View this email in your browser

Esgobaeth Mynwy

Diocese of Monmouth



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

News

Diocesan Day of Prayer



'Meeting with God'

Join Bishop Cherry at a Diocesan Day of Prayer

Prayer is at the centre of our life as Christians and as members of God's Church.

Join our Diocesan Day of Prayer with Bishop Cherry where we can make space to listen and attune ourselves to the rhythm of God's grace.

The day will provide an opportunity to be drawn into prayer, deepening our encounter with God as we listen, explore and discern His call on our lives individually and as His church.

Tuesday 16th May 9.30am to 4pm

St Marys Priory, 5 Monk St, Abergavenny NP7 5ND

Parking at the pay and display Bus Station Car Park next to the Church. Bring your own lunch. Tea and Coffee provided.

Click image to enlarge

Ring for the King



On Saturday afternoon, following the Coronation of King Charles III, the new ringers with support from others rang the bells at Christ Church, Ebbw Vale. We recruited as part of the 'Ring for the King' initiative. The new recruits have been so excited to do this and have been practicing at other towers in the area to be able to learn to handle a bell.

It was amazing to hear the bells, which are one of the best in the country, ring out across the town. We look forward to the future as they continue to grow in their ability and confidence! Well done all and God Save the King.



New Memorial Chapel

The old potting shed at St Teilo's Church, Llantilio Pertholey has been transformed into a chapel of remembrance for the local people who lost their lives during the first World War.

It was the brainchild of history graduate Jessica Graham, a church warden in the North Monmouthshire Ministry Area.



She said: "I researched the names of the men from World War 1 and as with any research project it takes time. But I hit the jackpot because by the end of 2010, with the help of local resident Graham Hawker I found ten local residents.

"It developed into an idea of creating a chapel of remembrance where the old stone shed for storing garden implements stood. From now on the building will be known as a chapel of remembrance and not Jess' Shed and anyone who uses that nickname will be fined on the spot!"

She said the idea took some time to reach fruition because a riverside walk and then the wildflower walk through the Bible were being developed in the churchyard, which has wooden crosses from all parts of the world as the focal point - another scheme developed by Jessica.

The chapel was dedicated on Bank Holiday Monday by the Bishop of Monmouth, the Right Rev Cherry Vann, accompanied by Archdeacon Ian Rees at a service conducted by the vicar, the Rev Julian Gray.

Bishop Cherry explains: "This new Chapel of Remembrance is not only a beautiful piece of architecture, but a testimony to what one person can achieve when they have the vision and the determination to bring something to fruition.

It links the present church and community with the past and provides a quiet and reflective space for future visitors to enjoy. Hopefully, along with the 'Living Churchyard' in which it is set, the chapel will become a place of prayer and pilgrimage for walkers, locals and tourists from further afield."



The children from Junior Church took an active part in the service with Isaac Bailey and Isabella Mars as sidespeople and eight-year-olds Archie Bailey and Molly Jenkins reading. The service was appropriately held on what has become known as Mons Day, in memory of the men from the Monmouthshire Regiment who fell on that day in 1915 when the regiment was decimated.

The church was full for the service and among the congregation were Josh Van Male director of Foxtail Oak Ltd who completed the magnificent woodwork, and Aaron Hazleham of A H Stonework who built the foundations and walls. The work took three months and the project was challenging for both teams of men. Aaron said he and his father have worked on more than 1,000 churches throughout the UK but this chapel was one of the most difficult because the footings had to go deeper than expected and an archaeologist had to be brought in. Josh said the project was his most challenging because of the intricacies of the framework.

The £57,000 cost was met by grants from the Welsh Church Act Fund, Llantilio Pertholey Community Council, the Diocese of Monmouth and the Garfield Weston Foundation.

As well as being a memorial chapel this will be a wonderful place of peace and prayer.



Churches Unlocked Festival



Things are gearing up for our first Churches Unlocked Festival, which will run **3rd – 11th June**. The festival celebrates the rich history and heritage of our churches and the lively communities which use them today.

