



A NOTE FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Welcome to our September / October magazine!

Thanks so much to all our contributors—especially the new voices—for sharing such interesting and inspiring content. You help keep things fresh and meaningful for everyone reading along.

We'd love to keep hearing from you, so please keep sending in your stories, thoughts, and photos.

Thanks again for all your support. Hope you're staying safe and well. Take care and God bless

Claire

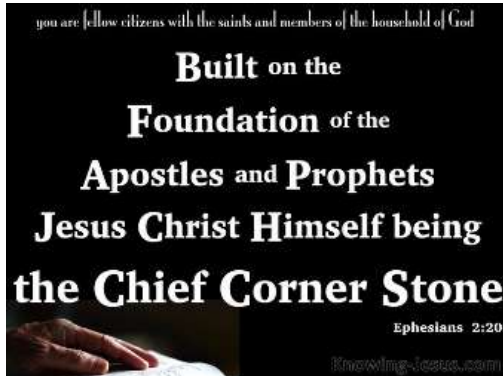
You are invited to join us for our
**FAMILY EUCHARIST
SERVICE**

10.30am Sunday 14th September 2025
at St Cadoc's Church

**Holy
Cross**



Foundations in Christ



On 3rd October 2025 Archbishop elect Cherry Vann will rededicate St Cadoc's following the major refurbishment which took several years of planning and 15 months to complete. A key element of the service will include placing a Time Capsule in the centre of the stone labyrinth, capturing this significant moment in the long history of the church.

In the book of Ezra, we read about the foundation being laid for the second temple. When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the Lord, as prescribed by David king of Israel. With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord: *"He is good; His love to Israel endures forever."* (Ezra 3:10-11)

This was a major moment for Israel and the first sign of hope in 70 years. Not all were joyous. Many of the older priests, Levites, and family heads who had seen the former temple wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. (Ezra 3:12)

The prophet Haggai (580BC) reaffirmed the significance of the second temple being built and the promise of God's blessing: *"From this day on, from this twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, give careful thought to the day when the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid. Give careful thought: Is there yet any seed left in the barn? Until now, the vine and the fig tree, the pomegranate and the olive tree have not borne fruit. From this day on I will bless you."* (Haggai 2:15-19)

Our foundation starts with Christ. In Matthew 16:6, Simon Peter declared, *"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."* The bedrock of our faith is believing that Jesus is the Son of God and our Saviour. St Paul wrote, *"By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."* 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

Jesus is our starting point when it comes to faith. St Paul in the letter to the Ephesians

4:22-24 reminds us *'to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness'.*

What is faith? Hebrews 11:1-3 answers that question: *'Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see'.* These are considered to be the foundational doctrines we need to understand as we enter into our new life in Jesus Christ. Being a member of Christ's Church is more than attending a meeting or going to a building. It is a relational way of life together as we pursue His mission on the earth. J. I. Packer (English-Canadian theologian, 1926–2020) said it well when he summed up the church's mission: *"The task of the church is to make the invisible kingdom visible as we live God's values and presence among us in front of a watching world."*

Christ is building His Church at St Cadoc's. As a part of the body of Christ, we are to build in cooperation and under the headship of Christ, with the strength of Christ, and for the glory of Christ.

Church history shows us how Christ has been faithfully building His Church. Irenaeus, in his apologetic *Against Heresies*, fought against serious threats to the church from false teachers. This brought the needed theological arguments against damning false teaching. The Gutenberg Bible (mid-15th century) marked the beginning of a revolution in human communications every bit as influential as the birth of the World Wide Web. Through those efforts, Christ was building His Church. Coming out of the Dark Ages, Reformation truths were recovered. In and through faithful men and women, Christ was building His Church.

In Ephesians 2, St Paul writes how the Church is *"built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone."* The first apostles laid the foundation, and we are called to build on that foundation. The early church continually devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching.

