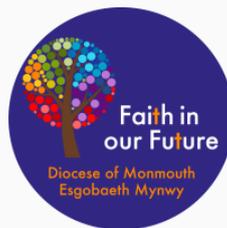




This email has been sent to all Clergy, PTOs, Churchwardens, Secretaries, Treasurers and all those on our weekly email list.

News



East Cardiff Ministry Area Commissioning Service



A special commissioning service was held on Sunday (30th January) to mark the formation of East Cardiff Ministry Area.

Held at St Teilo's High School, the service was a real celebration and included contributions from some of the students, the choir from St Augustine's Church, Rumney and the wider church family.

During her welcome, Bishop Cherry, said: "We have come here today to celebrate our life together in Christ and to commission the East Cardiff Ministry Area. In bringing together the various communities that make up this Ministry Area we pray that by greater collaboration we may further the Gospel and strengthen the mission of the local churches."

During the service Revd James Henley was licensed as Ministry Area Leader and Gareth Rayner-Williams was licensed as Associate Priest.

East Cardiff is one of at least 8 new Ministry Areas being inaugurated this year.

You can watch the service below,



The next commissioning service will be for Mynydd Bedwellte Ministry Area on the 21st February, followed by Netherwent Ministry Area on the 22nd February.

‘Thank you’ from Peter Lea, Chair of the DBF

We have received the Ministry Share payments for the final quarter of 2021 and I am delighted to report that 90% of our parishes and Ministry Areas have paid their share. This is an incredible achievement and, on behalf of the whole DBF, I would like to say ‘thank you’ to you all.

The DBF are aware of some of the difficulties and challenges facing our parishes and Ministry Areas and the board agreed at their last meeting to increase the Ministry Share Support fund for 2022. This will enable the support to be offered where it is needed most.

I am proud to be part of a church family that continues to pull together to maintain ministry across our diocese. I believe that by working together as a diocese we will be able to support one another and emerge from this pandemic with Faith in our Future.

Peter Lea

The deadline for applications to the Ministry Share Support has now been extended to the 26th February.

More information about the Ministry Share Support Fund can be found here – [Ministry Share Support Fund 2022](#)

Licensing of Revd Liz Perry



We are delighted to announce that Revd Liz Perry has been licensed as a House for Duty Priest in the Monmouth Ministry Area, during a wonderful service at St Denis's, Llanishen on 27th January.

Liz comes with a wealth of experience and joins us from the Diocese of Bristol where she has been part of a multi-cultural city centre church, working alongside a homeless charity supporting those

leaving homelessness to live in a working community.

She has also served as a prison chaplain for the last 11 years.

Announcing the appointment just before Christmas, the Rt Revd Cherry Vann, Bishop of Monmouth, said: "This is an excellent appointment. Liz will bring gifts and experience that will benefit the wider diocese as well as the Monmouth Ministry Area and we really look forward to welcoming her in the New Year."

Whilst working across the Ministry Area, Liz will be living in Llanishen and primarily working in the four churches in that area.

She will also continue in her role as Managing Chaplain of a multifaith team in South Gloucestershire part time.

Liz said: "My early years of work were in the civil service and then in medical practice management - I have always worked in people-facing roles and found that I was often alongside others in intense periods of their lives.

"This led to my interest in Lay Ministry and then the call to ordained Ministry.

"I am looking forward to living amongst you and for you to get to know us - I was given such a warm welcome when I looked around the churches and we feel truly blessed to be coming to you."

You can find out more about Revd Liz [here](#) and watch the licensing service below.



New Clergy for the Upper Eastern Valleys

The Bishop of Monmouth is delighted to announce that two new clerics have been appointed for the proposed Upper Eastern Valleys Ministry Area and they will move to Ebbw Vale soon after Easter in preparation for their licensing service in May.

The Revd Dominic McLean will be the Ministry Area Leader and the Revd Tony Hodges will be a Vicar in the Ministry Area. They come to Monmouth from the Diocese of Bangor and will look after an area including Ebbw Vale, Blaenavon, Abertillery and the surrounding communities.