Launched by our neighbour Llandaff Diocese last year, we have decided to join forces with them and pilot the scheme in Monmouth.

The 10 churches taking part from across our diocese are getting ready to host walks and talks around the history and heritage of their area, community events, family fun, music, arts and workshops.

One of those who relished the opportunity to welcome more people to church and was happy to roll up their shirt sleeves to make it happen was Peter Foden of St Cybi's Church in LLangybi.



Peter says: "The festival came to us on a plate really. I didn't hear about it until we had a church meeting in January, and it seemed to me right then an opportunity we just had to grab. Llangybi is quite a big and lively village, but the church seems to hide away in a corner. It's behind the pub and most of the village is the other side of the main road. The congregation is mainly elderly, but the community is all ages from newborn onwards. it's time we reconnected!

"Now we're in a ministry area of 30 churches, with Sally as our Vicar, there's an opportunity for a fresh start, and if that wasn't enough of a stimulus, here's Churches Unlocked encouraging us to open up.

"If churches played 'top trumps', St Cybi's would have a lot of the star cards - a Celtic patron from the 'Age of the Saints' - a holy well - mediaeval wall paintings - a lost rood screen - royal patronage - association with the Templars - vintage Victorian organ. And in the wider landscape, the castle of a Marcher Lord, steep wooded hills and the gentle beauty of the Usk valley.

"Llangybi people are famous for their hospitality, so we hope visitors will get a warm welcome. St Cybi's will be decked with flowers by our dedicated team. Lots of lovely local musicians are giving their time and talents freely to fill the church with beautiful sounds: even when there isn't a concert or service, you might hear someone rehearsing or tuning up, adding to the worshipful atmosphere within our ancient walls.

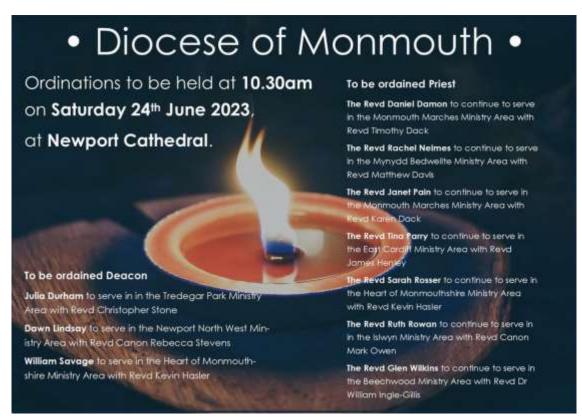
"There are many mysteries about the history of St Cybi's: it would be a shame to solve them, but we are having talks from experts who can decode the wall paintings and the story of Cybi himself. And on Sunday afternoon, the normally private Llangibby Castle will be opened up for pilgrims on Camino Cybi."

There are more than 100 events planned for the festival across the week with something for everyone! It would be wonderful if everyone could support the festival – and invite a few friends along too!

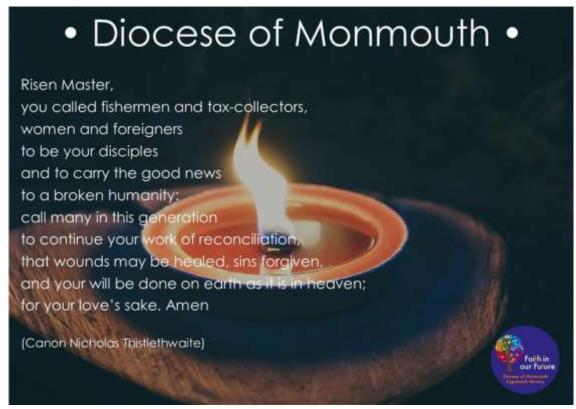
To find out more about the events in your area and further afield, please visit their website: Churches Unlocked

