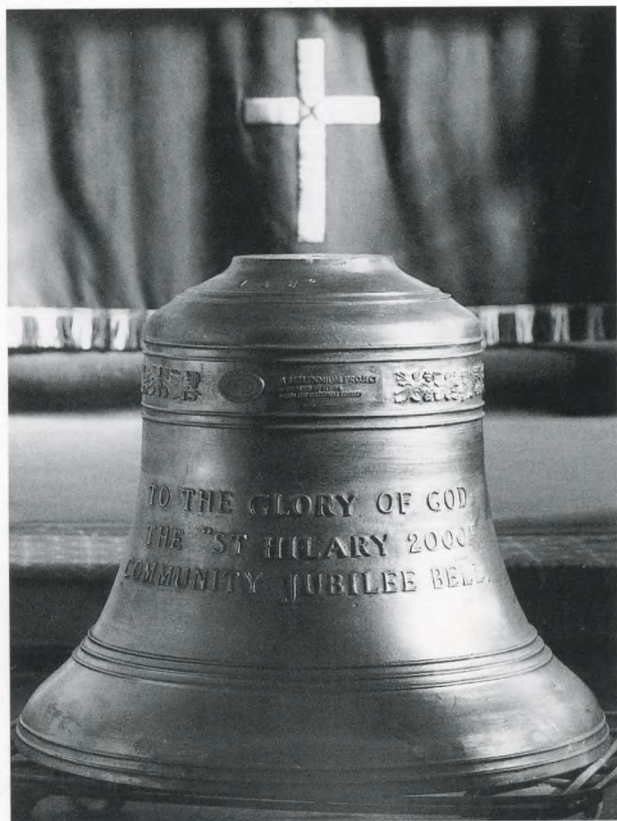


ORDER OF SERVICE



*The Dedication of
the 'Saint Hilary 2000' Community Jubilee Bell
by the Archbishop of Wales
20th March 1999*

Foreword

On behalf of the Rector and Parish of Cowbridge and the Vicar and wardens of St. Hilary, we extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today.

The fine fourteenth century tower of this ancient church has housed bells at least since 1734 when Abraham Rudhall cast four bells, two of which are still extant. Interestingly, these bell were recorded as being rung at the re-opening of the church in 1862, following a major re-ordering by George Gilbert Scott. "*The Cardiff and Merthyr Guardian*" of May 10, 1862 reported that:

"The Church was re-opened for divine service last Friday week. The weather was exceedingly fine, and it was evident on approaching the pleasant village of St. Hilary, that a lively interest filled the breasts of the inhabitants. The bells rung peals from early morning and at intervals throughout the day, and flags, which were kindly lent for the purpose by Capt. Dornford, R.N., of Cardiff, decorated the tower."

Forty-four years later, in 1906 Mrs T M (Florence) Franklen was to make some diary notes.

"March 14. The bells returned plus the new one - we saw them all over the grass and Taylor's man is here.

March 19. Mother's 85th birthday. The bells have just been put up in the church tower, and a peal was rung this evening for the first time, in honour of Mother's birthday and it sounded very well.

Easter Sunday. Our dedication service. The Bishop, Mr Hughes, Mr Edmondes, the Archdeacon..... Service at 3 - procession round the church, all eating in school. All very successful."

Today we celebrate the completion of Taylor's scheme begun in 1906, with the installation of a new treble bell to mark the beginning of the forthcoming Christian Millennium; and we give thanks for all those who have served this church and community before us. The Archbishop of Wales has kindly agreed to join us and dedicate the new bell and re-dedicate the other bells.

Please keep this booklet as a souvenir of the day.

The 'St. Hilary 2000' community association, who have given the bell and funded the restoration of the existing bells, wish to thank the following organisations for their generous financial support:

The Millennium Commission

The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust

The Alan Evans Memorial Trust

The Manifold Trust

Garfield Weston Foundation

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

*Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association
of Church Bell Ringers*

Cowbridge Benefice Bell Ringers.