In observing church history, there are many times it appeared defeated—locked up, bound in by gates of persecution, false teaching, and death. But Christ continues to build. As martyrs spilled their blood, it became the seed for the gospel to spread and flourish even more. Henry Martyn (Anglican Priest, Missionary and theologian 1781-1812) wrote, *"You cannot harm me, you can only kill me."*

The refurbishment of St Cadoc's is a pivotal moment in the life of the church. It offers an opportunity to explore new forms of worship and mission. It serves as a reminder that God is faithful to His word. He who began a good work in us will carry it to completion.

WORDS FROM REVEREND SUE —continued

My prayer continues to be that St Cadoc's will be a house of prayer and healing. But also, a place for the broken, weak and vulnerable; the strong and whole; the young and old; the sad and happy. A place for you.

For the Lord is good; His loving devotion endures forever." Ezra 3:11

With Love in Christ,
Rev Sue



All proceeds to go to support
'Research into Multiple
Systems Atrophy MSA'

COME AND JOIN US
AT ST CADOC'S CHURCH, CAERLEON

Tea and Cakes

SAT 20th SEPTEMBER 2025 2pm to 4pm

Cwmbran Baroque Singers

Concert in Aid of St. Cadoc's Church Restoration Fund

***Tickets* £10**

**available at the entrance or
presale from choir members
or Tim Ford
07711683454**

**St Cadocs Church, Caerleon
Friday, 19th September at 7pm**

KNITTING FOR MISSION TO SEAFARERS

Please may I ask you all knitters who have been knitting Beanie hats for the *Mission to Seafarers* to bring them to one of our Sunday services. Our contributions are always appreciated as it's always chilly in the wind when ships are far out to sea. The hats are given to seafarers on board ships docking in our South Wales ports. It's lovely that we can show the crewmen our appreciation for their hard and often dangerous work at sea which benefits us all in so many ways. Please bring the hats to a Sunday service—NO later than Sunday, October 12th.

Many thanks. Veronica Jenkins



The simple acts of kindness shown by each of these hats will be warmly welcomed by those who will wear them. Thank you!



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MISSION—"WAR CHILD"

WAR
child

Hello everyone,

I am pleased to share below few words that may bring awareness to you about a small mission I intend to carry out and would love for your support and encouragement in any little way possible.

Mission - 'War Child'

In a world where conflict disrupts the innocence of childhood, 'War Child' is dedicated to ensuring that no child's life is torn apart by war. They tirelessly protect, educate, and advocate for the rights of children living in war zones.

As I prepare for the upcoming Students' Piano Recital on 18th October 2025, I am reminded of the profound impact that music can have in healing and bringing hope. By participating in this personal challenge, I aim to raise £1,000 to support War Child's vital work. Your generous donation will make a significant difference to thousands of children whose lives have been turned upside down by conflict. Another wonderful way you can support is to purchase a ticket to be part of the piano recital.

Together, we can help War Child provide emergency care and support that these children desperately need to overcome the emotional and physical toll of war. Additionally, your contribution will enable access to educational services that will help them catch up on lost learning and transform their futures for the better.

Join me in this mission; let us stand together for those who cannot stand alone. Your support is not just a donation; it is a lifeline for children who deserve a chance at a brighter future.

Thank you for taking the time to read and for your love and support towards this mission.

Shanika Perera

For more information visit: www.warchild.org.uk



Shanika Piano Academy
Presents
Journey to Peace
Piano Recital
In Aid of "War Child"

Saturday 18th October
1:30-4:00 PM (Doors open 1:00 PM)
St Cadoc's Church
High Street, Caerleon NP18 1AZ

Tickets at £10 Each, Under 16' go free

sjp23shanika@gmail.com
Students bring your sheet music

Shanika
Perera's
JustGiving
Page



WHAT'S GOING ON AT ST CADOC'S

UPCOMING EVENTS:



ST CADOC'S
CAERLEON

September

13/09
St Cadoc's Trip to Exeter
19/09 7PM
Cwmbran Baroque Singers Concert
20/09 1-2PM
Lunchtime Recital - Ponthir Recorders
20/09 2-4PM
Tea & Cakes