For your prayers

Ember List 2023



Click image to enlarge



Click image to enlarge

Training & Events

Friends of St Woolos Cathedral

ANNUAL LECTURE

Canon Dr Arthur Edwards

Alfred Ollivant Reforming Victorian Bishop



Thursday 25th May 2023 7.00pm Admission Free Newport Cathedral, Stow Hill

This year's lecture will be given by Canon Dr Arthur Edwards, a former Canon of the Cathedral. Well-known for his expertise in the history of the Church in Wales, Canon Edwards' lecture is entitled **Alfred Ollivant, Reforming Victorian Bishop**. Ollivant was a very significant figure in the revival of Anglicanism in Wales during the nineteenth century and the lecture will provide an opportunity to find out more about him.

The lecture will be followed by light refreshments. Admission is free and all are welcome.





Churches Count on Nature

During Love your Burial Ground Week *(4th-12th of June)* churches from all denominations are being invited to a week-long 'nature count' to monitor and celebrate the biodiversity in churchyards. This initiative will see people visiting churchyards to record what they see – from the ancient yews to tiny ladybirds. The data will then be collated on the National Biodiversity Network.

During Churches Count on Nature 2023, the Church of England Environment Programme is running a special series of webinars on different aspects of land and nature. Find help with churchyard management, inspiring examples of how church land at all levels is being managed, hear from Bishop Graham Usher about becoming more aware of nature, and get informed about the big picture of the twin crises for climate and nature.

For the first time, and to reflect the partnership with the Church in Wales, we are also trialling a webinar simultaneously translated into the Welsh language, on Eco Church Land.

Webinars:

Mon 5th June, noon - Practical Guidance on Churchyard Management **Tues 6th June**, noon - Examples of Managing Church Land for Climate and Nature

Wed 7th June, noon - Paying Attention to Nature, with Bishop Graham Usher, Lead Bishop on the Environment

Thurs 8th June, noon - Eco Church Land (Eco Church Rheoli Tir Eglwys) **Fri 9th June**, noon - From Global to Local: Tackling the Twin Crises for Climate and Nature

For more information or to book onto one of these webinars, please visit this link:

Churches Count on Nature 2023



SE Wales RSCM Choral Festival - Saturday 17th June

St Mary, Margam Abbey, Port Talbot, SA13 2TA

The day will be directed by Hugh Morris, Director of the RSCM and accompanied on the organ by Aaron Shilson, Assistant Director of Music at Llandaff Cathedral.

TIMETABLE:

10.30am Registration

11am Rehearsal

1pm Lunch (please make your own arrangements)

2pm Rehearsal

3.45pm Tea break (refreshments provided)

4.30pm Service

5.30pm Estimated end time

REPERTOIRE:

Introit: Locus iste – Bruckner

Responses: Tallis

Canticles: Wood in E flat no. 2

Anthem: Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace – Wesley

COST:

RSCM member: £8 Non-member: £10 Students/under 18s: £3

All welcome!

For more information, to register and to get copies of the music in advance, please contact Emma Gibbins: emmagibbins1978@gmail.com / 07952 514117



Act for Nature

Saturday 24th June, 10.30 - 3pm Highgrove Church, Sea Mills, Bristol, BS9 2NL

Join A Rocha UK's CEO, Andy Atkins, as we discover how Eco Churches are incorporating care for God's creation as part of their mission.

Highgrove Church is a Silver Eco Church and will be on hand to explain how they act for nature and plant hope through caring for God's creation. We'll also be joined by our friends from Hazelnut Community Farm - a Gold Eco Church and an A Rocha Partner in Action - as well as Delyth Higgins from the Eco Church team.

It will be a great opportunity to learn and share more of your experience of campaigning for nature - and 'speak up'

To find out and more and to book your place, please see the following: Act

If you have any questions please contact the organisers on uk@arocha.org



Safeguarding Training Dates

Safeguarding Courses will be available across the Diocese in 2023 to ensure that everyone has the right level of up to date training for their role and has a good understanding of their role in Safeguarding in the Church.