Dominic has a great love of Wales and has been learning Welsh for the last six years but describes himself as still very much a learner. He grew up in St Albans in Hertfordshire but has a mixed background, his mother being from Northern France and his father from Northern Ireland.

He enjoys researching his roots and can trace back his ancestors in France to the 1600's. He loves going birding and has already discovered that within the ministry area there are nightjars.

Dominic is currently the Director of Vocations and Discipleship for Bangor Diocese and his role there has been to encourage and support those who are considering ministry in the diocese, something he hopes to continue in his new role. Previously he had been a Priest in St Catherine's Burbage and Market Bosworth in Leicester Diocese. He's been involved in Chaplaincy work in prisons, and hospitals and hospices in London and was a Deacon in inner city Leicester, London, and Glasgow.

Before ordination to the priesthood he worked as a Chief Executive of a number of charities working with the Voluntary Sector as a whole and with the homeless and victims of crime in particular.

Dominic says,

"I'm excited about coming to work with the people in the Eastern Valleys because of their straightforwardness, their welcome and sense of fun.

"I'm looking forward to working with the team across the soon to be formed

Ministry Area and working with you all to be a light of God's Kingdom present in these communities"



Tony is from Merthyr Tydfil and trained for ordained ministry in the Roman Catholic Church at St Marys' College, Oscott, England and St Patrick's College, Carlow, Ireland. He was ordained deacon in 1990 and priest in 1991 for the Archdiocese of Cardiff where he worked as parish priest in various parishes throughout the south east.

He was received into the Anglican Church in 2016.

He has been chaplain to Deaf and Hard of Hearing and has also worked at Luz - Saint Sauveur in the south of France where, with another priest, he looked after the Luz Pastoral Area comprising 17 churches.

Fr Tony is passionate about wildlife and nature and trained as Safari Field Guide and Trails Guide in Botswana and South Africa where he has family. He has worked for the RSPB and trained as an ecological consultant. He is a proud member of the Gorsedd where not surprisingly he took the name Glas y Dorlan (Kingfisher) and was awarded the honour for his work in promoting Welsh language and culture as a parish priest in Cardiff. He and Dominic have a house in Brittany which is being slowly renovated and both enjoy travel. They also share a passion for birding and the natural world.

He is currently the Bro Ardudwy Area Ministry Leader in Gwynedd.

Fr Tony says,

"I am looking forward to the next exciting challenge in my ministry, working closely with the people of the Upper Eastern Valleys, helping to deepen our relationship with God and being Christ to the communities around us."



Thank-you

As well as using our weekly mailing to announce new appointments to our diocese, it is also an opportunity for us to say 'thankyou' to all those who have served faithfully in ordained ministry for many years and have now retired, changed roles or moved on in their ministry.

During January, the following priests moved to 'Permission to officiate'. We are tremendously grateful for the ministry they have offered and for their continued willingness to serve in the diocese :

The Revd Jane Avery, Assistant Curate, Benefice of Llandogo with Whitebrook Chapel and Tintern Pava

Revd Glyn Jenkins, Deanery Curate, Deanery of Bassaleg

Revd Audrey Jenkins, Curate, Benefice of Llanrumney

Revd Canon Colin Westbrook, Priest in Charge, Benefice of Newport St John the Baptist

Revd Pamela Love, Assistant Curate, Benefice of Usk Ministry Area

Revd Henry Davies, Associate Priest, Benefice of Newport North

Revd Graham Opperman, Assistant Curate, Benefice of Usk Ministry Area

Revd Dr Arthur Parkes, Associate Priest, Benefice of Bedwas with Machen with Michaelston-y-Fedw with Rudry

Revd Christopher Watkins, Associate Priest, Benefice of Newport North

Revered Frances Jones, Associate Priest, Benefice of Newport North

Revd Allan Davies, Associate Priest, Rectorial Benefice of Magor

Revd Trevor Morgan, Associate Priest, Rectorial Benefice of Upper Islwyn

Revd Bob Greenland, Assistant Curate, Benefice of Usk Ministry Area

Revd Marian Dowsett, Priest in Charge, Benefice of Llanrumney

Revd Beverley Smith, Associate Priest, Rectorial Benefice of Cyncoed.

