

LLANISHEN PARISH PROFILE



St Isan's

The beautiful Parish Church of St. Isan is set in the heart of Llanishen village in the north of Cardiff. The present church was built on previous church foundations going back to the 12th century. It all began in 537 A.D. when a pupil monk named "Isan" established a religious settlement or "Llan" at "The Oval", Llandennis Road.

Later, in 1080, Tewkesbury Abbey established St. Mary's Church and a Priory in Cardiff and Llanishen church was built as one of the "chapels of ease" to service the tiny hamlet of Llanishen.

In 1958, to accommodate the growing population of Llanishen, the daughter church of St. Faith was built in Morris Avenue. This is a relatively modern multi-purpose building with office space.

Both churches have space for hire for local activity groups and events.



St Faith's

Today Llanishen is a popular and thriving suburb within the city of Cardiff. The old parish boundaries extended northwards to Capel Gwyllym and southwards to Maes y Coed road where it met the boundary of the parish of Christchurch. To the east it had a winding boundary that extended south to Rhyd y Pennau road taking in the Llanishen and Lisvane reservoirs where its boundary met Lisvane parish. To the west the parish extended to Caerphilly Road sharing a boundary with the parish of Whitchurch.

In 2021, as part of a national reorganisation of church administration, the parishes of Llanishen, Lisvane and Christchurch were brought together to form the North Cardiff Ministry Area.

In April 2022, Elaine Jenkyns was appointed the vicar of both churches. Looking ahead to her new role, Elaine said "I'm excited about working alongside my new colleagues in the North Cardiff MA, and seeing what God has in store for us. It is a great time to be joining the Ministry Area in this early stage of its formation. Llanishen is where my husband grew up, and we have a lot of family still living there who have been baptised and married in St Isan's. So, I already know it is a wonderful place, and that there are a lot of people in St Faith's and St Isan's who really work hard to reach out to the community.

I'm really looking forward to meeting new people – those who already come to church, and those who don't yet know just how much Jesus loves them."

There are usually 3 Sunday morning services, two at St. Isan – 8.00am, 10.30am and one at 9.00am at St. Faith's. Evensong is occasionally held at St Isan's. Baptisms are held weekly either during the main 10.30 Sunday service or shortly after at 12:20pm. They can be held at other times by special arrangement. The church is also very popular for weddings.

Attendance figures are generally good although variable – approx 30 at the 8.00am service, 100 at the 10.30 am service and 20 at Evensong. St. Faiths church serves a small but consistent number of regular worshippers approximately 20 in number.

The make-up of the congregation is spread across all age ranges and there are a number of young families attending church with their children. The church has an active PCC, and many teams of volunteers. The volunteer teams include bell ringers, choir members, servers, acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, welcomers, Holy dusters, flower arrangers and churchyard gardeners. The church also opens one day a week for visitors, depending on the availability of volunteers. All these people present a warm and friendly welcome to those who enter our church or pass through the churchyard.

All activities and groups are inspired, established and coordinated by the Vicar. Her own ministry to those preparing for confirmation and marriage, funerals and the families of those recently bereaved, initial contact with Baptism candidates and much more, seen and unseen, ensures that we are a thriving, growing, outreaching church. We offer a warm friendly welcome to all members of the community and have established good relationships with other churches, local businesses, community police and local councillors.

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