



To know Jesus better, and to make Him better known

Park Avenue, Porthcawl

Registered Charity 1134864



Sunday 11th December 2022

**Onsite services at Park Avenue, led by our Pastor, Rev Martin Gillard
Our Advent Christmas Countdown continues.**

9:30am Sunday club breakfast

10:30am Family Celebration Service

Sermon: The Promise of The Messiah

Bible Reading: Luke 1: 26 - 38

5:00pm Disciples Service

Series Theme: People of Prayer

Today's Sermon Theme: Mary the mother of Jesus

Bible Reading: Luke 1: 39 - 56

Children and young people are encouraged to go out with their leaders to Sunday Club during the second half of the morning service. There are three groups - School Years 1 - 2, 3 - 5 and those in Year 6 and above. Please speak to Natalie our Childrens' worker or Cathryn, CYF Coordinator, if you would like more information.

Refreshments are available at the end of both services.

If you are a visitor to our church, do please sign our visitors' book.

Special Events Coming Up

- **Church Advent prayer meeting** on Tuesday 13th December at 7pm.
- **Christingle & Family Christmas Party** on Friday 16th Dec at 5pm.
- **Christmas Outreach** at the bandstand on Saturday 17th December at 11am.

Diary for the week, 12th to 17th Dec

Monday

Park Avenue (Café)	7pm	House Group
22 Adrian Close	7:30pm	House group

Tuesday

Park Avenue (Café)	9am	Toddlers Toast
Park Avenue (Hall)	10am	Toddlers
Y Centre	10am	Food Bank
22 Adrian Close	10:30am	House group
John Street	11am	"Feet on the Street"
Park Avenue	7pm	Church Advent prayer meeting
19 Birch Walk	7pm	House group

Wednesday

Park Avenue	11am	Traditional Service
Park Avenue	11:45am	Refreshments / Prayer Corner
Park Avenue (Café)	12:15pm	Lunch Club
Park Avenue (Café)	2.30pm	House group
Park Avenue (Café)	7pm	Deacons meeting

Thursday

Y Centre	10am	Food Bank
Park Avenue (Café)	2pm	Warm hub / Craft group

Friday

The Manse	10am	House group
Park Avenue	5pm	Christingle & Family Christmas Party

Saturday

Bandstand	11am	Christmas outreach
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Sunday 18th Christmas Jumper Sunday!

Park Avenue	10:30am	Sunday Club Nativity
Park Avenue	5pm	Carols by Candlelight

Prayer Needs

Those Unwell at Home: Dilwyn and Ann Jones; Hilary Oatridge; Jeff Harber; Terry Needs; Lynda Edwards; Joanne Hopkins, Pat Habberley; Alan Lee; Rita Morris; Jane Powell; Ann Eley; Leanne Evans.

Those in Residential Care: Ann Thomas (Picton Court); Doug Davies; Pat Eales; Diane Sheppard; Ann Lewis (Monkstone House); Beryl Surringer (Newton Care Home); Carole Vanden Branden (Breaksea).

Other announcements:

Christmas Leaflets. Please help us make our Christmas celebrations better known by taking invitations and passing them on. Thank you.

During Advent we prepare for Jesus' birth and also anticipate Jesus returning again. As you enter Gilgal, you will see a Christmas tree, where you will be able to place a gift tag containing your prayers for this Advent season. Prayers of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. Prayers celebrating new life, when someone accepts Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

Church Advent prayer meeting: Tuesday 13th December at 7pm. An opportunity to pray through the prayers from the tree and to open our hearts to receive Jesus - *Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!* (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Every Thursday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm the café will be open as a warm hub / craft group, everyone is welcome.

Christingle Service & Christmas Family Party: Friday 16th December. This event is for the whole Gilgal family, not just the children! The food will be on a Bring & Share basis, so please sign the sheet on the café notice board to indicate what you will be bringing.

Christmas Outreach at the bandstand on Saturday 17th December at 11am. We need 20 carol singers. We need 10 scripture readers. We need many tract distributors. We need your prayers and your support.

Preloved toys: We are looking for good condition toys, any size, but some small as well that can be used as stocking fillers. If people also have Christmas stockings that would be amazing, or even never used working batteries that would be really helpful. The plan is to have a selection of things here for Toddlers or families on a Sunday morning, as well as be able to take things to Foodbank to help any parents that may be struggling and access that service. On a Tuesday morning, this will be laid out in the Sanctuary from 9-10 during the Toddlers' tea and toast session and is a free bring-and-share gift idea (no payment required).

Gilgal Christmas cards - Once again we encourage you to give one Christmas card to cover everyone in the fellowship at Gilgal. Please place it on the string in the café area and the money that you save from giving lots of cards would be greatly welcomed in our building fund if you feel able. Thanks in advance for your continued generosity.

Worship group: Next monthly meeting is on Saturday 7th January 2023 from 9.30 - 11am, which will include practice of songs for the following day.

Can you help? The redevelopment of our building has cost us nearly £600,000. We need to raise a further £11,000 to complete all our payments for this work. If you are able to make a gift, large or small, to the Building Fund please speak with our Treasurer, John Hornsby. Thanks to those who have already given, we have almost reached our target! Any excess will go towards necessary repairs or further improvements.

Small Group Meetings: We are planning a refresh of our Home Groups and Bible Study/Prayer Groups beginning in January. If you would like to join a small group to discuss the bible, share in prayer and enjoy Christian fellowship please sign up on the sheets in the entrance foyer. **We also plan to offer a group on Zoom for those unable to attend 'in person'.**

Sunday Club – Help needed: Do you have a passion for encouraging children in their faith? We are looking for a couple more people to join the Sunday Club team. Please speak to either Cathryn or Natalie if you are interested.

Foodbank Collection Point: There is now a box in the cafe for donations and we would appreciate any of the following items: tinned meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, custard, rice pudding, flavoured noodles, small jars of coffee or instant hot chocolate, and toiletries. Or if preferred, you can give a financial donation to John or Margaret Hornsby or Alison Armstrong. Thanks for your faithfulness serving the Lord in Gilgal and our community.

Recycling Printer Cartridges - Thank you to those who have regularly given me their empty printer cartridges. I sent a large number away recently and we have earned Gilgal nearly £30. We now have a box in church, next to the Food Bank collection point, where you can leave your cartridges. I hope we can keep filling it up! Many thanks. Hazel.

Use of Premises: Please email Alison Farrow with any booking requests for the hall, church, or café - alison.farrow@hotmail.co.uk

Baptism Classes will be starting in January. If you would like to know more about obeying the command of Jesus to be baptised as a believer by full immersion please speak with our Pastor.

Church directory additions: Ian & Judith Howells, 2 Melton Drive Bridgend CF31 3ET

Ian's email: ianhowells54@gmail.com mobile: 07512 154843

Judith's email: judithhowells098@gmail.com mobile: 07896 562402

Lorna Willmer, 4 Fenton Place Porthcawl CF36 3DW

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