

Road Directions to St Gwladys'

From the M4 at Junction 28.

1. At the roundabout, take the 3rd exit (RIGHT) onto the A467. **Signposted Risca, Brynmawr**
2. At the next roundabout (approx 1 mile) take the 3rd exit(half RIGHT) onto the dual-carriageway. **Signposted Risca, Brynmawr.**
3. After about 2 miles, at the roundabout, take the 1st exit (AHEAD) onto the A467. **Signposted Brynmawr**
4. After ¾ mile, at the roundabout, take the 2nd exit (AHEAD) onto the A467. **Signposted Brynmawr**
5. After a further 2¼ miles, at Full Moon Roundabout, take the 2nd exit (half RIGHT) onto the B4051. **Signposted Wattsville**
6. After 4 miles, at Gelligroes Roundabout, take the 1st exit (LEFT) uphill onto the A472. **Signposted Ystrad Mynach.**
7. At the top of the hill at the Crown Roundabout, take the 3rd exit (RIGHT) onto the A4049. **Signposted Rhymney**
8. At Bryn Roundabout, take the 1st exit (half LEFT) onto the A4049. **Signposted Rhymney**
9. After 1 ½ miles, at traffic signals continue STRAIGHT on.
10. At next set of traffic signals, again continue straight on for a further 1 ½ miles approx
11. At the roundabout, take the 1st exit (LEFT) downhill.
12. At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit (RIGHT) onto the A469. **Signposted Bargoed.**

On a wet day

1. At roundabout in the valley bottom, take the 1st exit (LEFT). Road climbs over the railway line and enters the south end of the town around a sharp bend to the RIGHT. Stay on the major road.
2. After entering the town centre you will arrive at a triangular area (known as The Square – this is Bargoed). You may be invited to turn LEFT (onto WOOD STREET) at the apex of the triangle. Unless the road ahead is actually closed at this point, ignore the invitation and turn to the RIGHT downhill.
3. Just beyond the bend to the LEFT, there is a large public house to the LEFT of the road. Carry on past this over the summit of the rise.
4. After 300 yards, the road forks. Take the LEFT fork. This is HEOLDDU ROAD.
5. Turn RIGHT into the car park. If you then climb the steps onto CHURCH PLACE, St Gwladys' Church is on your RIGHT after 20 yards.

Alternatively, if the weather is fine and dry

- At the roundabout in the valley bottom, take the 2nd Exit (STRAIGHT ON) up the rise to the next roundabout.
- At this roundabout, take the 2nd exit (half LEFT) onto St GWLADYS' WAY.
- After 80 yards, on the mini roundabout, take the 2nd exit (half LEFT) into the car park.
- St Gwladys' Church is immediately above and in front of you.

From the M4 at Junction 32 (Coryton)

1. Keep in the Left-most lane, avoiding the traffic lights to merge into the A470. **Signposted Merthyr Tydfil, A470, Cardiff.**
2. After 2.7 miles, take exit slip road for A468 onto roundabout, then take the 3rd exit (RIGHT) from the roundabout. **Signposted Caerphilly.**
3. At the top of the hill, (Penrhos roundabout) take the 2nd exit (half LEFT) onto the A468. **Signposted Newport, Caerphilly.**
4. At Trecenydd roundabout, take the 2nd exit (STRAIGHT ahead) onto the A468. **Signposted Newport, Caerphilly.**
5. At Pwllypant roundabout, take the 2nd exit (LEFT) onto the A469. **Signposted Ystrad Mynach.**
6. After 600 yards (Coedybrain roundabout) take the 2nd exit (half-RIGHT) onto the A469. **Signposted Ystrad Mynach.**
7. After 1 mile, at the roundabout, take the 2nd exit (STRAIGHT ahead) onto the A469. **Signposted Ystrad Mynach.**
8. After 1 ¼ miles, at the roundabout take the 2nd exit (STRAIGHT ahead) onto the A469. **Signposted Ystrad Mynach, Bargoed.**
9. After ½ mile, at the roundabout take the 2nd exit (STRAIGHT ahead) onto the A469. **Signposted Bargoed, Rhymney.**
10. After ½ mile, at the roundabout take the 3rd exit (half RIGHT) onto the A469. Tesco's Ystrad Mynach store to the left of the road. **Signposted Bargoed.** Between this and the next roundabout, you will pass underneath the Hengoed railway viaduct (now a cycle track).
11. After ½ mile, at the roundabout take the 2nd exit (STRAIGHT ahead) onto the A469. **Signposted Bargoed.**
12. After 1 ½ miles, at the traffic signals continue STRAIGHT ahead up the hill. **Signposted Bargoed.**
13. Uphill from Pengam. Lewis boys school to the RIGHT of the road, sports pitches to the LEFT
14. At crown of hill, there are traffic lights at a crossroads – STRAIGHT ON.
15. Road passes over the River Rhymney and rises to a roundabout on the crown of the hill
16. STRAIGHT ON (1st exit) at the roundabout. Road descends into the valley bottom.
17. At the roundabout in the valley bottom, take the 2nd Exit (STRAIGHT ON) up the rise to the next roundabout.
18. At this roundabout, take the 2nd exit (half LEFT) onto St GWLADYS' WAY.
19. After 80 yards, on the mini roundabout, take the 2nd exit into the car park.
20. St Gwladys' Church is immediately above and in front of you.

