

— OUR RESOURCES —

Our Benefice has two superb churchyards



and one beautiful community garden.



These are wonderful and special places that:

- ✚ are important for archaeology and history
- ✚ provide a tranquil place for private reflection and memorial
- ✚ contain a rich diversity of plant & animal life
- ✚ have distinctive and veteran trees
- ✚ stonework provides a home for mosses, ferns and lichens
- ✚ are a resource for community learning for all who love nature, history and ecology

— OUR CHALLENGE —

Our churchyards have heavy costs associated with them, including:

- ✚ **Grass cutting** (over £1000 a month)
- ✚ **Major works this year**
 - St. Martin's new garden of remembrance (£14,000—begins October)
 - St. Ilan's lych gate repair work (£10,000—completed)
- ✚ **Projects next year**
 - Survey of all trees for required remedial action

And continuous smaller jobs – like pruning trees and remedial work on gravestones.

We depend on donations and fees to cover these costs, but to date, we are over £6000 in deficit on our Churchyard fund.

— HOW YOU CAN HELP —

Please consider giving a gift directly to the churchyard fund. This could be by:

- ✓ one-off donation – by cash, cheque or electronic payment to the Benefice
- ✓ standing order - monthly or annually
- ✓ gift Aid it (if you pay tax) - giving 25% more to the Church
- ✓ volunteering with one of the gardening or maintenance teams



Benefice of Eglwysilan & Caerphilly

GIVING

*Sowing generously
in God's Acre*



EGLWYSILAN & CAERPHILLY

IMPAC

TOGETHER WE SERVE GOD, CREATION & COMMUNITY

-- WHAT WE ALREADY DO THANKS TO YOU --

We are working towards making our church grounds havens for wildlife including:

- ✓ insect friendly planting
- ✓ various wildlife housing
- ✓ wildlife feeding stations

Through our existing efforts we have already been presented with various awards:

St. Andrew's community garden

- ✓ Green Flag award

St. Martin's churchyard and gardens

- ✓ Wales in Bloom "Its Your Neighbourhood"
- ✓ Green Flag award
- ✓ A Rocha UK Eco-Church Bronze award



ECO CHURCH

We are also passionate about caring for God's Acre in other ways, including our new Benefice recycling scheme - aluminium, crisp packets, toothpaste products and much more (please see separate flyer for more details).

Thanks to your giving we:

- ✓ have two churchyards that are open for interments
- ✓ maintain monthly grass cutting contracts
- ✓ have repaired the lych gate in St Ilan's church this year (H&S issues)

Thanks to your volunteering we:

- ✓ have monthly gardening groups in St. Martin's and St. Andrew's
- ✓ have a team who investigate the safety of the grounds and headstones
- ✓ hold annual creation-focused worship and events
- ✓ undertake surveys for pruning needs

As you can imagine, a huge amount of effort goes in to make this happen and we are extremely grateful to all those who have given their time or money toward seeing the flourishing of our grounds.



-- FUTURE PLANS --

In the near future we have plans to:

- ✓ achieve Eco-Church awards for all our Benefice churches
- ✓ Care for our new hedge at St. Martin's— donated by LINC housing association.

-- REMEMBRANCE GARDEN --

We also have plans to develop a new Garden of Remembrance at St. Martin's which is very close to its full capacity of interment plots. To ensure we can allow future generations to remember their departed loved ones in St. Martin's we urgently need to undertake this work.



Current plans are to develop an area on the original Capel Martin foundations. This will start in October - for more information, speak to one of the clergy or Benefice wardens.

Revised September 2020

OUR IMPACT & CARE FOR GOD'S EARTH