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THE CHURCH
IN WALES

*The Rt Revd Cherry Vann
Bishop of Monmouth*

Personal letter from the Bishop of Monmouth

Dear Friend in Christ,

Thank you for taking an interest in this significant post in our diocese.

We are living through strange and uncertain times, but times that are bringing opportunities as well as challenges to the life of the Church. We are looking for someone who can grasp the opportunities and work creatively with the challenges, both for as long as COVID continues to disturb our common life, but also beyond.

There is tremendous potential for the congregations to engage with the town and surrounding communities of Abergavenny as well with the schools and civic life; building on the work of the previous clergy. The new parish priest will work with the people of God, nurturing faith and discipleship, developing teams for ministry and service and fostering vocations to lay and ordained ministry. Of paramount importance is the need to develop new ways of being church that will engage with the unchurched and the disillusioned such that they come to know for themselves God's love for them and be drawn by that love into faith and discipleship.

The diocese of Monmouth is very diverse. Sitting alongside the towns and villages of the Archdeaconry of rural Monmouth is the city of Newport and the ex-industrial communities of the Valleys. We believe that each of these areas can enrich the others as together we seek to discern where and how God is leading us.

Structurally, we are beginning to firm up our Ministry Areas which will see every church working in partnership in an area, being served by a team of ordained and lay ministers. The new incumbent will play an important part in ensuring fruitful and collaborative ministry across the churches of the wider Abergavenny area.

Be assured of my prayers as you consider whether this is where God is calling you to serve him.

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