

BULLETIN **EXTRA** 9 AUG 15

DIRECT FROM THE SECRETARY'S FILES

Dear All,

At the last PAC meeting, a few parish events were announced which I hope will be of interest to you. Here are the details.

"MEET ST FRANCIS" – A PARISH DAY RETREAT CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST FRANCIS

Saturday 26 September

11am to 3pm – the day will finish with Mass at 3pm

Venue: Poor Clare Monastery, Hawarden

The Sisters will prepare and lead the retreat where we will "Meet St. Francis". The Church encourages us to get to know the saints, to reflect on their lives and spirituality, to be inspired by them and to invoke their help. Our Parish is dedicated to St Francis and the Poor Clares are part of the Franciscan family. The day will include talks, prayers, adoration, music and Holy Mass. Fr. Francis Maple OFM Cap will be our celebrant for Mass. The Sisters will also provide a session for any children that come otherwise we will be all together. Lunch will also be provided.

If you would like to go please put your name on the list at the back of the church. If you are bringing any children or young people (under 16yrs) please state name and age.

Whilst a decision has not yet been made, it is hoped to arrange a coach to take us all to the Monastery.

JAZZ CAFÉ – PURELY A SOCIAL EVENT

Saturday 7 November

7.30pm for 8pm

Venue: Parish Hall, Llay

Music by Louis Noble - **SO WHAT NOW** featuring **IRENE MARTIN**

Some of you will already have heard this popular group as they often play at Erddig. Here is what they say about themselves on their website

This highly entertaining quintet presents jazz standards, classic Latin grooves & blues with their own brand of vibrancy, humour and most importantly with a whole lot of swing!

Entertainment is strictly the name of the game and wherever they perform, the response is the same – a great reaction from both jazz buffs and newcomers to the music. Much of this is due to the varied programme of generally well known tunes but always with a few surprises thrown in.

*The considerable talent and wealth of experience of the instrumentalists, combined with the outstanding vocals of **Irene Martin** produce performances which are acclaimed by their highly appreciative audiences.*

*Irene's style encompasses the feeling of Billie Holiday with the smoothness of Julie London, topped off with the sassiness of Peggy Lee. This superb combination is complemented by the tenor sax of **Louis Noble** and outstanding keyboard of **Colin Gibson**.*

***Burt Donns'** harmonious bass lines provide the anchor and **Benn Pollards'** fluent drumming as well as **Tony Tuckers'** smooth trumpet style completes the line-up.*

A "Bar Snack" will be included in the evening together with drinks. You are invited to bring along your own alcohol if desired.

Margaret Robbins and myself will be meeting with the group about a month before the event to discuss the type of music you would like to hear – if you would like to join us on what we hope will be a great night out and a good social occasion for us all and you have ideas on the type of music you would like to hear then please let either of us know. (My favourite? Got to be Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen – I wanna be like you; Midnight in Moscow; Suki Yaki; not forgetting Acker Bilk with Stranger on the Shore). So, if you have a style or particular tune you would like to hear, tell Margaret Robbins or myself so that we can advise Louis – we can't promise everything but at least the musicians will know where the audience is "coming from".

A further plea – if you have or know or can suggest where I can obtain a Jazz Club neon sign (to borrow) please let me know.

Christmas Panto – A Joyous Social Occasion for All the Parish Family

Monday 14 December

7pm

Venue: Ground floor room at the Miners Welfare in Llay.

Performers: Bitesize Theatre Company - a professional touring theatre company.

Why a panto? I just thought it would be nice to have something fun, entertaining and festive that everyone could enjoy and would want to go to as we approach Christmas and a panto seemed to fit the bill. Even if it's years since you went to one, why not give it a go and share the early evening with everyone else. The performance itself is only for an hour and will no doubt raise the spirits and bring us together. We will also have a buffet or something afterwards. As you can see the performance is at the Miners Welfare this is because our parish hall isn't large enough to accommodate the scenery. But it's only down the road from Church, plenty of parking and there is a bar too for those who would like to after the performance. This Company comes highly recommended – so please, whether you are 8 or 80+, with family or alone, come along and join with the parish family to enjoy.

A Traditional Christmas Carol Service

Monday 28th December

2.30pm

St Francis of Assisi, Llay

For most of the people in our country, Christmas ends when they fall into bed on Christmas night. Sadly many will say "Thank God that's over for another year". But we know that Christmas begins on Christmas Day. A traditional

carol service is a wonderful way to celebrate the Joy of Christmas, and to help us to enter more deeply into the holiness of the Birth of Christ. The event can be followed up by a small celebration in the hall afterwards.

Joy of the Gospel – Sharing Our Faith

Outdoor Christmas Crib

To proclaim to all passers-by whether they are on foot or in vehicles –this is Christmas. This is what we believe it to be and we are not afraid to tell the world. M&S has its sparkle, John Lewis has Monty the Penguin, garden centres have moving polar bears and the like, shopping centres have their Christmas trees and piped music – we have our faith which began with Christmas. So why not share it.

I've now reached the bottom of the in-tray. Many thanks for reading my jottings and I hope you found something of interest.

Best wishes

Geraldine