



An Historic Sketch of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr (undated)

Six special services will be held here each year details of which will be displayed on the porch Notice Board, the parish web site at www.garmon-pilgrimage-church.blogspot.co.uk/ and emailed to pilgrim supporters.

If you wish to receive news of services and events please complete the address card at the back of the Church and leave it in the Wall Box or send the card to the Vicar of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF ST. GARMON Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr

Donations towards the on-going upkeep of this Church will be gratefully received. Please use the Wall Box, and if you are an UK Taxpayer please use the Gift Aid Envelope as the Diocese can claim a further 25% from HMRC without any cost to you.

Compiled by Arthur Tyerman Revised March 2014



THE PREACHING STONE AT ST. GARMON'S LLANARMON MYNYDD MAWR

said to have been used by St. Germanus of Auxerre to preach to the gathered crowd during his Crusade in the area circa 5th Century A.D.

THE CHURCH OF ST. GARMON, LLANARMON MYNYDD MAWR

The Church of St. Garmon is in the Diocese of St. Asaph of the Church in Wales, and was one of the Grouped Parishes of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant. It was closed for worship on 2nd February 2014 but continues to remain open as a place of prayer for all to visit, having been designated as a Pilgrimage Church by the Diocese of St. Asaph and the Representative Body of Church in Wales.

It is not recorded when the present Church was built, or by whom, but Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr is considered to be one of the "ancient parishes" of Denbighshire, and in early times, was a chapel of ease to the mother church of 'Llanrhaiadr', its original dedication being St. Germanus, and until 1720 the baptisms, marriages and burials were recorded in the registers of that church. They have since been kept separately.

The church was mentioned in the Lincoln Taxation of 1291, was restored in 1886, was in the County of Denbighshire until 1974, in Clwyd from 1974, and is now in Powys, following boundary revisions in 1996.

When Civil Registration was introduced (on 1 July 1837), the parish of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr was assigned to the No. 3 ("Llanrhaeadr") sub-district of the Llanfyllin Registration District, which was co-extensive with the Llanfyllin poor law Union. Records show that the population was *1164 in 1831 and 112 in 1901, and the area of the parish was given as **2218 acres.

For those interested in tracing family history it may be helpful to know that the Parish Registers for Baptisms (1695 - 1987), Marriages (1699 - 1923) and Burials (1695 - 1989) have been deposited at the Denbighshire Record Office, Ruthin, and may be viewed on microfilm at the Denbighshire, Flintshire and Powys Record Offices, and at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. These microfilms are not available elsewhere.

Clwyd Family History Society has published full transcriptions of the registers (complete with indexes) for Baptisms (1681 - 1812), Marriages (1683 - 1812) and Burials (1681 - 1812), and this publication is on display at the back of the church.

Around the year 1951, most of the Bishop's Transcripts which had been deposited at that time were microfilmed, and those for the years 1672 - 1850 have been deposited in the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, and may also be viewed at the Denbighshire and Flintshire Record Offices, and are available on request at Family History Centres. In general, the Bishop's Transcripts are less complete than the parish registers.

The burial ground which surrounds the church is owned by Powys County Council, is in the care of the Llanrhaeadr Community Council, and information about burials can be obtained from the Parish Clerk, Mrs Pat Jones at **01691 656578**

*1 Royal Commission on the Welsh Church - October 1907]

**2 Archdeacon Thomas [The History of the Diocese of St. Asaph , 1908-1913, Ven. D.R. Thomas]

LLANARMON MYNYDD MAWR, also called "Llanarmon Fach."

The notes which follow are extracted from a History of Denbighshire

The church, St. Garmon, is very small, consisting of a chancel and nave, with a north vestry, south porch and western bell gable; it was restored beyond recognition in 1886, under the care of Mr. W. H. Spaul of Oswestry, at a cost of £630. The old font bowl (of 1717) was a stoup, now in the vestry; a new one was given by the builder, Mr. Pardo the cover of which is dated 1723; the two Glastonbury chairs were worked by Mr. J. Humphreys, from the old oak in the church.

The Communion plate consists of a silver cup and paten, with the date-letter for 1770-1, and a pewter paten. The cup was stolen some years ago, and found at a farm house in Llangurig, where it was recognised by the inscription, " Deo et Capellæ de Llanarmon M.M. D.D. Pryceus Maurice arm. A.D. MDCCLXXI." The paten is inscribed, " Deo et Capellæ de Llanarmon M.M. D.D. Guil. Worthington A.D. MDCCLXXI."

The services, in 1750, were twice on Sunday in the summer, and once in the winter. The Vestry Book contains an interesting presentment, in which the parishioners, assembled 27th September, 1826, complain that - "The young generation are never catechised, that only four or five can read the Bible in Welsh, and that the sacrament is administered only once in three months; they undertake to raise the value of the living £60 to £80 or more, if they may have a resident Incumbent, and Morning and Evening Services; and they especially wish for the appointment of the Rev. Isaac Hughes, a former Curate, but would gladly accept any one the Bishop would appoint"

This parish is included as one of the ancient *capelle* to Llanrhaiadr, in both the *Lincoln Taxatio* of 1291 and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535. The district immemorially attached to it embraces an area of 2,218 acres. The tithes have always belonged to the Vicar of Llanrhaiadr, by whom, or his curate, the cure has been served. Their commuted value is £133, and £6 to the parish clerk. Three benefactions of .£200 each, which fell to it by lot in 1731, 1751 and 1809, were invested respectively in a tenement in Llanrhaiadr, called "Vicarage Fach," 13 acres, let at £58 per annum; and one in Llangynog, called " Nant yr Hen Glawdd," 19 acres, let at £22 per annum. The last benefaction was invested in the Board of Queen Anne's Bounty, and produces £6 5s. Od. per annum, and there is a charge of £10 on the vicarial tithe rent-charge.

The interest of two benefactions, of £10 and £5 each, was distributed in 1742. The last, however, was lost through the insolvency of the holder of it; and the other is probably included in the Llanrhaiadr list, in which the inhabitants of this district have a common share. In 1868, Mr. John Williams of Penystryd, left by Will the interest of £100 (minus legacy duty £10) to be applied to a school for the education of the poor, or if there be no school, for annual distribution; vested in 1891 in the official trustee, and producing £2 15s Od. Per annum.

CURATES AND PERPETUAL CURATES.

1317. Dns. Madoc, Capellanus de Lla'irmon.	18... Hughes, Isaac.
1682 Bray, John.	18... Williams, William Edmund.
1745 Lloyd, David.	1850 Jones, Edward, B. A.
1748 Edwards, Thomas, B.A.	1867 Jones, Thomas.
1758 Jones, Hugh.	1868 Jones, John.
1811 Jones, William Allen.	1881 James, Thomas.