October

11/10 7PM
Blaenavon Male Voice Choir
18/10 1PM
Shanika Piano Academy - Pupil Recital
18/10 7.30PM
Capital City Jazz Orchestra
25/10
Organ Recital - Dr Emma Gibbins

November

01/11
Silent Disco
09/11 7PM
Welsh Concert Choir
15/11 1PM
Lunchtime Recital with Sam Davies - Bass
15/11 2-4PM
Tea & Cakes
22/11 7PM
Christmas Tree Festival - Gala Opening
with Entertainment
23/11 4PM
Christmas Songs of Praise
24/11 - 29/11
Christmas Tree Festival -
Open 10am-4pm Daily
30/11 4PM
Advent Carol Service

December

06/12
Allegra Ladies Choir Christmas Concert
13/12
Chordis Caerllion - Concert
14/12
Priory Singers - Handel's Messiah
16/12
The Adams Chorale - Concert
21/12 4PM
Nine Lessons & Carols



**Come and join
us at one of the
many events on
our busy
autumn/winter
calendar**

For further information contact: office.stcadocs@gmail.com

A ROCHA PRAYERS FOR CREATION



Loving God, Creator of all, we thank you for the beauty of Creation;
Show us, we pray, how to respect the fragile balance of life.

Guide by your wisdom those who have power to care for or to destroy
the environment, that by the decisions we make, life may be cherished and
a good and fruitful earth be preserved for future generations; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen


Creator God, your name is written on every leaf, every bird, every river,
every stone and every living being.

We praise and worship you for the magnificence of your creation.

Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the
healing of the whole creation, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen

Extracted from Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes 2023, p49.



Original source: Collect adapted from Our Modern Services, Anglican Church of Kenya (Nairobi: Utima Press, 2008), 289, as
published in "Holy Earth, Holy People: Restoring God's Creation," Holy Eucharist liturgy for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts
Convention 2016, 2.



St. Cadoc's Church Caerleon
presents
**Ponthir Recorder
Harmonies
in
Concert**

20th September 1 p.m.
followed by
Tea and Cakes

Donations to St. Cadoc's Church
Refurbishment Fund



SHOEBOXES FOR CHRISTMAS

It's the time of year when like it or not, we plan ahead for Christmas! Every year people throughout the UK fill and send shoe boxes to charities for distribution to those in dire need at Christmas. Churches Together locally are organising the annual Shoe Box Appeal, on behalf of Blythwood Care. Please see here for instructions as to how you can help this worthy cause.

If you would like to take part, please collect a leaflet, either from the back of the church, or contact me on 01633 422051, and I'll make sure you have one. Last year our parishioners were extremely generous, and the need has not diminished.

I would add one caveat; please don't send in your box without an official checklist form, which is part of the leaflet. Several of you sent in boxes with home - made lists attached to the front, and our local organiser Myra Ashcroft, had to open all of them, check the contents and fill in the correct form. This was really time consuming.

Please support as enthusiastically as you always do. Thank you.

Chris Purkiss

6 steps to bring happiness

1 Find: Find an average-size shoebox. Decide who to fill it for; a child, a teenager, a man or a woman.

2 Wrap: your box and lid separately so that the lid can be removed without tearing the paper.



3 Pack: Gather the items, remove all plastic and cardboard packaging and pack into the box. **Please choose items that will last rather than those with a short life and can't be recycled.**



4 Check: On the checklist, tick the items you have put in your shoebox and note any that are not on the list.

5 Donate: Secure the ticked checklist to the **outside** of the shoebox lid using sticky tape. Detach the donation envelope as instructed and place **on top of the items** inside your box.

6 Deliver: Secure the lid with rubber bands. (Custom regulations require Blythwood Care to check the contents of your box) **Deliver your box to your local collection point.**

PLEASE BRING IN YOUR FILLED BOXES, WITH A COMPLETED FORM STUCK ONTO THE LID, TO A SERVICE IN THE SCHOOL BY 25TH OCTOBER 2025



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You are invited to join us for our FAMILY EUCHARIST SERVICE

10.30am Sunday 14th September 2025
at St Cadoc's Church

Holy Cross



Please tick items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.