Revd David Kellen retired and is expected to move to PTO soon.

“Please continue to pray for one another and for the life of our diocese as we each seek to be faithful to all that God asks of us.

“May God continue to bless you in all that you are and all that you do in your service of the gospel.”

Cherry



Lent Resources & Courses 2022

Lent is traditionally a time when people have turned their attention to some extra study and reflection about their relationship with God. In support of this, please find some daily reflections and Lent course resources below.

Daily Reflections

We hope the attached short readings and reflections will be of use to you throughout Lent. These short reflections begin with a reading for Ash Wednesday and continue daily until Easter Sunday. We invite you to take a few minutes each day during this period to think about the brief quotations, and your own thoughts and response.

[DOWNLOAD: Lent 2022 - Daily Reflections \(PDF\)](#)

[DOWNLOAD: Lent 2022 - Daily Reflections \(WORD\)](#)

Lent Courses

This year, the diocese is producing a course for the post-Easter period based on the 5 themes explored at the Diocesan Conference. We hope that you will take the opportunity to run that course but we also hope you will be able to hold some traditional Lent courses - either in person or online!

There are lots of different Lent Courses available but if you're struggling for ideas here are some that might be of interest (there are many more around as well).

[DOWNLOAD: Lent 2022 - Course Recommendations \(PDF\)](#)

[DOWNLOAD: Lent 2022 - Course Recommendations \(WORD\)](#)

During this Lenten period, take time to reflect on your life and pray for the future. Lent is a time of reflection and cleansing - it is a time and an opportunity to get closer to God.

Pob bendith / Every blessing!



Coronavirus Guidance

Update: 1st February 2022

We have made some minor amendments to the following guidance notes.

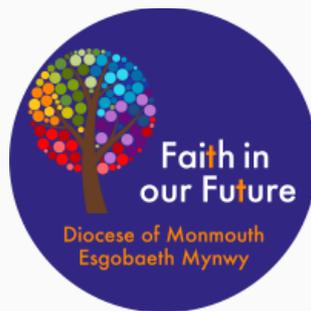
These are:

- to reflect the current requirements for isolation if a person tests positive for Covid 19;
- to confirm that there is an exception to the general rule on wearing face coverings to mean that they do not need to be worn, by law, at a marriage ceremony

Download:

- [Covid 19 Guidance Marriages and Funerals Alert Level 0 \(Word\)](#)
- [Covid 19 Guidance on Celebrating Holy Communion Alert Level 0 \(Word\)](#)
- [Alert Level 0 Risk Assessment Template Weddings Funerals Events \(Word\)](#)

Read the update on the website [here](#).



Diocesan vision workshop

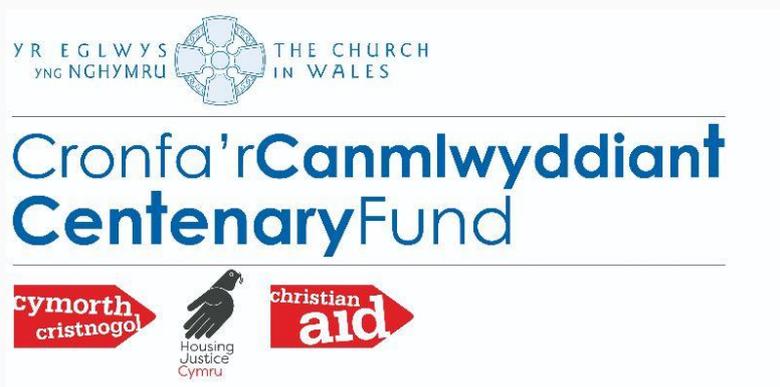
Following a successful session at the Diocesan Conference last October, we are now looking to draw together individuals from across the dioceses to work in small groups to help deliver our diocesan vision, with each group focusing on one of our diocesan themes. These themes are -

- Climate Change
- Social Justice
- Stewardship
- Discipleship
- Equality and Diversity

A half-day morning session is being arranged for Saturday 19th March 2022 hosted by Bishop Cherry and has provisionally been booked in St Teilo's High School between 9am and 1pm. Invitations have already gone out to all members of Standing Committee, as well as individuals from other diocesan committees and groups.

