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

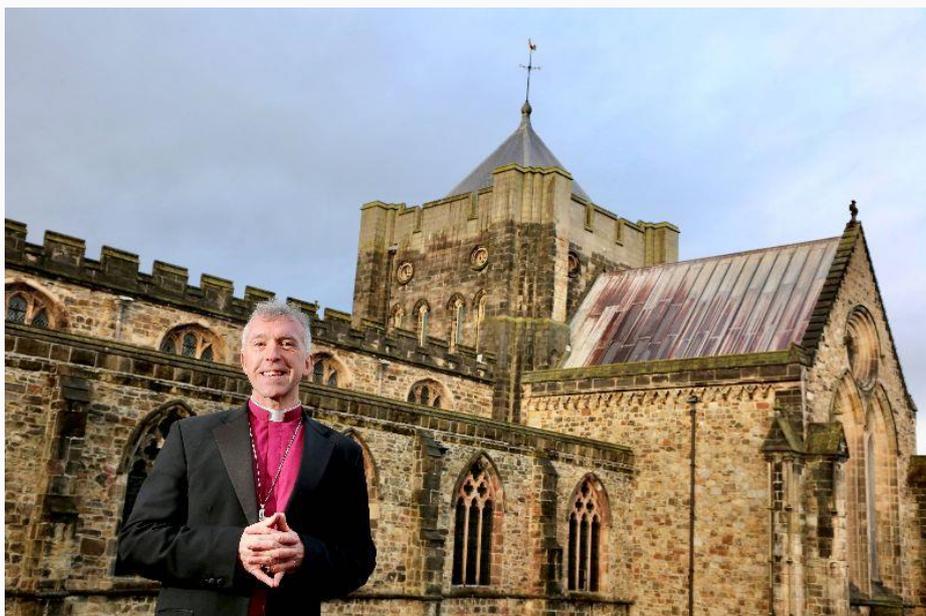
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## News

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### Episcopal Services Announced



Two new bishops will be consecrated and welcomed by their dioceses and the Archbishop of Wales enthroned in a series of significant Church in Wales services over the coming months.

In February, two newly appointed bishops will be consecrated at the same service. The Bishop of Swansea and Brecon Diocese, John Lomas, and the Assistant Bishop in Bangor Diocese, Mary Stallard, will be consecrated at Bangor Cathedral, which is the seat of the Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John.

The service will take place on February 26 at 2.30pm. During the service, which will be attended by representatives from each of the two dioceses, the new bishops will be anointed with holy oil and presented with the symbols of office: a bishop's episcopal ring, a pectoral cross and mitre, as well as a Bible and a pastoral staff.

Following the consecration service, Bishop Mary will be welcomed to her new role in Bangor Diocese with a special celebration service on St David's Day, March 1, at 2.30pm. She will be greeted by people from across Bangor Diocese and will co-preside with the Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Bangor, Andrew John, at a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Meanwhile, Bishop John will be enthroned as the 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Swansea and Brecon at Brecon Cathedral, which is the seat of the Diocese, on March 5. He will be installed in the Bishop's chair and also welcomed by representatives from across Swansea and Brecon Diocese. The service begins at 2pm.

At the end of April, the Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John, will be enthroned at Bangor Cathedral. Andrew, who is also Bishop of Bangor, was elected as the 14<sup>th</sup> Archbishop of Wales in December. During the service the Archbishop will be placed in the Archiepiscopal chair. A cross-section of people from the church and wider Welsh society are expected to attend the service which takes place on April 30 at 2.30pm.

Due to limited space, entry to all four services will be by ticket only. The number of tickets made available will be in line with Welsh Government Covid guidance and Church in Wales risk assessments. However, it is hoped that all the services will be live-streamed on social media for those who cannot attend.