Please include the following items highlighted in red opposite.

Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)

- ☐ Shampoo/Shower gel
- ☐ Face cloth/ Moist wipes
- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Moisturising Cream
- ☐ Comb/Brush
- ☐ Sanitary Products
- ☐ Shaving foam/Razors

Miscellaneous

- ☐ New Make-up
- ☐ Sewing Equipment
- ☐ Household Candles
- ☐ Screwdrivers/Pliers
- ☐ Household products

Stationery

- ☐ Pens/Pencils/Sharpener
- ☐ Notepads/
Colouring books
- ☐ Rulers/Rubbers

Clothes and other Items

(T-shirts/Pyjamas/
Jumpers/Shirts) etc

- | | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

- ☐ Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- ☐ Hat, scarf, gloves
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Underwear/ Socks/Tights
- ☐ Small Toy*
- ☐ Sweets*

NOTE* Small toy for boys and girls such as, cars, dolls, balls.

A **small gift** for teens and adults.

Please only include new items.

* (No chocolate or any other food)

'Best before' date no earlier than
31 March next year. No loose

sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets.

Do not include used or damaged items; war related items such as toy guns or knives or military figures; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; chocolate or any food other than sweets. Chocolate Eclairs and Chocolate Limes are not allowed; books that are mainly words should also not be included.

Please tick the box next to who the box is for and the age of the female or male you have filled this box for:

 ☐ Female  ☐ Male

- ☐ Preschool age.....
- ☐ Primary age.....
- ☐ Teenager age.....
- ☐ Adult age.....
- ☐ Elderly age.....

Supporting our Communities



An opportunity for people with memory problems, including dementia, to come along with a family member or carer.

- ◆ Socialise.
- ◆ Enjoy organised activities.
- ◆ Games cards, dominoes, jigsaws, crafts & more.
- ◆ Listen to, and join in with music.
- ◆ Catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Free!

Wednesdays 10.30 AM - 12 Noon

Lodge Farm Church, Caerleon NP18 3DL

(Very Top of Lodge Hill-Private Road)

Contact Gaynor 07988666029 Chris 07860617120

CLOSED 29 May. 21&28 August. 30 Oct.25 Dec





**Choral Evensong
Sunday 19th October, 4pm
at St Cadoc's Church**



St. Cadoc's Church Caerleon
presents an

Organ Recital
by
Dr. Emma Gibbins
Director of Music at
Chelmsford Cathedral

Saturday 25th October 1p.m.
followed by
Tea and Cakes
Donations to St. Cadoc's Church
Refurbishment Fund



REFLECTIONS OF AN OLD GEEZER ABOUT GOD AND HOW WE RELATE TO HIM

13. The Purpose of Church

For someone outside of the Church, (i.e. the universal Christian Church, including all denominations), and listening to or reading the news media, it is easy to wonder why anyone would want to join such an institution. So many Church leaders and people of influence continue to undermine the moral authority of the Church. Will the stories of abuse ever end? Will abuse of the vulnerable ever stop?

When will the Church learn that a policy of “least said, soonest mended” is the very thing that brings the Church into disrepute? It gives licence to the wicked to continue. In the face of collective silence, those who are disgusted lose hope and leave, while those who might consider joining are easily dissuaded from doing so by friends and family who have a ready list of reasons from everyday news to be concerned.

What has happened? Are people no longer interested in a God of love, or do they doubt that such a God is real? Realistically, few people differentiate between God and the Church. When they hear bad news about the Church, they ask what kind of God allows that? How can such a God possibly be love?

As a result, it should come as no surprise that the Church is dying in the relatively affluent, educated and social media-saturated West, where people are free to question and choose for themselves, or be influenced by ill-informed prejudice.

