



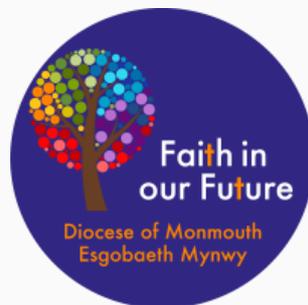
---

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

---

## News

---



### **Ministry Area Commissioning Services**

Since the start of the year, special services have been held across our diocese to celebrate our new Ministry Areas being commissioned.

On Sunday (March 20) Mid Torfaen Ministry Area was officially decreed and the clergy and LLM were licensed.

The service was held at St Hilda's Church where Revd Kate O'Sullivan was licensed as Ministry Area Leader, Revd Philip Godsell as Vicar and Jim Thompson as LLM. Speaking about these commissioning services, Bishop Cherry said: "I want to thank everyone for all that you are doing to bring the churches of our diocese together and to assure you all of my continuing prayers and support."

---

## Vision and Strategy Day

We had a very successful vision and strategy day on Saturday morning at St Teilo's School when representatives from across the diocese met to build on the work done at the October Conference.

There was a lot of engagement and some really exciting ideas that emerged.

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.

Join some familiar faces as they come together at our Vision Day to talk about Faith in our Future



---

## New Vicar for Mynydd Bedwellte Ministry Area



The Bishop of Monmouth is pleased to announce that Revd Lisa Taylor has been appointed as Vicar in the recently inaugurated Mynydd Bedwellte Ministry Area.

Lisa is currently serving as Assistant Curate in the Islwyn Ministry Area and although she is relatively new to ministry, she has a vast experience of church life, having worshipped in a variety of settings, in various traditions and served in different lay positions within the Church.

She has been in the Welsh Valleys for nearly two decades, most of which has been spent in district nursing.

She said: "I have been involved in the life of many families. I have seen the hidden poverty but also the kindness and the support communities give to those in need. This has given me a heart for pastoral care, a passion to express the love of God through the message of the Gospel and loving service, to transform the lives of people who are poor, whether in body and or in spirit, and to grow relationships that connects the church family to all aspects of family life.

"I have embraced valley life and I feel a strong calling to minister amongst the people here, so I am excited and looking forward to this new role. I will be moving to the area with my husband Paul, daughter Naomi and my black Labrador, Bailey. When I am not working, you will find me swimming, out on long walks with Bailey, or sitting somewhere knitting. If you see me out and about, please stop for a chat.'

Find out more [here](#).

---



## Social Responsibility Fund

As a diocese we are currently working on developing a vision for our future.

One of the key themes of this vision is the need to be more involved in tackling social injustice - supporting and growing our churches' initiatives to be more outwardly socially responsible.

The horrific scenes in Ukraine have prompted us to expediate our plans in this area and we are now launching a new fund to support these initiatives earlier than

expected. We are asking for donations from across the dioceses to grow this fund.

Bishop Cherry, explains: “We hope that people will contribute to this fund as it will help our churches support those most in need, when they need it most.”

“Initially, the funds will be used to help the thousands of refugees from Ukraine who are arriving in Wales seeking sanctuary from the horrific violence and devastation being wreaked on that country. However, it will also be available to support the work being done by our churches in welcoming refugees from all over the world, as well as developing projects which tackle the causes of Injustice which lead to huge discrepancies in life expectancy, health, education and Income throughout our diocese.”

It is estimated that as many as 3,000 people, mainly women and children, could be arriving in the next few days and weeks in the areas that make up the Diocese of Monmouth. Congregations and church members will be keen to do all we can to support and help them as they seek to settle amongst us.

Bishop Cherry, says: “Our thought is to have our own fund so that we could help local churches better support refugees in their community and bring those who are quite isolated together.”

“This will be available to resource our support work locally in terms of practical and pastoral care as well as funding other things such as translation services so that we can offer emotional and spiritual support where that is needed. “

“Please be as generous as you can. Ongoing support for the refugees who come here is going to be needed for many months and most likely years, and their needs are only going to increase as time goes by. Whatever you give will be used wisely and well. Thank you.”