From the Heads of the Valleys Road (A465)

1. Leave the A465 at the junction for the A469. **Signposted Bargoed, Rhymney**
2. At the top of the exit slip road, you will be at a mini-roundabout. The significant landmark here is the Twisted Chimney. Take the 2nd exit, A469, (to the Right of the chimney) downhill.
Signposted Bargoed, Pontlottyn, Butetown
3. You will pass the hamlet of Butetown on your LEFT after 100 yards.
4. At the roundabout at the bottom of the hill, carry straight on (2nd exit). Ironically (given that it is the main road) there are no signposts on this exit.
5. Continue on the main road over a summit for about a mile. You will enter the village of Pontlottyn. **Stay on the main road through the village, deviating neither to the left nor to the right**
6. Continue on the main road until you have passed an isolated farmhouse to the Left of the road and the Rising Sun Inn, also on the left of the road. The pub is about 400 yards after the isolated farm house and is a sort of yellow-green colour.
7. 400 yards beyond the Rising Sun, the road forks. Take the right-hand fork (slightly uphill).
Signposted A469 Bargoed.
8. Continue on the main road for 3 miles. You will pass above the village of Brithdir on the left of the road. Ignore it (everybody does).
9. You will climb out of a dip from Brithdir village. At the top of the climb, you will pass Brithdir Cemetery (on the Right of the road above you). ½ mile beyond the cemetery, the road bends sharply to the right and starts to descend. *Beware that there is a side turning on the apex of the bend from which cars can emerge without warning.*
10. At the bottom of the hill, the road enters a hairpin bend to the Left, around a large house (Duffryn House). Ignore the turning to the right on the apex of the bend, and follow the road round to the LEFT.
11. After ½ mile you will pass under a 7-arch railway viaduct. Immediately beyond this you will come to a Tee junction. Opposite you will be the derelict remains of the Old Mill Inn. On the pillar to the LEFT of the road as you approach the viaduct you will see a signpost, indicating Aberbargoed to the left, ¼ mile and Bargoed to the RIGHT, ½ mile. Turn RIGHT (uphill).
12. You will pass the railway station on the Right of the road. Immediately beyond the station you will come to a roundabout. You want the 4th exit (sharp right). The sign before the roundabout does not label this exit, but shows the 3rd as No Entry. It is not kidding. The 3rd exit leads into the local bus station only and only busses and taxis are permitted to use that exit. The 3rd and 4th exits are very close to each other.
13. If you have taken the 4th exit, you will be on St Gwladys Way. There is a street name plate attached to the end of the stone wall to the left of the road, right next to the brick-built end pillar.
14. You will come to a mini roundabout. Take the 2nd exit into the car park (Pay and Display, I'm afraid). You will see St Gwladys' Church and Church Hall immediately above you.
15. Follow the footpath around the perimeter of the car park and past the war memorial. Enter the hall by the door on your left as you reach the church door. We will be in the back room on the downstairs level of the hall.