Those of us who remain in the Church know that there is much more to Church than the bad behaviour of some leaders and people of influence who let us down. But knowing and cherishing the goodness of God and enjoying his blessings does not absolve us of the responsibility of being disciples of Jesus.

We need to be the Church that Christ calls us to be. We should step back from all the confusion and take stock. We need to acknowledge that in so many ways the Church has lost the plot. If we want growth, we need to take a good hard look at ourselves and question whether we truly understand the purpose of Christ's Church. If we aren't willing to do this, we should resign ourselves to managing our continued decline and get ready to hand our beautiful, newly renovated church over to become no more than a community space, the new town hall.

Doing more of the same and expecting a different result is delusional. It truly is the definition of insanity.

When I look around our Church, I see so many people in the autumn of life, like me. We've done our bit, and it would be good to relax and enjoy what blessings we have left. However, a good friend recently pointed out to me that autumn is the time of harvest. God needs help with that harvest, and he has a purpose for those of us with time on our hands.

So, what is Christ's purpose for his Church? Is it to go to Church on Sunday and try to be good people, or is it perhaps more than that?

Jesus was very specific about what he expects of his Church. Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus ordered the twelve to meet him at the mountain chosen for his ascension. He ordered them to be there, knowing that some still doubted and might not have come. He obviously had something important to say. They were the foundation of his Church, and he wanted to make sure there was no doubt that he expected them to continue the work he started, to bring about peace and joy for the whole world, by choosing to live under the reign of God's love, here and now.

We should bear in mind that this was not Jesus, who had surrendered to the limitations of being human, giving this commission. This was the risen Christ Eternal, one in the Holy Trinity. This was a command directly from God. In his opening words Jesus confirms this.

'The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."' Matt: 28:16-20

"All power in heaven and earth has been given to me..." Jesus confirms he is speaking as Christ Eternal. Only God has all power in heaven and earth. This is a command from God. *"Go, therefore..."*

Because he has invoked his full authority as our God, this is a command that Jesus clearly expects all his disciples throughout the generations to obey. This is God's **Great Commission** to his Church. We are a missionary Church. It is not enough to put a sign up saying all are welcome. We are sent out. *"and make disciples of all nations..."* The purpose of Church is to make disciples. A disciple is a learner following a Master. We are disciples of Jesus. The measure of our discipleship is not a belief in exclusive religious institutional teaching, but our behaviour as followers of Jesus. *"It is by your love for one another, that you will be recognised as my disciples."*

"baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit..."

Baptism is about being welcomed to belong in God's family, his Church, with all the rights and responsibilities that go with that.

"teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you..."

Jesus gave us several commandments. His first commandment was to link love of God with love of neighbour in the **Great Commandment**.

"You shall love the Lord your God..."

Loving God certainly involves prayer, praise and worship but to truly love God we need to align our life and action with what God does – he loves all his creation, which is why Jesus linked loving our neighbour and ourselves with loving God. He also made it clear that this was the sole purpose of the whole law and all the teachings of the prophets.

"You shall love your neighbour, as yourself."

From the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus gave us a very broad definition of who our neighbour is and that love means far more than lip service and obeying doctrine and dogma. We also need to love ourselves, which should not be confused with narcissistic self-love, but rather self-respect and making sure that our needs (not our wants) are met, so we are able to help meet the needs of others.

"And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age..."

This relates to Jesus' command at the Last Supper for us to *"do this in memory of me."* The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith, a gift Jesus gave us to become the Body of Christ, his Church, to go out together, through him, with him and in him, to bring God's love to all the world. This is how we love God best. We cannot love God, without loving our neighbour.

From the earliest time there have been key Church practices that relate directly to fulfilling the purpose of Church that Jesus gave us, before he ascended into heaven. If we fail in any one of them, we will not be successful in carrying out his command to make disciples of all nations and rather than growing, we will continue to die as a Church.

The original ancient key practices of Church in Greek are:

Leiturgia – Embracing and loving God in prayer, praise, worship and oneness in a Holy Communion in the Eucharist.

