

## Church Family News and Prayers

### **Before all the fuss**

It seems strange when I look back but there was a time before all the fuss, a time when I lived from day to day with no expectations that it would ever be any different. Innocent Mary was what I got called as I was growing up. Mainly to distinguish me from Noisy Mary! And I suppose that I did have an innocent-looking face. An *open* face my mother called it. It made some people think they could tell me a load of old nonsense and I'd believe it. But I wasn't naïve. I knew when I was being put upon. I'd do my part of the work but I expected others to do theirs as well.

So the world turned as it does in a village - day by day with only the smallest differences in routine. Even when we rested on the Sabbath, the rest had an almost identical rhythm to it. And when a proposal was made that I should marry Joseph, it seemed to make sense. A bit of a shock when I first heard it from my parents but Joseph approached life in a way I admired.

Every morning you'd see him getting on with his work, smiling, nodding, sharing a few words but rarely getting distracted. I thought I was saying yes to a safe, simple ordinary life when I accepted that proposal.

Now I come to think back on it, *innocent* is just about the most fitting nickname I could have been given. I had no inkling of what was about to happen.

*Before we leave Christmas behind here's a tiny taste of one to come – an early first jotting for **Christmas Inside Out** due out August 2027.*

**We continue to pray for those members of our Church Family and Friends who are unwell and all those who mourn.**

### **Welcome to Cyncoed Methodist Church**



**part of Cardiff Methodist Circuit**

### **Church Notices for Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Second Sunday of Christmas**

**Stewards: Angela and Heather Bailey**

**9.15am Rev. Cathy Gale – Communion**

### **At Cyncoed Methodist Church**

We are called to tell God's story by living as God's people through:

- Preaching and teaching the gospel
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Outreach in the community
- Responding to opportunities for change

**All inspired by God centred worship and prayer.**

**Minister:**  
**Rev. Cathy Gale**  
Tel: 029 2062 8705  
[gale285@btinternet.com](mailto:gale285@btinternet.com)

**Church Office:** Tel: 029 2039 3439  
**Lesley Meiklejohn**  
**Office Administrator**  
[cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8.30am to 11.30am

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Steward: Sheila Scott**

**10.30am Rev. Cathy Gale – Covenant Service**

**3.00pm Messy Church**



**Informal mid-week Communion**

**There will be no Communion service on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025. The Mid-week Communion will recommence on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026.**

**Cyncoed Church Premises**

**For Out of Hours or Emergency access to the Cyncoed Church Premises, please call Martin on 07849 632 394**

**Please send items for the church notices to the Church Office or email to [cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com) before 5.00pm on Wednesday.**

## **Notices**

**Meet, Eat and Connect** The first Meet, Eat and Connect of 2026 will be held on Saturday 10th January, at 10.00am - 11.30am in the Fellowship Room, Cyncoed Methodist Church. This month our guest speaker will be Julian Salisbury from the Captain Scott Society. The society exists to perpetuate the memory of Captain Scott and his comrades and their association with Cardiff. Join us for this enlightening talk and a light breakfast. All very welcome.