Archbishop Andrew said, "This is an exciting time for the Church in Wales as we start the year with two new bishops and are able to open our churches and welcome guests to join us for these significant services. Thanks to the leaps and bounds we have taken in digital technology since the start of the pandemic we are now also hoping to broadcast these services live so everyone who wants to tune in and celebrate with us is able to do so. I hope many of you will

do that, if possible, and will join in our prayers for Bishop John and Bishop Mary as they begin their new ministries.”

More details about the services, including the live-stream links, will follow.

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## Site of former church provides new homes for seven families



Residents have moved into new homes at Llys yr Eglwys in Pontllanfraith that have been built on the site of the former St Mary’s Church.

An event was held on Friday 28th January to mark the completion of the new homes, and to celebrate the partnership between Housing Justice Cymru, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Pobl Group. Guests included the Bishop of Monmouth, Cherry Vann, who gave a short address.

Bishop Cherry, said: “I am very pleased to be here representing the Church in Wales to celebrate the completion of this project along with our partners Housing Justice Cymru, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Pobl Group. The original vision for this building back in the 1950’s was for it to be a house of prayer, a place that symbolised God’s presence in this community and a spiritual space where people could come to mark significant moments in their lives through baptisms, weddings and funerals. It was a place for Christians to gather to worship and to reach out in service to the community. I am delighted that although this building has closed as a church, it continues to serve the community by providing much needed shelter and housing. We should never underestimate the importance of having good quality affordable housing available for local people. Houses not only provide shelter from the elements, they are homes, giving people a sense of place and belonging in a community and a space to live with comfort and security. It is inspiring to see the project

come to fruition and for these new homes to be occupied, and good to be here to celebrate it together.”

St Mary’s was constructed in 1957 as part of a wider post-war planned estate in Penllwyn. It closed in 2016 after almost 60 years serving the community.

The site was acquired by Pobl Group from the Church in Wales, aided by Housing Justice Cymru’s Faith in Affordable Housing initiative. The seven new homes for social rent replace the closed St Mary’s Church.



The dedication stone from the church has been retained and incorporated into the new development.

Work was carried out by Kingfisher Developments Ltd. and began in March 2020. The site closed briefly at the outset of the pandemic but progressed well during 2021, and the homes were handed over in December 2021, with the first residents being able to move in just before Christmas.

The development comprises two 1-bed 2-person apartments, two 2-bed 3-person apartments, one 2-bed 4-person house, one 3-bed 5-person house and one 4-bed 6-person house.

Ellis Cunliffe, Project Manager at Pobl Group, said: “With this development, we have striven to respect the history of the church building and what it has meant to the local community, working closely in partnership with Housing Justice Cymru. We also wish to fully recognise the support of Caerphilly CBC and Welsh Government and to wish the new residents many happy years in their new homes.”

Sian Bradley, Faith in Affordable Housing Partnership Co-ordinator at Housing Justice Cymru said: “We would like to thank the Church in Wales and Pobl Group for committing to our Faith in Affordable Housing programme. Since 2016, we have been helping to connect churches with housing organisations to bring church-owned land and redundant buildings into use for affordable housing. We recognize that whilst it can be a sad time for church congregations when church buildings close, St Marys demonstrates that there can be positive

outcomes . Llys yr Eglwys is a fantastic example of regeneration in the heart of community, and we commend the work of Pobl Group and Kingfisher Developments to deliver the homes through the course of the pandemic; completing homes for new tenants in time for Christmas.”

Cllr Shayne Cook, Caerphilly Council’s Cabinet Member for Social Care and Housing, added “Delivering high quality homes to help meet increasing local demand is a key priority for the council and partnership working is key to this. It’s fantastic to see this previously vacant site transformed to provide new homes in the community, whilst also retaining links to the former church.”

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## Gift Direct Resources

Gift Direct is a quick and easy way for people to support the work of their church as it serves the whole community. People can sign up and manage their donation online or print out a form to complete on paper. A poster to advertise Gift Direct is now available to display in churches. There is also a new Gift Direct brochure which includes a form for givers who don’t want to sign up online.