If you feel that you have something to contribute to one of these groups and would like to be part of drawing up our diocesan vision, then please contact zoeward@churchinwales.org.uk by Thursday 10th February.

Watch this space for regular updates through our Midweek Mailing on the progress of forming our diocesan vision which will launch at our Diocesan Conference in October 2022.



Centenary Fund Reaches Half its Target

A fund launched by the Church in Wales to mark its Centenary in 2020 has reached half its target in just over two years.

The Centenary Fund was launched in 2019 with the aim of raising £100,000 over five years for two charity projects – one at home and one overseas. With nearly £50,000 raised the Fund is now being wound up, due to the adverse impact of the Covid pandemic on church fundraising.

The projects, one run by the Christian housing charity, Housing Justice Cymru, and one run by Christian Aid, have received nearly £25,000 each from the Fund to help people in need. The Housing Justice Cymru project was originally to support night shelters for homeless people. However, these were stopped due to the pandemic with the focus instead turning to securing tenancies for vulnerable people. The work undertaken by Christian Aid's partner in South Sudan and supported by the Fund, has also changed substantially.

The Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John, thanked all those who had donated to the Fund so generously.

He said, “We are immensely pleased to have raised almost half the sum promised and are very grateful to all who contributed. A substantial amount of money has been given to the two charities, directly benefiting those in need at home and in South Sudan. That is a great achievement in such a short time.

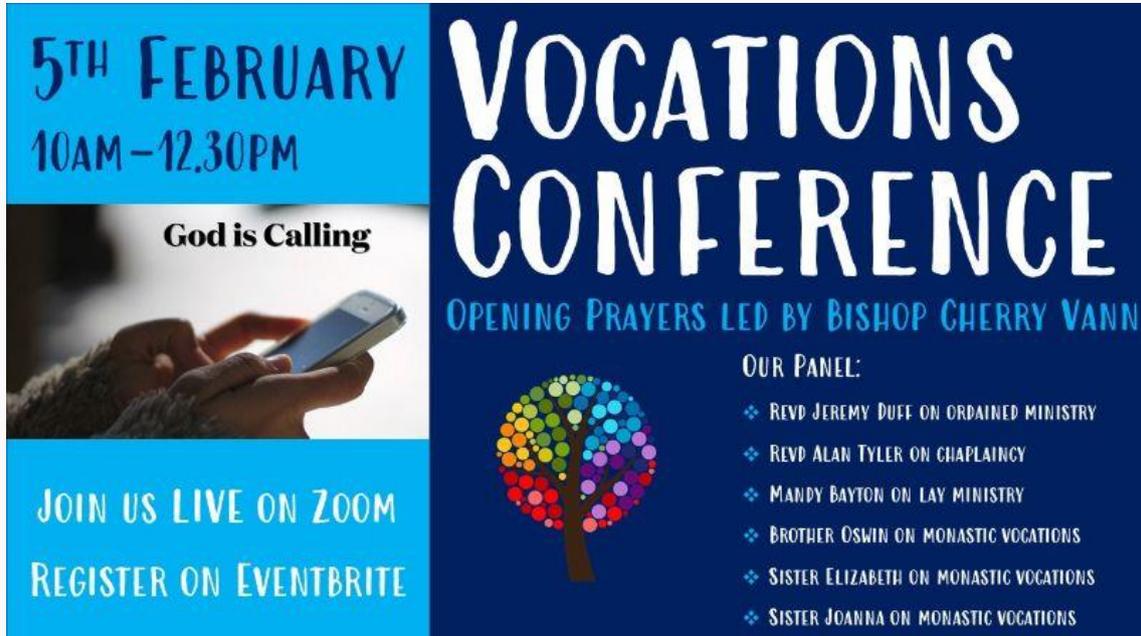
“Unfortunately, the pandemic has taken its toll on all charities as social restrictions and church closures have made fundraising very difficult. While the original projects sponsored by the Fund have changed, we will continue to work closely with both Housing Justice Cymru and Christian Aid to support them in their important work.”

