

Jesus

The Reason for the Season

Produced and distributed by the members and friends of
St Julian's Baptist Church 35 Beaufort Road, Newport, NP19 7PZ
Tel: 01633 439371 www.sjbaptist.co.uk Registered charity 1148152



The LINK
Community Magazine

Newport Night Shelter 2019—2020

During the coldest winter months, a group of Newport churches open their doors and hearts to welcome in the city's homeless from the streets. We provide a hot supper and drinks, a warm, safe bed for the night, toiletries, breakfast in the morning, and genuine friendship.

Night shelter 2019-20 is up and running.

We are excited once again to be able to provide emergency accommodation to homeless people this winter in partnership with Newport churches.

The first night (26 Nov) got off to an excellent start, with everything going smoothly. Work now starts to find homes for those who we are supporting.

St Julian's Baptist Church are accommodating the homeless on Saturday nights through till the end of January 2019.

Many thanks indeed to all the volunteers, without whom it would not be possible to run the Night Shelter.

Financial donations are also needed
- if you would like to support this work,
visit www.edengate.org.uk

The church is intended to be a place where all can come and worship God, from the youngest child and the coolest teenager, to the oldest adult. We know we cannot be all things to all men, but we can come together as a family and worship Him. As we focus on God, we are changed to be more and more like Him. We seek to touch God's heart and be open to Him so He can speak into our situations as we allow Him to lead us by His Spirit.

We have a deep need of God, and our desire is to learn from Him and follow closer every day. As you would expect, our service regularly includes celebrating communion. This is open to all who know Jesus as their Saviour—members and visitors alike.

Our music is a mix of the old and new. Our aim is to be led by God's Spirit – to be neither particularly contemporary nor traditional but God focused.

After the morning service we have tea and coffee
so we can spend time together as a family.

So please come and share the special time we call 'Church'.





Sundays at

St Julians Baptist Church

You are most welcome to join us any
*
Sunday at 10.30 am

*A time to draw near to God,
For Bible Readings, Prayers,
Songs of Praise and Worship
A time for quiet reflection*

**Groups for children and young people
with stories and activities**

Jesus confirmed that the love of God is to be the very first priority in our lives. He showed us that if we love God and do what He wants for our world, then everything in our lives will fall into perspective. Because of this, worship of God has to be our starting point. As we put God in his rightful place in our lives, our lives become renewed, directed and focused on what is true, right and lovely. Worship of God is therefore fundamental to our life as a church.

Christmas Luncheon Club

Sat 14th December

12.00 for 12.30 pm

Tickets are £5.00

**which will include a 3 course meal
followed by tea or coffee**

Please book in advance

Tel: (01633) 439371

35 Beaufort Rd, Newport www.sjbaptist.com

Nativity Word Search

It's been an exciting year for Just Sing!, the community choir for teenagers that meets to rehearse in the Baptist church. In the spring we performed in front of over 500 people at the first Usk Choral Festival. This was followed by our return to Treadam barn in rural Monmouthshire in May to sing with the gospel choir Soul'd As Seen.



We also perform locally to St. Julians, having a strong link to the primary school and sharing a summer concert with them in July, and with Glyn Anwen residential home where we entertain them from time to time during the year.

This autumn saw our first concert entirely on our own, with a lively mix of pop and show music, beautiful harmonies and many of the choir members performed solo songs too. Next year promises to be exciting with big theatre performances in May and June at the Riverfront and in Cheltenham at the Everyman Theatre there. You can catch us this Christmas singing carols at Tredegar House and in Cwmbran, but especially at the **Candlelit Carol Service** at **St Julian's Baptist Church** on **Sunday 22nd December, at 6.30.**

Just Sing! is open to children from year 7 to 13, and if you'd like to join, please get in touch with Peter Banks.