Details of how to donate to the fund and also how to apply for funding will be available shortly. Please think of this fund when you are fundraising over Lent.



✠ Cherry



## Ukraine Crisis - Prayers and Resources

Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine is having devastating consequences on the people there. Millions, mostly women and children, have had to flee and become refugees, while those left behind are facing increasingly desperate conditions.

The UN estimates that 12 million people inside Ukraine will need relief and protection, while more than four million Ukrainian refugees may need protection and assistance in neighbouring countries in coming months.

The Church in Wales have put together a range of resources and prayers to help churches and individuals looking to respond which are available [here](#).

YR EGLWYS  
YNG NGHYMRU

THE CHURCH  
IN WALES

**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*



The Counselling Service for  
Clergy, Ministers of Religion,  
Christian Workers, and their Families.

## A Prayer for those in Christian ministry in Ukraine

Loving God, we give you thanks for the work of Cynnal, supporting people in Christian ministry across Wales. And now we hold in your presence all those who are in Christian ministry in Ukraine.

Give them a deep awareness of your presence amidst all the chaos. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Give them a profound sense of trust in you, as they proclaim the victory of your love in Jesus over all that is evil. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Heal their trauma, as they offer support to those who are also traumatised by fear, horror and destruction. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Comfort them in their grief, as they minister to those who have also lost friends, families, homes and their way of life. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

When they feel useless, weak and exhausted, may they know that your purpose is still at work in them. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Give them people who can understand, love and support them in times of darkness and loneliness. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Give them wisdom, when they have to decide whether to flee to save themselves and their loved ones, or to stay and share the suffering of their people. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Keep us faithful in prayer and compassion for them and those whom they serve. Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We pray in the name of Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord. **Amen.**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

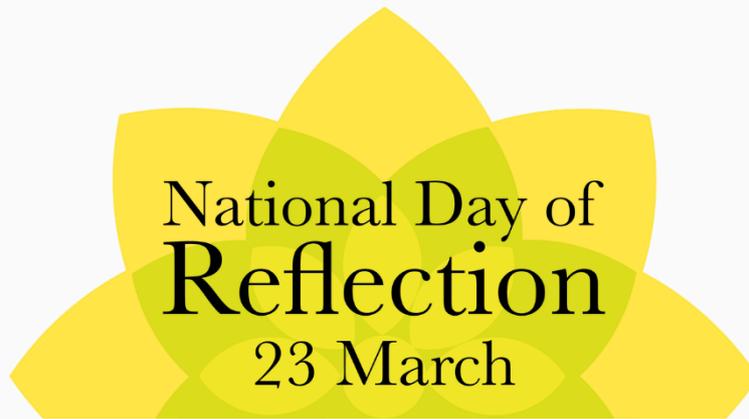
wynfordellisowen@adferiad.org

Telephone: 07796 464 045

[www.cynnal.wales](http://www.cynnal.wales)

You can download this prayer in English [here](#) and Welsh [here](#).

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



## National Day of Reflection

This week we remember all victims of the Covid-19 pandemic in a National Day of Reflection.

March 23 is the second anniversary of the start of the first national lockdown in 2020. Please take some time out during the day to think about those who have died and those who still suffer from the virus. The event is organised by the Marie Curie charity. [Find out more about how you can get involved.](#)

---

### A message from the Archbishop of Wales

Dear friends,

As we approach the second anniversary of all the restrictions put in place to try and manage our response to the Covid pandemic, I just want to send a message of support to all of you: to those who lost loved ones or friends; to those whose lives were blighted; and to those who found the very experience of being separated from loved ones and confined to home to be de-stabilising and difficult. You are not alone and you are loved and cared for. And in light of that, a short prayer:

Almighty God, you have called us to yourself  
In you we live and move and have our being.  
We pray your presence with us as we go into the future.  
Give us faith, give us hope and, above everything else, walk closely with us,  
Which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ,  
Amen.

