

# Esgobaeth Mynwy

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## Diocese of Monmouth

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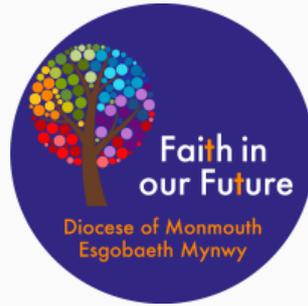
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*This email has been sent to all Clergy, PTOs, Churchwardens, Secretaries, Treasurers and all those on our weekly email list.*

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## News

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## Vision and Strategy Day

We are looking forward to our vision and strategy day on Saturday morning at St Teilo's School when representatives from across the diocese will meet to build on the work done at the October Conference.

There was a lot of engagement at that event and some really exciting ideas that emerged in the group work.

Please pray for those involved, that we may be open to the Spirit's guidance as we develop a vision and strategy to shape the witness and work of the churches in our diocese for the coming 5-10 years.

Find out more [here](#).

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## New Archdeacon of the Gwent Valleys and Director of Mission announced



We are delighted to announce that Revd Stella Bailey will be joining the Diocese of Monmouth as Archdeacon of the Gwent Valleys and Director of Mission.

Currently serving as Vicar of St Nicholas Church Kenilworth and Area Dean in the Diocese of Coventry, former police officer Stella has seen the best and the worst of humanity and comes with a wealth of experience.

Making the announcement, the Rt Revd Cherry Vann, Bishop of Monmouth, said: "I am delighted that Stella will be joining us as Archdeacon of the Gwent Valleys and Diocesan Director of Mission.

"Stella brings with her extensive experience drawn from her work both outside and within the church. Her gifts and skills have been honed by a deep faith, a passion for the gospel and a heart for those who are marginalised.

"She will be an Archdeacon that gets alongside people and a Director of Mission who will work collaboratively to inspire, support and make a practical difference.

"I look forward to welcoming her and working alongside her in the service of the Gospel."

Stella is 'excited' to be following God's calling to the Diocese of Monmouth and joining an 'amazing group of faithful disciples and clergy.'

Speaking about her appointment, she said: "I look forward to joining you in God's mission, in loving the people of this diocese and working out what it looks like to be people who live our faith through the five marks of mission.

"Coming from a working-class background myself, I feel a strong calling to minister amongst the ordinary people of Wales, shaping new ways of being

church, nurturing disciples and engaging with our communities in transformational mission.

“I am passionate about shaping the church to enable it to preach the gospel afresh for this generation.”

Find out more [here](#).

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## Save the Date - Chrism Mass 12th April

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*'I invite you now to dedicate yourselves afresh to his service, as stewards of the mysteries of God and ministers of his grace.'*

Our Chrism Mass this year will take place, once again, on the Tuesday of Holy Week, 12<sup>th</sup> April, at Newport Cathedral. It is an extraordinarily beautiful service at which the sacred oils are blessed – the oil of the sick, the oil of the catechumens and the holy chrism oil – and ministers of Word and Sacrament together with the people of God, gather together around the Lord's Table to reaffirm our commitment to the ministries entrusted to us.

I warmly encourage all priests, deacons and licensed lay ministers to attend. There will be an opportunity to renew our vows and promises as we walk with Jesus in this holiest of weeks. You are invited to robe – priests and deacons in alb and white stole, LLMs in cassock, surplice and scarf – and to stay on after the service for a buffet lunch.

Congregation members are also warmly invited to come for the service and for the buffet lunch as the Church, once again, recalls the salvation wrought for us

in Jesus's self-offering on the cross. This is a moment in Holy Week when each of us can pause and reaffirm our commitment to take up our own cross and follow him.

It would be very helpful if you would contact my PA, Vicki, at [monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk) and confirm

- that you will be attending
- whether you will be robing (ie and sit together with other priests, deacons and LLMs)
- whether you intend to stay for lunch and, if so
- whether you have any dietary requirements.

Please get in touch with this information by 31<sup>st</sup> March at the latest so that there is time to organise seating and the buffet.

With my prayers and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Cherry', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

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## **Linking with Church Schools - Children's Laments**

The Diocesan Education Team has asked our church schools to write their own laments as the children learn about expressions of sadness in faith. These laments may be written as individuals or as a group or class. We would like to ask churches to please share the laments of their local school during their services or perhaps online. If possible, the children may like to attend the

service to read their lament or they may like to send it to the church to be read out on their behalf. We would like to offer as many opportunities as possible for children to express their feelings to God and for their prayers to be heard by the wider community.

Find out more about this project [here](#).