C	A	N	O	I	T	A	V	L	A	S	D	N	S	H	S
Q	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S	R	F	A	L	L	U
R	A	T	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	T	E	J	S
N	E	M	E	S	I	W	S	H	E	E	P	I	G	O	E
J	G	N	I	K	M	A	R	Y	G	I	U	V	N	S	J
M	O	S	Y	I	H	X	Q	U	R	Q	W	I	A	E	T
D	O	N	K	E	Y	R	E	G	N	A	M	T	D	P	M
Z	I	L	I	N	N	K	E	E	P	E	R	Y	O	H	F



angels
Christmas
donkey
innkeeper
Jesus
Joseph
king
manger
Mary
nativity
salvation
sheep
shepherds
star
wisemen



Christmas lunch

If you will be alone this Christmas and would like some company,
we would be delighted to have you at our **Christmas Lunch**.

Please contact Jan on 01633 678789 for further details.

**Time
Out**

ZOOPERS

Breakfast and After School Club
at St Julian's Baptist Church Hall
Beaufort Rd, Newport, NP19 7PZ

Fun, stimulating and safe Childcare. Pick up and drop off to
St. Julian's Primary School. Children from other schools accepted
although own transport must be provided.



Children aged 3 to 12 years

Registered with CIW



For further information: Lyn and Viv: 07887396455

zoopersafterschoolclub@gmail.com

Christmas Carol Service



By Candlelight,

with Just Sing



and all your favourite Carols

Sunday 22nd December

6:30pm

at St Julian's Baptist Church

Followed by Warm Mince pies,

Mulled Wine, Tea and Coffee



Jubilee Hall update Dec 2019

You could be forgiven for wondering whether our new Jubilee Hall was going to get built after all! We have been saddened and frustrated by the long delay for six months, when the weather was ideal for building. Now our stoic builders are battling against winter weather, but are making really good progress.



During the summer it looked like things had come to a stand still. But a lot of work was going on under the surface. The regrettable hold-up was due to work on diverting a drain which had been running under the old building but was not permitted to remain under the new build. However, after much liaising with Welsh Water and the necessary paperwork being completed we are delighted to see the building going up now at some speed. As we write we are looking forward to the stage when the roof can go on and the winter weather will have less impact on the progress that can be made.



We would like to thank everyone affected by the building project for your patience and hard work as we all try to continue serving the people of our community. Since the old hall came down, groups have been sharing a much smaller space and there has been the

A bike he could sit in, with lights & a hooter,
And behind the tree was a bright yellow scooter.
There were pencils & crayons in bright coloured tins,
Bath bombs & bubbles - so many fun things.

Soft furry slippers with red & blue spots,
And lush new pyjamas - though they already had lots.
They had new bedtime story books - 3 in each pack,
New school bags with straps, which they could carry on their back.
But the Best - & most Precious Gift Ever,
- You won't find in that sack by the bed,
As it's the gift of the dear baby Jesus,
- left for us in that damp cattle shed.

For God himself came down from Heaven,
In the form of a helpless babe,
To be born in a stable cold & damp, for a fallen world He came to save.

So you see Christmas is not about money & presents,
It's not about just having fun, It's about the birth of the baby Jesus,
It's about God's gift to us of His precious Son.

So in all the merriment of Christmas, just take a moment to recall,
Without our priceless gift from God himself,
- There'd be no Christmas day at all.

Our next
Prayer and Communion evening is
Tuesday 7th January at 7pm



Our precious gift - by Kath Jarvis

What was that? - the children said,
Peeking from under the quilt, they'd pulled over their head,
They looked 'round the bedroom, & through sleepy eyes,
There by their beds, their stockings they spied.
They saw a whistle & a cracker poking out of the top,
As they leaped out of their beds with a skip & a hop,
And there by the door, were 3 big red sacks,
One for Lucy, one for Joe, & not forgetting baby Jack's.

They were packed full of goodies & all kinds of toys,
Dolls for the girls & cars for the boys,
With squeals of excitement - they had not a care,
As they tore off the wrapping & tossed it high in the air.

