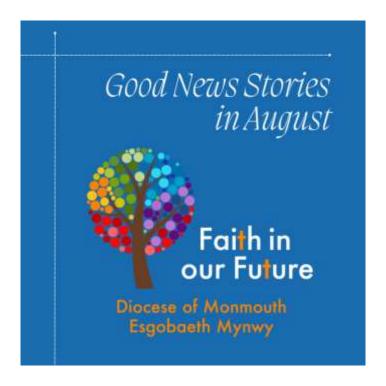
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Esgobaeth Mynwy

Diocese of Monmouth



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

Midweek Mailing in August

As diocesan events and news slows down for the summer, we would love to use the Midweek Mailing in August as an opportunity to share Good News stories.

If your ministry area has anything to share that will encourage and uplift others, please get in touch with the Diocesan Office. You can send your articles (with photos where possible) to

admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk



Llongyfarchiadau!

We are delighted to announce that Fr Ross Maidment has been appointed as Ministry Area Leader in the Mountain and Marsh Ministry Area, where he is currently Vicar. Ross moved back to the diocese from Winchester College in September 2022, having served his curacy here.





"I am delighted that Ross has felt called to take on the role of Ministry Area Leader. In the short time that he has been in the Mountain and Marsh Ministry Area, he has demonstrated immense energy and enthusiasm for ministry as well as a great gift for connecting with people in the local community. He is a team player who has wisdom and vision and heart for sharing the good news of the gospel with others. I look forward to all that he will bring to the life of the Ministry Area and wider diocese in his new role."

- Bishop Cherry Vann

Llongyfarchiadau! Congratulations Fr Ross Maidment

New Ministry Area Leader for Mountain and Marsh MA

Passionate about the role of the Church in the secular world, Ross currently serves as a Reservist Chaplain within the Royal Navy and as a Branch Chaplain to the Royal British Legion.

He says, "there is a great deal of potential in the newly formed Mountain and Marsh Ministry Area, and it has been such a joy to witness the beginnings of growth and renewal in many of the churches. Stephanie, Saoirse, and I are looking forward to this next step on a journey that we couldn't have written for ourselves. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve, and we look forward to joining you all, embracing the challenges and trusting in Jesus who beckons us towards a future brimming with promise and purpose."

Later this year Ross will publish a study in Mariology. The book includes original research, as well as responses from theologians, notably the Rt Revd Gregory Cameron, the Bishop of St Asaph.

Ross is married to Stephanie, and last year welcomed daughter, Saoirse. They also share the house with three cats: Wilfred, Hermione and Esme. The family enjoy holidays in their campervan, 'Bilbo'.



A note from Bishop Cherry

"One of the great joys of being a bishop is the opportunities that I have to meet with school children. Usually, this happens through my visits to our Church in Wales Primary Schools which are always an inspiration. But in June, I was invited to meet with some of the children from a local school who came to the Rhymney Valley Food Bank housed at St Peter's Church, Aberbargoed They had asked me to talk to them about my role as Bishop and I took the opportunity to show them the things I was given when I was made a bishop; my pectoral cross, ring, pastoral staff and mitre. All of these symbols say something about what a bishop is and what we are called to do.



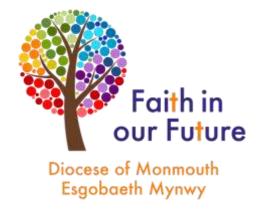
Then came the questions – and they had come prepared!

There were lots of questions about faith and religion, and the really encouraging thing for me was that they seemed genuinely interested. Here were some young people wanting to know about God and Jesus and why faith matters. One of the questions was about how Jesus can be with us now when he had died on the cross. When I tried to explain about Pentecost and that it is his Spirit who is with us now, we then got into the doctrine of the Trinity not an easy concept for any of us to get our heads around!

At the end, I was presented with a beautiful drawing of me that one young girl had drawn as I had been speaking. And as well as drawing, she had been listening too. Because at the top of her drawing were the words, 'Three in one and one in three.' There is our understanding of the Trinity in a nutshell.

I always leave my meetings with young people feeling hopeful and inspired, and that meeting at the Foodbank was no different. There was no embarrassment about them as they asked their questions. They listened attentively and seemed keen to understand what Christianity is all about. It was good, and a challenge for me to have to try and explain some of the mysteries of our faith in ways they could understand and not fall into the trap of using religious language that only church people tend to be familiar with.

Let's hope and pray that some seeds have been sown in their young hearts and minds that will draw them into faith and help them to understand just how much God loves them and just how unique and precious they are as his children."



Changes to Diocesan Conference 2023

Conference is going to look a little different this year, Clare explains a bit more about this in the video below.



If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Diocesan Office - admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk



Glascoed Churchyard Survey of Church Meadowland

Glascoed churchyard has been a nature reserve for many years. It is home to early purple orchids and a rare variety of cowslip and produces a wonderful display of flowers and wildlife throughout the year. They have set up a Twitter account which charts weekly developments in the meadow, which you can find at this link here.