You can download the poster and the brochure (available in English and Welsh) at:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/gift-direct/>

You can also order hard copies of the brochure if you would prefer. Please email: [libbymorgan-owen@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:libbymorgan-owen@churchinwales.org.uk)

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## Save a life Cymru- Defibruary

I wonder if you know where your nearest defibrillator is situated in your community? Is it near enough that one of your number could run to collect it? (500 metres, which is the suggested nearest location, is a long way to run, there and back!). And would you know how to keep a person’s heart pumping oxygen around their body while you waited for the defibrillator to appear?

Churches are often situated in the heart of their communities (see what I did there?) and so are ideally placed to hold an external defibrillator unit.



It is important that defibrillators are placed on a defibrillator register so the Emergency Services can direct anyone to its location and provide the necessary unlocking combination.

And we often hold group events, including our church services, which means we should seriously consider getting some training either by watching the Save a Life Cymru video at <https://youtu.be/xOxhbGYRVK8>, or hosting a CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) training event.

In May 2021, the [Church in Wales partnered with Save a Life Cymru](#) and are supporting the [Touch Someone's Life campaign](#). The aim is to encourage people to learn the basics of resuscitation so they can help in an emergency.

Churches across Wales have been asked to participate in this initiative and consider installing a defibrillator or donating one to the local community, or to complete basic first aid training.

Fr David Morris of Llandaff Diocese, who is also Dean and a Trustee of St John's Cymru says, "Save a Life Cymru is a campaign funded by the Welsh Government to increase the survival rate in Wales of those who experience a cardiac arrest, by creating awareness of the basic steps of CPR and the chain of survival, as well as making defibrillators more widely available." He also recounts how a local family, who had lost two members through heart attack decided to purchase a defibrillator for their parish church in their memory.

"It's a brilliant practical memorial to a loved parishioner and a wonderful example of how something life-giving can emerge out of an experience of grief and loss", he says.

Rev Gilly Hubbard

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## Diocesan Lent Resources

We've added some extra resources to our Diocesan Recommended Lent Courses list. Find out more about the brand new Lent Resources from Church Army!

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

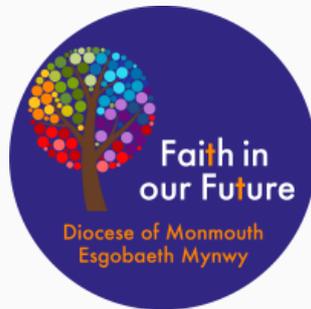


Archdeacon Ian Rees has drafted the attached list of suggested course options as well as written a wonderful set of Lent Reflections for us to use as a diocese.

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

If you are planning to host an online Lent course which is open for others to join, please let us know by emailing [admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk). We hope to list any open groups with a group contact on the Diocesan website.

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## 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:zoeward@churchinwales.org.uk) by Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

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# Training and Events

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## Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place this week. This year's theme is Growing Together.

Place2Be are 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](#).

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## 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.

From **TORCH TRUST**

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

\*RNIB

The advertisement features a blue background with white text. Below the text is an illustration of five diverse people: a woman with a white cane, a man in a dark shirt, a woman with a purple cane, a man in a white shirt, and a person in a wheelchair. To the right is a large clock face with a yellow border. The Torch Trust logo is in the bottom left, and small text with registration numbers is at the bottom.

## Diocesan Service for Healing, Wholeness and Reconciliation



**HEALING  
WHOLENESS  
RECONCILIATION**

**Diocesan Service for  
Healing, Wholeness  
& Reconciliation**

*Led by Fr David Matthews  
Reflection by Bishop Cherry*

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
at 7.30pm via Zoom**

• Register on Eventbrite •



The advertisement is split into two main color sections: a blue left side and an orange right side. On the blue side, there is a white square containing a stylized white leaf logo and the text 'HEALING WHOLENESS RECONCILIATION'. The orange side contains the title 'Diocesan Service for Healing, Wholeness & Reconciliation' in white, followed by the lead and reflection details in italics, the date and time in bold, and a call to action 'Register on Eventbrite' with a colorful tree logo to the right.