Koinonia – Welcoming all to belong and build up God's family, our Church community.

Didache – Teaching and encouraging Jesus' disciples to love one another as he loves us and obey all he commanded us.

Diakonia – Going out together as the Body of Christ to minister to the needs of those around us and share God's love throughout our wider community.

Kerygma – Sharing the Good News that the kingdom of God is at hand and all are

welcome to live under his reign of love, as disciples of Jesus.
When we look at the gap between where Christ calls us to be, and where the Christian Church is in our affluent West, it is very easy to become disheartened.

I have a wonderful book called “I am with you” by John Wooley. I call it my telephone to God because when I am feeling down (and I remember!) I say a little prayer for guidance and then randomly open the book. The message I get is always highly pertinent to the issue I am facing. And often, when I doubt and I’m locked in my own negative thoughts, a quiet message pops into my head: “Open the book.”

I felt quite disheartened after writing this reflection and was full of doubt. “Really Lord? Is this what you want? Let’s get real here, it’s not going to make any difference. I’m just going to upset people.” Immediately the message popped into my head: “Open the book” and this is what I received:

“I have to teach My followers submission to My will when it is not easy. I have to see their willingness to follow a hard road, and to make sacrifices for My sake.

When I see the submissive heart, I can show the more joyous side of My will - the restful communion with Me, the enjoyment of Myself, My gifts and My world - which I want them to have, because I love them so very much! My influence then cannot help working, and My plans going forward.

To reveal, at the outset, the many rewards of life with Me would produce the wrong motive for acceptance of My will. Only when I see unquestioning obedience, can I then shower My love and peace - and reveal the enjoyment of them as being just as truly My will, as are sacrifice and duty.

***If only My people had a heart which would reverence and obey Me.
(Deuteronomy 5.29)”***

Once again, I was reminded of Jesus’ promise: “*and behold I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*”

Through Jesus, with him and in him, all things are possible.

Over the course of future reflections, I will explore in greater depth how these key practices of Church translate into the world we live in today.

God bless, Des



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is an opportunity to celebrate life.**

