxes) or fill a complete shoebox. Cash donations appreciated as soon as possible. Please pass cash donations to Sarah Wilkinson or church wardens. Deadline for completed boxes to be in church is 3rd November. Please see leaflets at back of church. Thank you.

Rev Matt Wilkinson 01691 778519

mattwilkinson@cinw.org.uk

St Mary's Eco Church discussion group 25th September 2024

Of the 14 members in the group 7 attended.

1) Update on last meeting:

We have gained Silver Eco Church Award.

The Life Style questionnaire was completed by St Mary's and St David's (online and paper) It was well received and honest answers. We will try and do one annually.

Gaynor has got a food caddy for the kitchen, supplied by the council.

Swift chicks and a new nest have been observed by Hayley Garrod. She wants to make and erect 4 more boxes next year.

A hedgehog is in residence in one of the home-made hedgehog houses in the churchyard.

Solar panels: a local company came to give us a quote and discuss possible solutions. We need to look at this again in the future. Too much going on at present.

We now support/finance 4 toilets in Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe and Tanzania.

We have worked with a local store, Old Milk Bar, to promote their environmental projects e.g. Refills and recycling. We are going to build on this link again soon.

Ferelith gave a short talk in Wrexham to an Eco Church seminar, to explain how we initially set up, what we do and any difficulties that we have experienced.

Ferelith is going to give another short talk to representatives from Mission Area churches in October.

Frank Hemmings (Chirk council) has said we can borrow litter picking equipment.

Gaynor continues to organise the recycling at church. Thank you.

2) Looked at Community and Global engagement questionnaire:

This is one of five questionnaires which assess Eco Churches.

Things we are planning to do are:

The Old Milk Bar are wanting to do a petition to Chemists and MP/AM re: Blister packs. Watch this space!

Litter pick: We are intending to do a local litter pick with anyone who is interested. Ideas for suggested areas were given and to inform Edwin (who picks up regularly) and council. I have asked Keep Wales Tidy re-equipment and advise. We can also borrow equipment from town council. Litter pick in twos? Date to be arranged. If you know an area that needs doing, please inform us.

Local millennium garden and bus stop need sorting/cleaning up. Ferelith to contact Frank Hemmings re problem.

Notice boards/Matts weekly information letter.

Revamp the boards! Board needs to be eye catching, easy to read and bullet points.

Ideas for monthly/2 monthly items re Eco Church. 1) Food Bank information, 2) Recycling and refills at shops eg Old Milk Bar, in Honey Suckle in Oswestry. 3) Autumn tips 4) Top tips for Greener Christmas 5) Nappies. More suggestions for information boards most welcome.

To give Matt a brief paragraph that is linked to the board information for the weekly sheets. To keep church members engaged in our efforts to a better caring world.

3) Events:

We are planning to engage people with the following projects.

Earth Hour March 2025,

Earth Day April 2025,

Big Plastic Count June 2025 Ask Rev. Val to engage Pentre school? Encourage our congregation to participate next year. Needs planning and explaining. It is very simple to do.

Talks: Need to try and ask environmentalists to give us a talk on subjects such as; Green Party, Chirk Castle (Keith)Head ranger on conservation work/bees/bats etc., Wildlife Trust, Canal River trust (Hayley) Friends of the Earth. If you have a contact name, pass it on. Food for thought.

Group to meet again Mid January 2025