Module A is available online and can be undertaken independently without a trainer and without booking. The course is designed to support all of us within our church communities and aims to equip everyone to help make the church – and keep the church – a safe place. It should be completed by all clergy, everyone with a church office and anyone requiring further safeguarding training. It can be accessed on our webpages or by following this link: https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/safeguarding/safeguarding-training/church-in-wales-safeguarding-awareness-module-a/

Module B needs to be completed by all clergy, anyone with a church office and all in the church who have a role with children or adults at risk. It is a closer look at safeguarding in the Church context, developing an awareness and understanding of the safeguarding processes related to roles and responsibilities within the Church in Wales. The dates for Module B next term are:

Date	Day	Start Time	Location	Postcode	Course
23/05/2023	Tuesday	6.30pm	Holy Trinity Christchurch Church Hall, Newport	NP18 1JP	В
25/05/2023	Thursday	10.00am	St Cadoc's Church, Raglan	NP15 2EN	В
06/06/2023	Tuesday	10.00am	Monmouth Diocesan Office	NP20 4HJ	В
22/06/2023	Thursday	10.00am	Monmouth Diocesan Office	NP20 4HJ	E (for PTO)
27/06/2023	Tuesday	6.30pm	St Cadoc's Church, Raglan	NP15 ZEN	В

Please click on the table to enlarge

These are available to book onto by using our webform at https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/safeguarding/safeguarding-training/safeguarding-training-booking-form/ or by emailing safeguardingtraining@cinw.org.uk.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Safeguarding Trainer - Bec Jones if you have any questions at rebeccajones@cinw.org.uk

Services & Resources



Join the service from the Cathedral this Sunday at 10:30am here.



The Bereavement Journey

The Bereavement Journey now have an updated website with promotional material

Feedback from their pilot courses has been extremely positive and they are looking forward to equipping churches to offer support to even more bereaved people.

Any churches who have already purchased a Course Leader's pack for the previous materials will be receiving a link to download the new one early next month, and at the same time, the Leader's Pack will be available to purchase by those new to the course from The Bereavement Journey shop www.thebereavementjourney.org/shop

You can view their promotional film for Churches/Christian organisations here: https://vimeo.com/825029365

Free, online introductory sessions available to book now:

- Are you interested in finding out more about the update to The Bereavement Journey?
- Have you run the course before and want to know what has changed?
- Are you new to the course and want to know how it all works?

You are welcome to one of their free, short, and informal online sessions for course leaders in churches/Christian organisations, to learn what is involved and ask any questions.

Over 160 people have booked their place, and one date is already fully booked so they have released two more sessions. To view dates and register, please click here.

ESGOBAETH MYNWY - GWASANAETHAU CYMRAEG

Mai 13 <i>May 13</i> Dydd Sadwrn / <i>Saturday</i>	9.30 am / y.b.	St Thomas Trefynwy / Monmouth	Ewcharist <i>Eucharist</i>
Mehefin 13 June 13 Dydd Mawrth / Tuesday	7.00 pm / y.h.	St Mary Magwyr / <i>Magor</i>	Ewcharist Eucharist
Gorffennaf 8 <i>July 8</i> Dydd Sadwrn / <i>Saturday</i>	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas Trefynwy / Monmouth	Ewcharist Eucharist

Am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Ruth Willis: ruth-willis05@hotmail.com
For further information contact Ruth Willis: ruth-willis05@hotmail.com

For a downloadable and printable version of this email please click here.

You can find the one-stop-shop for all you need to know and this week's updates here.



Diocese of Monmouth · Esgobaeth Mynwy

Diocesan Office, 64 Caerau Road, Newport, NP20 4HJ 01633 267490 · monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk

Monmouth Diocesan Board of Finance is a company registered in England and Wales. Company no: 003489945 · Charity no: 1067653











Copyright (C) 2023 Diocese of Monmouth. All rights reserved.