Bonnie Williams, director of Housing Justice Cymru, said, “We are hugely grateful for the financial donations we have received to date, via the Church in Wales Centenary fund. They have enabled us to help people experiencing homelessness to find and sustain homes across Wales. We fully understand the impact the pandemic has had on the Church and on fundraising, and we remain thankful for the significant amount we have received. As we move forward, we look forward to finding new ways of working together to support vulnerable people in our communities across Wales.”

Mari McNeill, head of Christian Aid Wales, said, “That the Fund has managed to raise half its target despite so many challenges over the past two years, is testimony to the passion and commitment the Church in Wales has towards the most vulnerable in the world. The Covid pandemic has hit countries like South Sudan too, where ongoing conflict and the climate crisis have compounded issues of extreme poverty. Against this challenging backdrop the Centenary Fund has supported vital peacebuilding work on the ground reaching men, women, young people and clergy across several provinces. Although this appeal ends, we express our biggest thanks to everyone in the Church in Wales for their unwavering commitment to Christian Aid’s work, and we look forward to continuing to work in close partnership as we stand together for dignity, equality and justice in a world disfigured by poverty.”

Training and Events

Vocations Conference - 5th February



The poster for the Vocations Conference is divided into two main color sections: a light blue section on the left and a dark blue section on the right. The left section contains the date and time '5TH FEBRUARY 10AM-12.30PM' at the top, a photograph of hands holding a smartphone with the text 'God is Calling' overlaid in the middle, and the text 'JOIN US LIVE ON ZOOM REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE' at the bottom. The right section features the title 'VOCATIONS CONFERENCE' in large white letters, followed by 'OPENING PRAYERS LED BY BISHOP CHERRY VANN' in smaller white letters. Below this is a colorful tree icon made of dots. To the right of the tree is a list of speakers under the heading 'OUR PANEL:'.

5TH FEBRUARY
10AM-12.30PM

God is Calling

JOIN US LIVE ON ZOOM
REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE

VOCATIONS CONFERENCE

OPENING PRAYERS LED BY BISHOP CHERRY VANN

OUR PANEL:

- ❖ REVD JEREMY DUFF ON ORDAINED MINISTRY
- ❖ REVD ALAN TYLER ON CHAPLAINCY
- ❖ MANDY BAYTON ON LAY MINISTRY
- ❖ BROTHER OSWIN ON MONASTIC VOCATIONS
- ❖ SISTER ELIZABETH ON MONASTIC VOCATIONS
- ❖ SISTER JOANNA ON MONASTIC VOCATIONS

A Vocations Conference to explore ordained, lay, chaplaincy and monastic vocations. We will have talks from various speakers; Revd Jeremy Duff, Revd Alan Tyler, Mandy Bayton, Br Oswin, Sister Elizabeth and Sister Joanna.

There will also be time to go into breakout rooms to have a conversation with our panellists about their discernment and individual journeys.

Bishop Cherry Vann will open the morning with prayer and there will be time for reflection at the end of the morning.

All are welcome to attend!

Book a place: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/vocations-conference-tickets-224046317567>

VOCATIONS CONFERENCE

God is Calling



5TH FEBRUARY 2022
10AM-12.30PM

OPENING PRAYERS LED BY
BISHOP CHERRY VANN

OUR PANEL:



REVD JEREMY DUFF ON ORDAINED MINISTRY



REVD ALAN TYLER ON CHAPLAINCY



MANDY BAYTON ON LAY MINISTRY



BROTHER OSWIN ON MONASTIC VOCATIONS



SISTER ELIZABETH ON MONASTIC VOCATIONS



SISTER JOANNA ON MONASTIC VOCATIONS

• JOIN US ON ZOOM •

• REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE •



Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 7-13 February 2022. This year's theme is Growing Together.