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## Archbishop calls for urgent support for Ukraine crisis appeal

The Archbishop of Wales is calling for urgent support for Christian Aid's crisis appeal for Ukraine.

The Christian charity is working with its partners to distribute food and other life-saving essentials to people on the Ukrainian borders fleeing deadly violence. It is also calling for people to add their voices to the change.org petition launched by Together With Refugees member, Freedom From Torture, which calls on the UK Government to provide humanitarian support to the people of Ukraine.

Prayers for Ukraine are available [here](#).



appeal

[naid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-](https://naid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-)



God of hope,  
you have told us that when we call on your name you answer.  
As we begin this season of Lent  
we cry to you for the people of Ukraine.  
We ask that you would bring protection,  
that you would bring healing,  
that you would bring justice.  
By your Spirit guide the leaders of all nations  
so they may discern the way to peace.  
In the name of Jesus,  
whose kingdom is peace,  
Amen.

[www.churchinwales.org.uk](http://www.churchinwales.org.uk)

## Webinar outlines ways to help refugees

Practical ways for churches to welcome and support Ukrainian refugees will be outlined in a webinar this week.

As the Government creates more routes for refugees to settle in the UK many churches, schools and community groups are keen to offer as much help as they can.

The charity [Link International](#) has partnered with churches and organisations across North Wales to bring together resources to help people in immediate need, and affected by the war in Ukraine, as they arrive in our communities.

Founder of Link International, the Revd Tim Hall, will describe the hub resource they have created in a conversation on Zoom on Friday evening at 7-8pm which is open to all. Tim will outline how the hub model has been set up in Llandudno and how it could be copied by other churches to help refugees feel supported and welcomed.

It is hoped the event will show what churches, schools and individuals can do to welcome refugees and provide the on-going support they will need.

**Click on the link below at 7pm on Friday 18 March or share the link with someone you think might be interested.**

[Join Zoom Conversation](#)

Meeting ID: 837 4072 5205 / Passcode: 850578

More information at [Link International](#)

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## Housing Justice Cymru - Hosts for Ukrainian Refugees Needed

[Housing Justice Cymru](#) is appealing to anyone with a spare room to host Ukrainian refugees, predominantly women and children, seeking sanctuary in Wales during these terrifyingly turbulent times.

As a Nation of Sanctuary, refugees are being invited to come to Wales for safety but there is a shortage of accommodation for them. Welsh Government has already committed to providing housing for all those experiencing homelessness in Wales, consequently there is now very little capacity to accommodate Ukrainian refugees. WE NEED YOUR HELP.

To find out more about Housing Justice Cymru's hosting programme and how you can help, please click [here](#).

## Will you give refugees a Warm Welsh Welcome?

People seeking safety in the UK have often suffered trauma in their country of origin and many have undertaken dangerous, frightening journeys to get here.

Without our support, these people can be left vulnerable to destitution and exploitation.

Local heroes are taking action by offering a spare bed to a refugee and giving the simple gift of somewhere safe to sleep.



But we need more volunteers to join our community and offer safety to those most in need. If you would like to become part of the community of people who welcome refugees, are interested in becoming a host, or to find out more about our hosting programme, please contact our hosting manager, Romy Wood, or visit:

[www.housingjustice.org.uk/cymru/projects/hosting](http://www.housingjustice.org.uk/cymru/projects/hosting)

[r.wood@housingjustice.org.uk](mailto:r.wood@housingjustice.org.uk)



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Please share with us anything your church is doing to support everyone who's caught up in the crisis.

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## Churches prepare to 'count on nature'



Churches and cathedrals across the country are preparing for the annual Churches Count on Nature event.

The 'citizen science' event - set to run between 4-12th June - will welcome people to churchyards and encourage them to record what animals and plants they see. That data will then be collated on the biological records hub, the National Biodiversity Network.

Last year more than 540 activities and events were organised by churches across the country. People submitted 17,232 recorded pieces of data on wildlife they saw, with 1,700 species recorded.

Churches Count on Nature is jointly run by the conservation charities A Rocha UK, Caring for God's Acre together with the Church of England and the Church in Wales.

This year's event will take place during the same week as Love Your Burial Ground Week (4-12th June).

The Bishop of St Davids, Joanna Penberthy, the Church in Wales' lead bishop on the environment, is urging people to take part. She says, "As the Church in Wales works towards its net zero target, Churches Count on Nature is an easy and fun activity for people of all ages to take part in.

"It's a chance to learn about and appreciate the precious world literally on our doorstep and realise our responsibility to nurture and protect it.

"I hope all our churches with burial grounds will register and take part this year and record what treasures of the natural world they observe.