Sparkly hairbands for Lucy, new shin pads for Joe,
And with a new West Ham jersey, off to play football he'd go.
A push or ride donkey - for baby Jack, a teddy that talked
& bricks in a truck.

need for thoughtfulness and cooperation in greater bucket loads than before. And we must mention those who are moving the chairs around every Sunday before and after the services, so that the church sanctuary can be used by groups during the week—thank you.



Perhaps this is a good time to remind ourselves of what the apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the believers in Rome:

'Therefore since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of highest privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory. We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us—they help us learn to endure. And endurance develops strength of character in us, and character strengthens our confident expectation of salvation. And this expectation will not disappoint us. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.'

(Romans 5 v 1-5 New Living Translation)

**A WARM WELCOME AWAITS AT
GLYN ANWEN FOR A CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

Join us in the residents lounge on

Tuesday 17th December

11:00am for tea & coffee

Service at 11:30am

Peter will be selling

Homemade Jams and chutneys

over the **4 Sundays in December**,
so remember to bring some money with you
if you wish to make a purchase.
See Peter for more details.





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SPECIAL
EDITION

YOU'VE
GOT
MAIL

ADVENT

LIGHT LOVE JOY

PEACE HOPE



*As we reflect on the Advent themes and light
the Advent candles we read from the Bible:*

Jesus said: "I am the **LIGHT** of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the **LIGHT** of life." *John 8 v 12*

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living **HOPE** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time." *1 Peter 1 v 3-5*

This is how God showed His **LOVE** among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is **LOVE**: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. *1 John 4 v 9-10*

"Since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have **PEACE** with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." *Romans 5 v 1-2*

The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great **JOY** that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." *Luke 2 v 10-11*

JESUS brings - LIGHT, HOPE, LOVE, PEACE and JOY - if we follow him

WHAT DO YOU MEAN GET DOWN?
YOU SAID I WAS AN ANGEL.



Christmas Savings at Newport Credit Union

Can you imagine having no money worries at Christmas time?

Newport Credit Union's Christmas Savers account
has proved invaluable to members over the years.

You can save as little or as much as you like, as often as
you like, but can only access your savings between
1st November and 31st December each year.

You can have this account alongside a normal share account
and even be running a loan at the same time!

When you make your withdrawal, you receive actual money
rather than the vouchers which other Christmas Clubs offer.



Collection Points—Visit us at St Julian's Baptist Church,
Beaufort Road **-Every Tuesday** (10.30am – 12.00pm)

Newport Credit Union Indoor Market, Upper Dock Street,
Newport, South Wales, NP20 1DD

e: info@newportcreditunion.co.uk t: 01633 214913

NOW I know what Christmas is really all about. Sure, it is about
presents, but it is a time when we choose to celebrate the greatest
present of all, a gift beyond all gifts, a gift from God Himself.!!

It's there in the Bible, Gospel of John chapter 3 verse 16 !!

*"God so loved the world (that's you and me) that He GAVE (gift)
His one and only son (Jesus), that WHOEVER (that's me and you)
believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.!! (Life now
that continues after death) !!*

WOW !! No wonder I can't shut up!!

I decided to accept this wonderful gift from God (It had been there
all the time! but like a cheque, it had to be cashed) So I went to
God in prayer and asked Him to forgive me for living without Him
as my boss, and that I would accept His son Jesus and His
teachings as my guide.

BUT - Turns out that my past life (without God in charge) had a
PENALTY that had to be paid, - but get this! GOD HIMSELF PAID IT
FOR ME!! He allowed His son to pay the ultimate penalty—death!!
So now I have God as my boss and Jesus as my saviour and more!!
(But that's another story).

NOW - AM I SPECIALLY CHOSEN? GOD SAYS "WHOSOEVER" - ITS A
NO-BRAINER! It includes YOU!! So how about it, ..will you accept
Gods gift to you?.. If you do, it will REALLY be Christmas for you!!