Place2Be will be encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow.

There are free resources available on their website [here](#).



Sight Loss Friendly Church Taster Sessions

Every six minutes someone in the UK starts losing their sight.

Christian charity Torch Trust are pleased to announce further dates of our popular Tasters.

These 30 minutes zoom sessions will give you the opportunity to learn about the benefits of being a Sight Loss Friendly Church as well as meeting the SLFC team and an opportunity to ask questions.

Tasters are easy to sign up to and held on the following dates:

Thursday 10th February 2pm

Thursday 17th February 7pm

Monday 14th March 2pm

Wednesday 23rd March 2pm

To book your place visit <https://torchtrust.org/sight-loss-friendly-church/taster/>

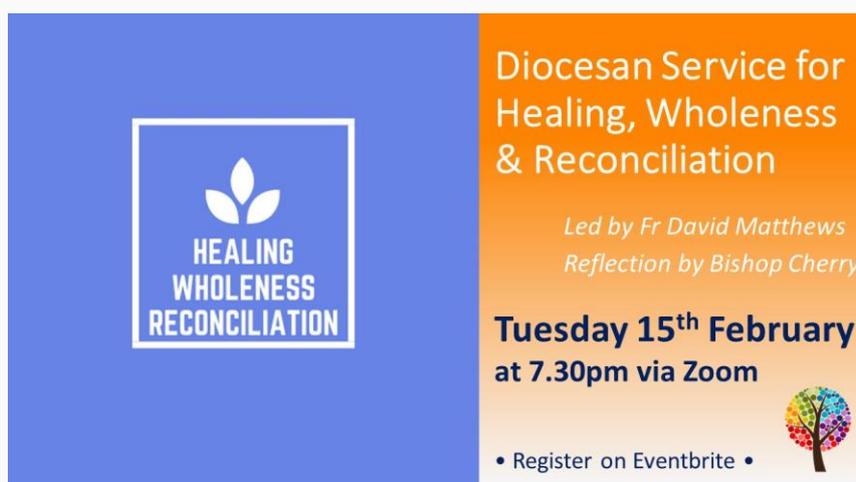
Every 6 minutes,
someone in the UK starts
to lose their sight.*

**What does it mean to be a
Sight Loss Friendly Church?**
Join a free, 30-minute online Taster session to find out more.

The Torch Trust for the Blind. A company limited by Guarantee.
Registered in England number: 4616526 Registered Charity number: 1095904

*RNIB

Diocesan Service for Healing, Wholeness and Reconciliation



The Diocesan group for Healing Wholeness and Reconciliation invites you to join us for an online service on **Tuesday 15th February at 7.30pm** led by Fr David Matthews; with a reflection by Bishop Cherry.

Healing and reconciliation lie at the heart of our Christian faith.

Whilst anointing and the laying on of hands will not be possible, there will be an opportunity for each person present to be prayed for in small break-out rooms as part of the service.

This is an invitation for us to draw nearer to Christ and open ourselves to the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Register [here](#).



Faith in the Future Webinars

National Churches Trust and the Welsh Historic Places of Worship Forum are holding their next series of webinars over February and March.

These will take place on:

15th February: Building connections and engaging communities

8th March: Innovative ways to raise funds and income

29th March: Rising to the climate change challenge

Each event starts at 1.30pm for about two hours and will involve hearing from interesting case studies with some presentations from key speakers.

Book your place [here](#).



Open Table Network

We are inviting anyone who is interested in establishing a worshipping community that is part of the [Open Table Network](#) (OTN) to a meeting on February 19th at 2pm at St Christopher's Chepstow. OTN is a growing partnership of worshipping communities which welcome and affirm people who are LGBTQIA+. The Network Co-ordinator, Keiran Bohan, will be with us to talk about OTN and to discuss with us the possibilities of starting up an OT worshipping community within our diocese.