Read more [here](#).



**Is your church listed on ExploreChurches?**

Churches, chapels and meeting houses are 'treasure houses' of heritage, history and community.

The potential for churches to attract visitors and for visits to be enjoyable and worthwhile is huge. The UK has a wonderful national collection of churches, chapels and meeting houses peppered across the countryside and nestling in our towns. Perhaps this is why visiting churches (both old and new) is one of the most popular pastimes in the country, and such sites also attract foreign visitors.

Brought to you by the National Churches Trust, ExploreChurches aim is for their website to become the entry point for everyone wanting to visit a historic church, chapel or meeting house.

View the map and find out more [here](#).

Add your church to the map [here](#).

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## Platinum Jubilee

If your church is planning anything to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee we'd love to know about it.

Please send details to [debragoddard@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:debragoddard@churchinwales.org.uk)

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# For your prayers

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We have been notified that the notice on the passing of Revd Malcolm Haddock published last week included some errors. Please find the corrected details on the life and ministry of Revd Haddock below:

We remember with thanksgiving the life and ministry of Revd Malcolm Haddock who has recently died, aged 94.

Malcolm was ordained priest in 1980, serving as a NSM in Holy Trinity Christchurch, Newport until 1986, when he retired from his job as a College Lecturer. Following his retirement, he became a stipendiary curate in Risca from 1987 until 1989, going on to serve as a stipendiary priest in St Cadoc, Caerleon until his retirement aged 70 in 1996. He was still taking services in Llanhennock until a couple of years ago.

Malcolm's wife died last year.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

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## Training and Events

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**Deadline to book - 20th March!**

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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## 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:

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.\*



From **TORCH TRUST**

## 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



CYNNAL | SUSTAIN  
CYMRU | WALES

## Free courses to help community groups act on the nature crisis

[Nabod Natur – Nature Wise](#) is an online training programme which teaches you about how the natural environment works, the threats it faces, and how we can all help nature thrive.

As part of the course you will be helped to develop an action plan, using your knowledge for the benefit of wildlife and habitats in your local area and beyond.

The courses will run online monthly from March 2022, with participants joining two online sessions with a total time commitment of 5-6 hours. The next course starts on 29th March.

Find out more [here](#).

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## Faith in the Future Webinars

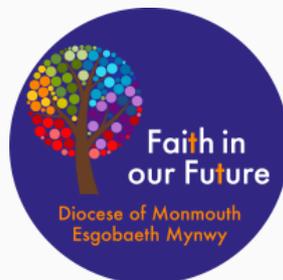
National Churches Trust and the Welsh Historic Places of Worship Forum are holding their next series of webinars over February and March. These will take place on:

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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## Summer 'get together' for Readers

As part of the ongoing programme for Readers/ Licensed Lay Ministers, we would like to invite all of you to the licensing of a new Reader in the Diocese, Hilary Williams.

The licensing will take place at Newport Cathedral on **July 2nd at 11am** and the service will be conducted by Bishop Cherry.

We will be providing a buffet lunch for you after the service and hope that a good number of you will take the time to come and support Hilary and also enjoy some social time with your colleagues and Bishop Cherry.

If you would like to attend the service, please RSVP to Vicki Stevens, Bishop's PA. Please include any dietary requirements in your response.

**Email:** [monbishpa@churcheinwales.org.uk](mailto:monbishpa@churcheinwales.org.uk)

**Phone:** 01633 263510

Please continue to pray for Hilary as she completes this part of her training and prepares to be licensed.

**A reminder of further dates for later in the year :**

**The Provincial Lay Licensed Ministry Conference:** September 23rd – 25th 2022 *(probably in Llandrindod Wells but further details will follow)*

**Diocesan Readers/ LLM Day:** December 3rd 2022 *(details to follow)*

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## Services and Resources

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

## Cathedral Patronal Festival



The Cathedral will be celebrating St Woolos (Sant Gwynllyw) – it's patronal festival - with a Choral Eucharist on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come to the service – there will be refreshments afterwards. To help us prepare, please email [newportcathedral@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:newportcathedral@churchinwales.org.uk) to let us know numbers.

[www.newportcathedral.org.uk](http://www.newportcathedral.org.uk)

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**Esgobaeth Mynwy Gwasanaethau Cymraeg  
Mawrth 2022**

Ebrill / April 26th

Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth

10:30am / y.b.

Eglwys Sant Ioan / St John's Church, Heol St John / St John's Road, Maendy  
Casnewydd / Maindee Newport, NP19 8GR

Pasg Ewcharist / Easter Eucharist

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

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