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# VISION IN FOCUS

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## Introduction

Our Diocesan Conference is taking place this Saturday (21st October) at St Teilo's High School and we are looking forward to seeing many of you there! Last year's conference was awash with orange and blue as we launched our Diocesan Vision - *Faith in Our Future* and this year we are building on that! The theme for this year is 'Welcome/Croeso' which is at the heart of all that we do and weaves its way through all five branches of our vision.

This edition of Vision in Focus gives you a 'sneak peek' of what the day will look like, but also offers insight and resources for those who are not members of conference.

We are all warm and welcoming, but there is always something more we can learn - let's be more invitational, let's be the best!

*Debra Goddard*

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## 'Welcome' from Diocesan Secretary



The theme of this year's Diocesan Conference is 'Welcome/Croeso' and we hope that all our conference members and observers feel welcomed and valued when they attend our conference this Saturday morning in St Teilo's High School.

Being welcoming and showing a good welcome is important for us as a Church because we have the wonderful privilege of being asked to share faith with our communities in so many different ways, both those who are inside and those who are outside our current church congregations.

After the formal business of motions and reports has been completed, those who attend on Saturday will have an opportunity to discuss the importance of welcome and what we can do to develop a culture of invitation and welcome in the churches of our diocese.

Our diocesan vision, launched at our conference in October 2022, uses the five branches of discipleship, stewardship, social justice, equality and diversity, and environment to help us to focus on how our churches can grow. Invitation and

welcome are key aspects of any potential growth and each of the branches of the vision are important in demonstrating that welcome.

During the second half of conference, we will be asked to consider some of the practicalities of welcome - through our buildings, signage, hospitality and, crucially, our worship. Life events, festivals and the seasons of the church year provide us with an invaluable opportunity to engage with those outside of our current church communities. By showing a good welcome at these times and by being invitational we can make connections that can flourish into deeper relationships.

We look forward to some fruitful and inspiring conversations with all those who attend this Saturday's Diocesan Conference. We will, of course, feedback on the discussions to all those who are not present.

Finally, we are grateful to everyone who has put themselves forward to be conference members and everyone who has requested to attend conference as an observer. We hope that you all have an enjoyable time on Saturday and we look forward to seeing you!



**Isabel Thompson**  
**Diocesan Secretary**

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## **Launch of 'welcome' courses**



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## Conference stalls

Our diocesan vision, launched at our conference in October 2022, introduced us to the five branches of discipleship, stewardship, social justice, equality and diversity, and environment. This year, we have invited some partners along to our Diocesan Conference who can help us deliver on our commitment to delivering this vision and grow our churches!



Aims to release people across the UK from poverty, to enable churches to help end poverty through their communities, and to encourage people to live with faith, actively served by their church.



A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment.



The Mission to Seafarers provides help and support to the 1.89 million crewmen and women who face danger every day to keep our global economy afloat.



Leading your Church into Growth (LYCIG) is a Christian organisation which equips church leaders and churches to grow.



Student Christian Movement SCM is a movement of students, past and present, responding to the call of Jesus to follow him and show the love of God on campus, in our communities and in the world.



Growing Hope provides free therapy for children and young people with additional needs and their families in partnership with local churches across the UK. We have a vision to see 20 clinics set up by 2030.



Hope for Justice exists to bring an end to modern slavery by preventing exploitation, rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society.



Specialist insurance company for you and your church.



Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation that has been supporting families worldwide for over 140 years.

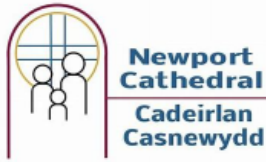


St Padarn's is the training arm of the Church in Wales



The Church in Wales Provincial Safeguarding Team can be contacted for advice and support in relation to safeguarding concerns within the Church in Wales and for questions relating to Safeguarding Policy and procedures.





Newport Cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Monmouth and the mother church of her Diocese.



Our Church Resource Officer, Zoe Ward, is excited to support the growth of our diocese through the stewardship branch of our vision. Please stop by to learn about the new stewardship workshop for MAs or to pick up resources for commissioned lay ministry and giving.

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