The meeting is for clergy and laity alike. We can host 30 people so if you would like to come, please contact Bishop Cherry's PA (01633 263510, monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk) to register your interest. The address is 2 Pembroke Road, Bulwark, Chepstow, NP16 5AF. There is limited parking at St Christopher's so car sharing is encouraged where possible.

Safeguarding Training



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING SESSIONS



Online via Zoom

These sessions are for all who hold an ecclesiastical office, or who hold licence/PTO/commission from the Diocesan Bishop (whether lay or ordained), for those who run Sunday School or Youth clubs, Organists/Directors of Music, for whom an enhanced DBS is required.

The training is presented in two parts, Part 1 & Part 2, to complete the course both parts must be attended. The course lasts for approximately 2-2.5 hours and there is no cost to attend the course. **Please note Module A must be completed first.**

PART 1

Tuesday 22nd February	10:00
Wednesday 02nd March	10:00
Thursday 03rd March	14:00
Wednesday 09th March	14:00

PART 2

Thursday 10th March	14:00
Monday 14th March	14:00
Friday 18th March	10:00
Thursday 24th March	10:00

To book a place, please contact **Sarah** via email on safeguardingtraining@cinw.org.uk
The Church in Wales has a responsibility to ensure that all church members are cared for and protected.

To book a place, email safeguardingtraining@cinw.org.uk



Would you like to make more time to pray, but aren't sure where to start?
Or would you like to give your prayer a renewed focus for a week in Lent?
Would you like a little help along the way?

Then the **Week of Guided Prayer Online 2022** is for you.

This **Week of Guided Prayer Online** is suitable for everybody.

You will use Bible passages, and other material, as a basis for prayer and meditation, with a guide alongside you to suggest what you might pray with and to hear how it went.

Previous participants told us:

'It's been a thought provoking, reassuring and challenging week'

'It was good ... to have fellow travellers and to share some of our experiences; and wonderful to have guides prepared to give of their time, knowledge and experience to support us.'

'My guide was amazing. I felt he had God's ear to guide me'

The **Week of Guided Prayer Online** starts with an introductory meeting on Zoom for all the participants and guides. We will match you with a guide who will arrange to meet with you on Zoom each day, Monday to Friday, at a time that works for both of you. These sessions usually last 20-30 minutes and we suggest that you make 20-30 minutes available for the prayer itself. The retreat ends with a closing session online.

Register your place

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/week-of-guided-prayer-2022-registration-256051746667>

Important: Please book as soon as possible so that we can match you with an appropriate guide.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Rev Jane Butler: jane.upperislwyn@yahoo.com (01495 249021).

Services and Resources

Join a Service from the Cathedral on Sunday at 10:30am [here](#).

Esgobaeth Mynwy Gwasanaethau Cymraeg Chwefror 2022

Chwefror / February 8th

Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth

7pm / y.p.

Eglwys Santes Fair, Magwyr, NP26 3EP / St Mary's Church, Magor, NP26 3EP

Ewcharist / Eucharist

You may notice we are starting to add some more Welsh words and phrases to our diocesan communications!

Staff in the diocese office will soon be answering the phone with a 'Bore da' or ending an email with 'cofion cynnes' as we continue our journey to become a bilingual diocese.

Welsh language services that are held regularly across our diocese are a great way to embrace the Welsh identity of our diocese.

Vacancies

Team Vicar - Mynydd Bedwellte Ministry Area

Mynydd Bedwellte MA are looking for an enthusiastic and creative priest to join them in a new Ministry Area in the South Wales valleys, mainly focused on the towns and villages of Bedwellty, New Tredegar and Aberbargoed.

This is a great opportunity to be part of a developing ministry team and work collaboratively across a diverse area. They want you to help build up the local church in its worshipping and spiritual life and be rooted in mission and community ministry.

For an informal conversation please contact:
The Revd Matt Davis, Ministry Area Leader on
[07800 750259](tel:07800750259) or mattdavisciw@gmail.com

Closing Date: Friday 11th February

For more details, including the Ministry Area profile, click [here](#).