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](#).

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## 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](#).

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## 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

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## 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		PART 2	
Tuesday 22nd February	10:00	Thursday 10th March	14:00
Wednesday 02nd March	10:00	Monday 14th March	14:00
Thursday 03rd March	14:00	Friday 18th March	10:00
Wednesday 09th March	14:00	Thursday 24th March	10:00

To book a place, please contact **Sarah** via email on [safeguardingtraining@cinw.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:safeguardingtraining@cinw.org.uk)

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# World Day of Prayer

The Newport Committee for the World Day of Prayer would be very grateful if the following poster could be displayed and a note placed in the pew sheets regarding the service to be held at **2pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022** at **St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Stow Hill, Newport.**



The poster features a top section with a stylized globe in shades of blue, green, and yellow, set against a red and orange background. Below this, the text is centered and reads: 'WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022' flanked by two blue crosses, followed by 'FRIDAY 4 MARCH' in large red letters, and 'A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE' in blue. The location is given as 'Praying for England, Wales and Northern Ireland' and 'St Mary's Roman Catholic Church' in red, with the address '9 Stow Hill · Newport · NP20 1TP' in blue. The date and time are 'Friday 4th March' and '2pm' in red. A note at the bottom states 'Subject to Government COVID restrictions on the day Numbers attending may be Restricted'. A red banner at the bottom contains the quote 'I know the plans I have for you' in white. The footer includes the website 'www.wwdp.org.uk', the text '365 days a year · Informed Prayer · Prayerful Action · 24-7 · Prayer Movement · Ecumenical · Global · Women-led · 365 days a year · Informed Prayer · 24-7 · Prayerful Action · Prayer Movement · Ecumenical · Global · Women-led · Women-led · 365 days a year · Women-led · Prayerful Action', and the registered charity number '233242'.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022**

**FRIDAY 4 MARCH**

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE

Praying for England, Wales  
and Northern Ireland

**St Mary's**  
**Roman Catholic Church**

9 Stow Hill · Newport · NP20 1TP

**Friday 4th March**  
**2pm**

*Subject to Government COVID restrictions on the day  
Numbers attending may be Restricted*

**I know the plans I have for you**

365 days a year · Informed Prayer · Prayerful Action · 24-7 · Prayer Movement · Ecumenical · Global · Women-led · 365 days a year · Informed Prayer · 24-7 · Prayerful Action · Prayer Movement · Ecumenical · Global · Women-led · Women-led · 365 days a year · Women-led · Prayerful Action

[www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk) Registered Charity Number 233242

Please check the World Day of Prayer website [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk) for a service that may be nearer to where you live.

For further information, please contact Jen Robinson (Secretary for the Newport Branch of the World Day of Prayer) by email on [cameldrom13@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cameldrom13@hotmail.co.uk)

Download a copy of the poster [here](#).



## Caring for God's Acre's

### Online Conference - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> of March

Join Caring for God's Acre for an inspiring day discovering how to transform your churchyard into a haven for people, wildlife and heritage.

Hear from experts in the field with keynote speakers and 12 workshops to choose from.

Details and booking here:

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/get-involved/beautiful-burial-ground-conference-2022/>

### New Discovery Pack for Children

A downloadable resource with inspiring seasonal activities to help you to explore churchyards and other burial grounds with young children.

From simple tree and bird id, to reflective prompts and quiz sheets. Take a look here.

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Burial-Ground-Discovery-Pack-FINAL.pdf>



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](mailto:jane.upperislwyn@yahoo.com) (01495 249021).

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## **Services and Resources**

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

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## Esgobaeth Mynwy Gwasanaethau Cymraeg Mawrth 2022

Mawrth / March 12th

Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn

10:30am / y.b.

Eglwys Sant Thomas / St Thomas' Church, Overmonnow, 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.

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## Vacancies

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### 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](mailto:mattdavisciw@gmail.com)

Closing Date: Friday 11th February

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