

**These churches are taking part in
Open Church Day on Saturday 17th September 2011**

Llandenny, St John, Apostle and Evangelist (SO 4151 0393, [NP15 1DL](#))



Possibly Norman in origin, this church was embellished in all the following architectural periods, and the Victorians altered it very little, only adding a vestry and stripping the plaster from the walls. Although the rood screen and loft have

disappeared, the rood stair survives intact. There is a medieval altar slab mounted on a Victorian base, and a font dated 1661.

Open Sat 17th September, 9am-5.30pm

Llanfapley, St Mabli (SO 3668 1407; [NP7 8SL](#))



St Mabli's church goes back to at least the 9th century and its dedication is unique. There is a Norman font, but the earliest surviving part of the building is the Early English chancel, with the two

lights of its east window surmounted by a cinquefoil. The tower is slightly later, with the line of an earlier, higher nave roof visible on its east side. In the later Middle Ages, the nave was rebuilt in Perpendicular style and the tower was heightened.

Open Sat 17th September, 10am - 6pm

Abergavenny, St Mary (Monk Street: SO 3010 1413, [NP7 5ND](#))



A Benedictine priory was founded here before 1100, and the church also served the parish. The present building was constructed mainly between the end of the 13th century and the end of the 14th century, but was extensively rebuilt by the

Victorians. The church contains 15th century choir stalls and the most important collection of medieval sculpture in Monmouthshire, including a rare Jesse tree in wood. Open Mon to Sat 11.00am to 3.00pm; Sun 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Cwmyoy, St Martin (SO 2992 2335; [NP7 7NA](#))



The remarkable church at Cwmyoy contains examples of almost all architectural styles from the 12th century onwards, but the main influence on its appearance has been the local geology. The building was constructed on

unstable ground and subsidence has caused it to warp and twist. There is a medieval carved stone crucifix and a collection of delightful naïve 18th century memorials by the Black Mountains Brute family of monumental masons. Open Sat 17th September all day

Llanthony, St David (SO 2885 2782, [NP7 7NN](#))



An Augustinian priory was founded at Llanthony around 1118. The present parish church at Llanthony, dedicated to St David, was probably created out of the priory's infirmary and its chapel after the Dissolution,

and the Norman architecture of the original structure still figures largely in the building. The seven-bay nave roof with windbraces is the only one of its kind in a South Wales church. There is a fine collection of post-medieval memorial tablets. You can also see the ruins of the priory church and other buildings around the cloister, on the opposite site of the road.

Open Sat 17th September all day

Llangattock Lingoed, St Cadoc (SO 3616 2007, [NP7 8LW](#))



Many Gwent churches were extensively rebuilt in the Perpendicular style towards the end of the Middle Ages, and Llangattock is a fine example of one of medium size. When the church was restored a few years

ago, the exterior was limewashed, and a medieval painting of St George was uncovered inside. The carved beam across the east end of the nave once supported the rood loft, and there are Jacobean box pews. Open Sat 17th September all day



Llanfair Cilgoed, St Mary (Cross Ash: SO 391193, [NP7 8NS](#))



This small church was built in 1842-3 to a design by R H Evins, a surveyor from Abergavenny, with modifications by Thomas Wyatt. There is a western bellcote, and the porch is at the west end too. Next door to the church is the site of a medieval chapel of a grange that belonged to the Cistercian Abbey Dore in Herefordshire, but nothing now remains. Open Sat 17th September all day

Grosmont, St Nicholas (ST 4046 2430, [NP7 8LW](#))



This magnificent church is now too big for the population of Grosmont, who use only the chancel and transepts, but once it was the parish church for one of the Three Castles. This accounts for the fine

architecture, mainly Early English, but with a Decorated tower and porch. In the 1860s it was in danger of collapse, but was beautifully restored by J P Seddon.

Open Sat 17th September all day

Skenfrith, St Bridget (SO 4561 2034, [NP7 8UH](#))



The architecture reflects the fact that this was the parish church for another of the Three Castles. The core of the church had been built by the end of the 13th century, but the north aisle was remodelled in the 14th century, and the south one in

the 15th/16th century along with the chancel and chapel. A date of 1661 on the timbers of the south aisle is a record of a later overhaul. Contains Jacobean carved box-pews, and a medieval embroidered cope.

Open Sat 17th September 11am -5pm

Outside the Open Church weekend, **Cwmyoy, Grosmont, Llanfair Cilgoed, Llangattock Lingoed, Llanthony and Skenfrith** are all open all day, every day. **Llandenny** is open 9.00am-5.30 pm every day. **Abergavenny** is open Mon to Sat 11am to 3pm; Sun 2pm to 4pm. **Llanfapley** is open weekend, 10am-6pm

OPEN THE WEEKEND OF 10TH-11 SEPTEMBER

Monmouth, St Mary's Priory (SO 5088 1297; [NP25 3NX](#))



Originally constructed at the beginning of the 12th century, the Benedictine priory church of St Mary was also the parish church of Monmouth. Only the W wall of the nave and the bottom of the tower survive from the Middle Ages; the

spire was added in the 18th century by the Worcester architect Nathaniel Wilkinson. The rest of the church was substantially rebuilt in 1881-2 (architect G E Street). Open Sat 10th and Sun 11th September 2.00-5.00pm

Why not visit these churches in southern Gwent:

Llanedeyrn, St Edeyrn (ST 2205 8199 [CF3 6YA](#)). Open Sat 17th September 10am - 4pm

Llanfrecifa, All Saints (ST 3204 9363 [NP44 8DQ](#)) Open Sat 17th September 2 - 5pm

Bassaleg, St Basil (ST 2774 8712; [NP10 8ND](#)) Open Sat 17th September, morning only

Trevethin, Pontypool, St Cadoc (SO 2838 0202 [NP4 8JF](#)) Open Sat 17th September 10.00am - 4pm

Llanfair Discoed, St Mary (ST 4463 9242 [NP16 6LY](#)) Open Sat 17th, 10.00am - 5.00pm

St Michael and All Angels, Llanfihangel Rogiet (ST 4511 8786 [NP26 3UR](#)) Sat 17th & Sun 18 Sep 11am - 5pm (restricted access 2.30-3.30)

Portskewett, St Mary (ST 4989 8810 [NP26 5SG](#)) Open Sat 17th September, 10:00am - 4:00pm

Open every day:

Llangwm Uchaf, St Jerome (SO 4329 0055 [NP15 1HA](#))

Tintern Parva, St Michael (ST 5314 0075 [NP16 6SJ](#))

Undy, St Mary the Virgin (ST 4399 8693 [NP26 3EN](#))

Magor, St Mary (ST 4253 8692 [NP26 3HJ](#))

Redwick, St Thomas (ST 4121 8413 [NP26 3DE](#))

Please note that postcodes links are as provided by the individual churches. Those using in-car GPS should note that postal districts can be quite large, especially in rural areas.



Diocese of Monmouth

Churches to visit Northern Gwent 2011



St Mary's Priory church, Monmouth

Produced by the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust
ggat.org.uk

The churches in this leaflet are registered with Churches
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<http://www.ctnw.co.uk/ocd08/databased/>