---

The Diocese of Llandaff hosted a bilingual service for National Day of Reflection. Led by Fr Dyfrig Lloyd, the service remembered the family, friends, colleagues and neighbours who died of Covid over the last two years. You can watch the service here:



YR EGLWYS YNG NGHYMRU THE CHURCH IN WALES

*A Prayer for the National Day of Reflection*

God of the Universe,  
Jesus teaches us to lay all our needs before you.  
As we reflect on the recent years of pandemic,  
we offer to you those who mourn and miss their loved ones.  
Through your Spirit give comfort to those in distress,  
the lonely and weak.  
Help us to do all that we can to make your world a better place,  
in honour of those whom we lost but still love.  
Amen.

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



## Provincial Safeguarding Officer - Contact Details

Please note that our Provincial Safeguarding Officer, Fay Howe, has a new mobile number.

Tel: 07840 843244

Email: [fayhowe@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:fayhowe@churchinwales.org.uk)

If you want to talk to someone about a safeguarding concern or issue affecting a child or adult at risk within the Church in Wales please contact Fay.

There will be further safeguarding training sessions available after Easter.

---

## 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](#).

---



## 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](#).

---



## 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)

---

## Electric Organ Available

Does your church need an organ?

There is a large free standing electrical organ available for free for anyone able to collect from Blackwood.

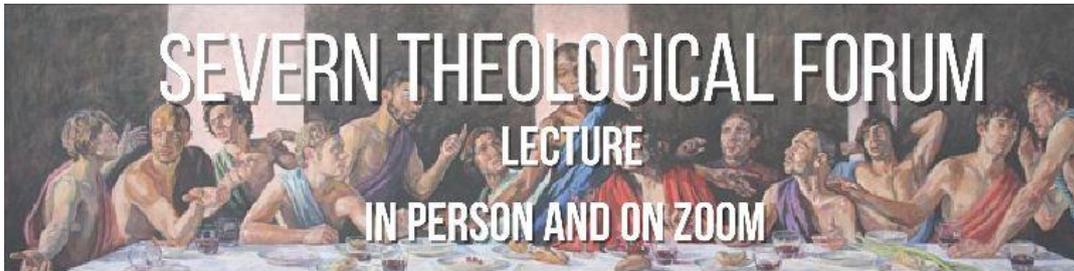
For more information please contact Mr Lee

Moles, 07366408406, [leeslunchbox@hotmail.com](mailto:leeslunchbox@hotmail.com)

---

# Training and Events

**Lecture tonight!**



**The Sacred Task of Black Religion:  
Speaking Black Truth to White Power  
Reassessing the Legacy of James H Cone**

**Speaker: Prof. Anthony Reddie**, Director of Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture @ Regent Park College, University of Oxford

**Wednesday 23rd March 2022**

**Zoom opens by 7.30pm & Lecture starting @ 7.45pm**

**The Elwes Building Lecture Theatre TC014**, The Park Campus,  
University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham GL50 2RH

**For the Zoom Link** please contact **Philip Averay** at [revphilipaveray@gmail.com](mailto:revphilipaveray@gmail.com) who will be happy to help.

Email [revphilipaveray@gmail.com](mailto:revphilipaveray@gmail.com) for the zoom link.



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](#).