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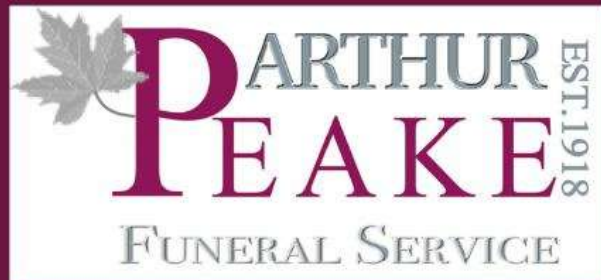
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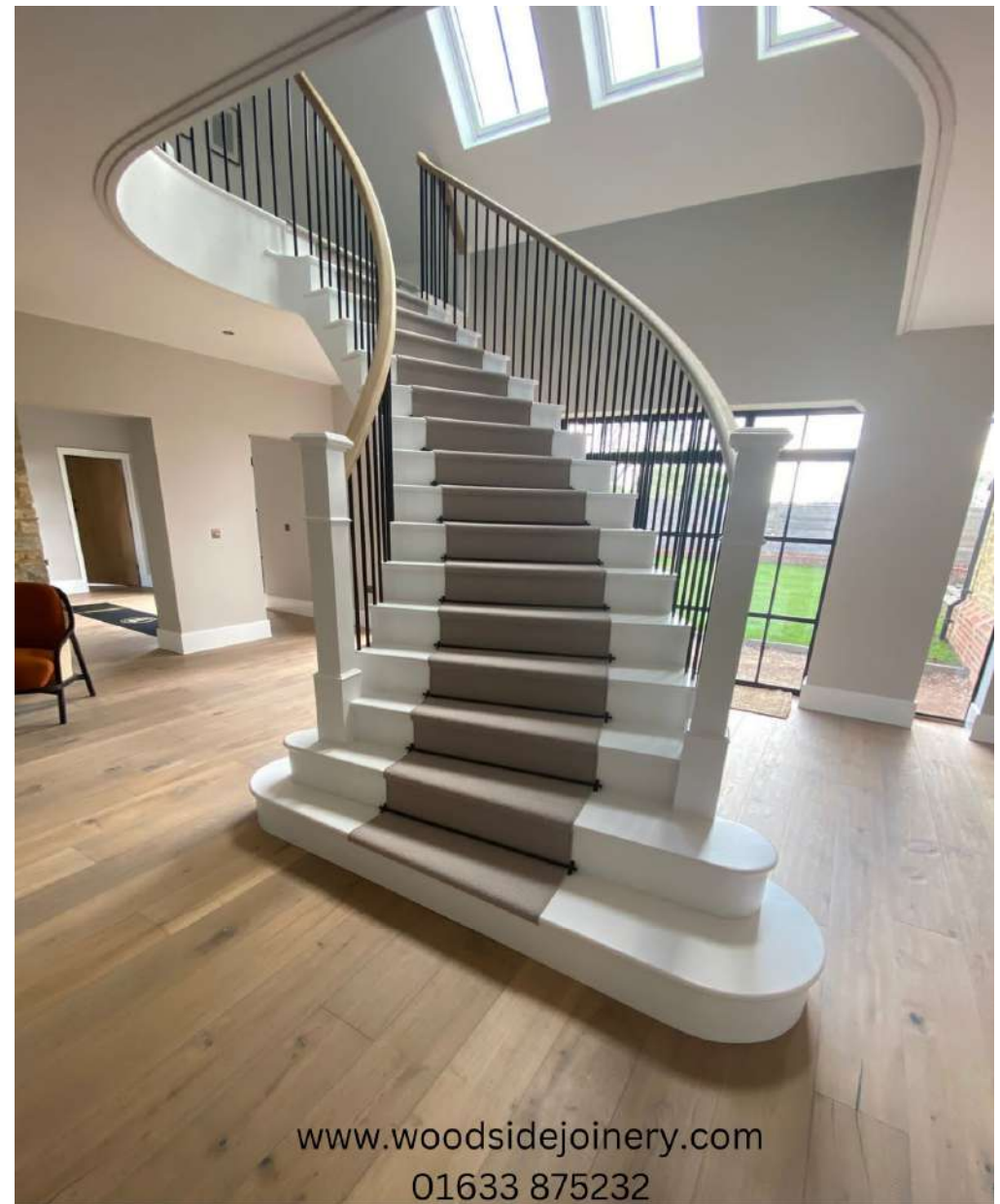
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WOODSIDE
THE STAIR SPECIALISTS

FROM THE REGISTERS

July/August 2025

HOLY BAPTISM

We welcome into the life and fellowship of the Church

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 3rd August | Liepa Davies |
| 9th August | Elora Violet Haran Jones |
| 10th August | Alexander Joshua Freddie Patel |
| 17th August | Charlotte Elizabeth Holmes |
| 23rd August | Edward Matthias Buckley |
| 24th August | Imogen Belle Tapsell |

HOLY MATRIMONY / RENEWAL OF VOWS

We offer our congratulations to the following couples

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 10th August | Ashleigh Alexandra Whiting and Curtis Dipesh Lee Patel, St Cadoc's |
|-------------|--|

FUNERAL

We offer our deepest sympathy to the relatives

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 4th July | Patricia Carol Champion, Gwent Crematorium |
| 8th July | Anthony Edwards, St Cadoc's |
| 10th July | Joy Miriam Anne Blakemore, St Cadoc's |
| 15th July | Margaret Rose Skyrme, St Cadoc's |
| 16th July | Ronald Lyttle, Langstone Vale Crematorium |
| 24th July | Marie Rose Evans, Langstone Vale Crematorium |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 5th August | Joan Hilda Ballinger, St Cadoc's |
| 23rd August | Julia Alice Triterelli, Interment of Ashes, St Cadoc's |

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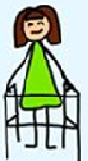
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