Submitted by Frank Wells

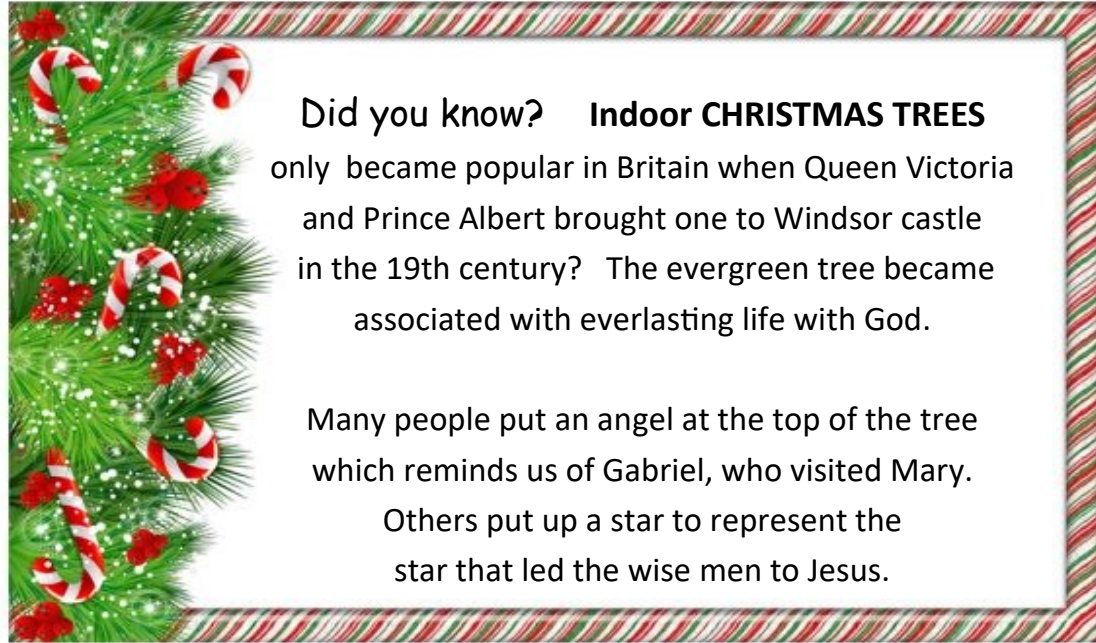


WHY I CANNOT SHUT UP!

The news is amazing!! - that is why I can't shut up!
I couldn't believe it! (Wouldn't, may be nearer the truth).
After serving nineteen years in the forces, contending against religions, whatever they were, I finally had to put a stop to it.
I challenged God (if He was there) to make Himself known to me,
- and He did!! It was startling to say the least!! He knew ALL about me and loved me !! Even a rat bag like me!!

Turned out that because I didn't know Him I had lived a life that suited ME, and that caused sin (going against God's will) to be in my life.

I was gob-smacked to realise that I had no access to God because of this, but also – get this - He loved me so much He had provided a remedy to the situation!!



Did you know? **Indoor CHRISTMAS TREES**
only became popular in Britain when Queen Victoria and Prince Albert brought one to Windsor castle in the 19th century? The evergreen tree became associated with everlasting life with God.

Many people put an angel at the top of the tree which reminds us of Gabriel, who visited Mary.
Others put up a star to represent the star that led the wise men to Jesus.

Men's Breakfast @ **St Julian's Baptist Church**

On the **1st Saturday** of each month we serve a buffet style full English breakfast consisting of egg, bacon, sausage, beans, tomatoes, mushrooms, hash brown, onion rings, toast, juices, tea and coffee.



SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER & SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY 2020

Meeting from **8:30am** for prompt **9am** serving.

Meet other men from all walks of life for an enjoyable friendly experience, discussion and to listen to the guest speaker.

Contact Nick Taylor—Tel Newport 258067 for booking.



A warm welcome awaits you this
Christmas at
St Julian's Baptist Church

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

10:30 AM FAMILY SERVICE

6:30 PM CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE

6:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 AM FAMILY SERVICE

All Christmas offerings will go to Raven House Trust

Merry Christmas