---



## 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:

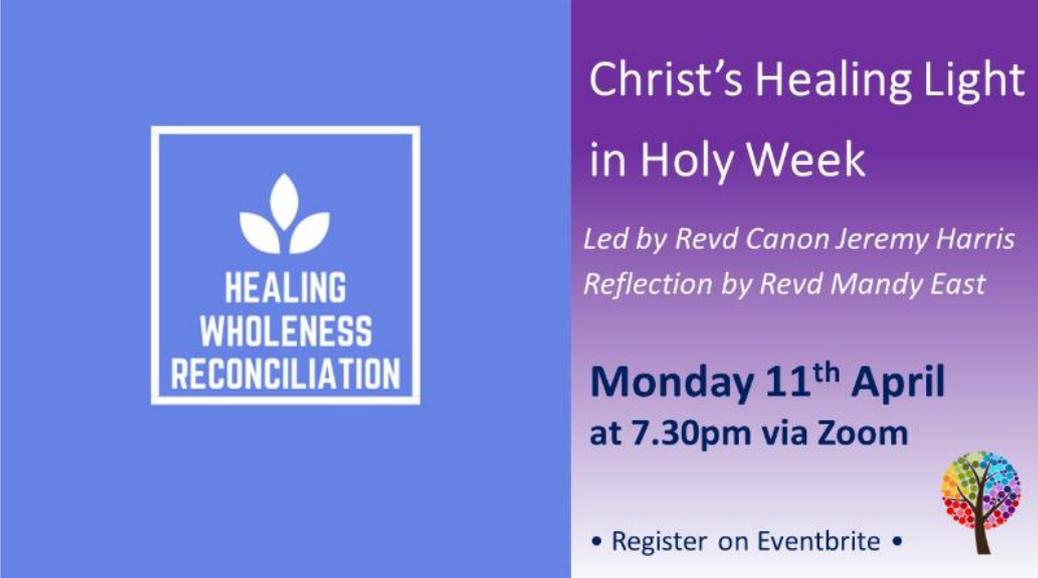
29th March: Rising to the climate change challenge

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](#).

---

## Christ's Healing Light in Holy Week - 11th April



The poster is split into two main sections. The left section has a blue background and features a white square containing a stylized white leaf icon above the text 'HEALING WHOLENESS RECONCILIATION'. The right section has a purple-to-white gradient background. It contains the title 'Christ's Healing Light in Holy Week', the speakers 'Led by Revd Canon Jeremy Harris' and 'Reflection by Revd Mandy East', the date and time 'Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm via Zoom', and a call to action '• Register on Eventbrite •' next to a small tree icon made of colorful dots.

Book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christs-healing-light-in-holy-week-registration-304839131047>

---



## 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, at 11am. 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.

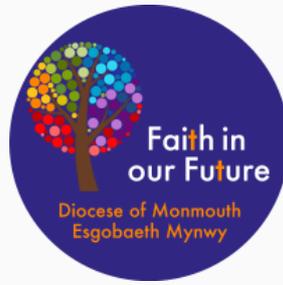
Please get in touch with this information by 31<sup>st</sup> March at the latest so that there is time to organise seating and the buffet.

With my prayers and best wishes,



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

---



## 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@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:monbishpa@churchinwales.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)*

---

## Services and Resources

---



Join a Mothering Sunday 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.

Join the service via YouTube [here](#).

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

---

## 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.



The Counselling Service for  
Clergy, Ministers of Religion,  
Christian Workers, and their Families.

## Cynnal Easter Prayer 2022

Heavenly Father,  
when the time was right,  
your Son resolutely set out for Jerusalem.  
As we travel through Lent to Easter,  
may we be resolute in our commitment to follow Him  
along the way of the Cross.

May we learn from those He met along the way,  
who were repelled by Him in their pride.  
May we store up our treasure in heaven,  
and be content to leave our earthly treasures to follow Him.  
May we have the courage to acknowledge His authority  
over both the natural and the supernatural universe.  
May we be fearless in the face of human opposition  
and undaunted when He calls us to resist the pagan world.

May we learn from those He met along the way,  
who were drawn to Him in their need.  
Teach us to welcome Jesus into our lives,  
to listen to Him and to learn from His teaching.  
Give us grace to ask Him to increase our faith,  
to teach us to pray, and to forgive our sin.  
Grant us the humility to allow Him  
to heal our sickness and disabilities, and to drive out our demons.  
Endow us with wisdom to look for the kingdom of God,  
to accept His salvation,  
and to rejoice in His mighty resurrection.

Above all, fill us with your Spirit of love,  
that we may love the Lord our God  
with all our heart and with all our soul  
and with all our strength and with all our mind,  
and love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

We pray all this is the name of your Son,  
our risen, ascended and glorified Lord,  
Jesus Christ. Amen.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
wynfordellisowen@adferiad.org  
Telephone: 07796 464 045

[www.cynnal.wales](http://www.cynnal.wales)

Download a copy of this prayer in English [here](#) and Welsh [here](#).