The Church has recently joined the Monmouthshire Meadows Group and they were honoured to receive a visit recently by Dr Steph Tyler to carry out a survey. Dr Tyler is a British ornithologist, zoologist, naturalist, conservationist, and author from Monmouthshire, who is now the President of the Monmouthshire Meadows Group. Their neighbour, Rhys, has produced a short video of Dr Tyler's visit which is a fascinating description of the plants and their significance. You can view the video below.



Promoting the natural history of their churchyard is part of a project to revive St Michael's Glascoed and to rebuild its links with the local community, as well as meeting the Environment aims of our diocesan vision.

Chaplaincy at the Usk Show 9th September 2023

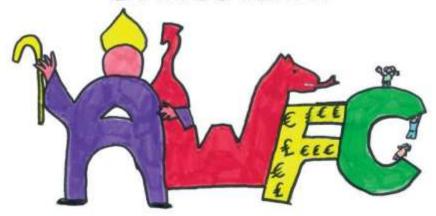
Every year at the Usk Show, a chaplaincy service is provided with free tea, coffee and biscuits, somewhere to sit and rest with baby feeding and changing facilities, and some children's activities. What an exciting opportunity!

If anyone would like to lend their help, either with hospitality, supervising children's activities or just being there for a chat / in a pastoral capacity, please get in touch with Clare Bradly by text on 07952754744 or by e-mail on strawberry.flann@twigy.co.uk

Clare will organise a rota to ensure there is cover throughout the day.



CRONFA ARCHESGOB CYMRU ER BUDD PLANT



THE ARCHBISHOP OF WALES
FUND FOR CHILDREN

A Message from the Newport Committee of the AWFC

The Archbishop of Wales Fund for Children is closing, but still currently has resources for any project designed for the benefit of children.

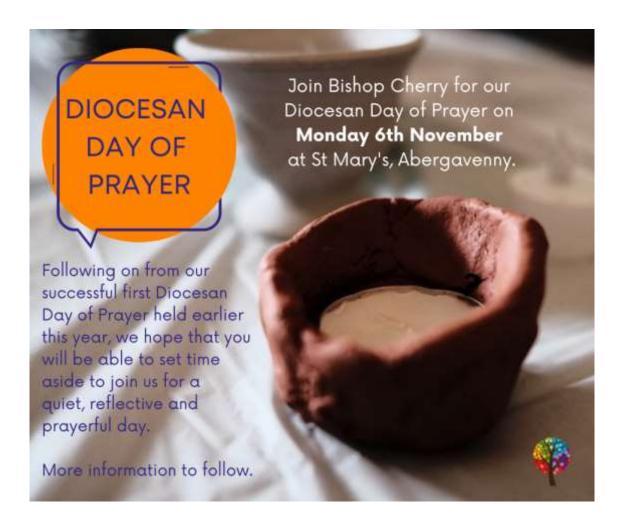
The Newport Committee of the fund has been the most active in Wales in raising the money and are particularly keen that projects from the Monmouth Diocese are supported using the remaining cash.

Applications may be for large or small amounts (the largest has been an award of £5,000), as long as projects are fully costed. They may be from church or secular organisations.

The application form is available at the link below, but you need to apply before September.

https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/our-campaigns/archbishop-wales-fund-children/making-application/

Save the Date - Diocesan Day of Prayer



Following on from our successful first Diocesan Day of Prayer held earlier this year, we hope that you will be able to join us on **Monday 6th November** for a quiet, reflective and prayerful day in St Mary's, Abergavenny. More information will follow.

Services



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

Vacancies

Ministry Area Leader - Severn Wye

We are looking for a new Ministry Area Leader with a strong faith and a real heart for God who will take the ministry area through the development stage and into a period of mission and growth.

The person we would like for this role will:

- Have the vision to lead and develop a committed and enthusiastic lay and clergy team in a beautiful part of Wales, have a calling to grow the church community, and give it a strong sense of unity
- Inspire the Ministry Area Community in worship, and be able to communicate scripture in a way that relates well to existing church members and encourages potential future church members
- Enthuse the Ministry Area with energy and inspire people with vision, finding novel and effective ways of bringing more people to Christ
- Be caring and relate to people of all generations, helping people of all ages to explore, develop and use their gifts
- Have the desire to work with younger people, engaging enthusiastically with the ministry to schools and, hopefully, with the new Church Hub
- Communicate and develop a creative and missional vision for our buildings

We need a Ministry Area Leader who can help us grow as disciples, building on our strengths but also helping us address our weaknesses. We feel now is the time to embrace change and develop our potential for spiritual, missional and numerical growth.

We are striving to be an inclusive diocese and would welcome applications from all suitably qualified clerics.

For an informal conversation please contact the Venerable Ian Rees on (07983684151) or archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk

Application form and full profile available at https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/jobs/ministry-area-leader-severn-wye-ministry-area/

Applications should be submitted by email to: archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk

Closing date for applications: August 25th 2023

Interviews to take place on September 22nd 2023

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

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