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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.

News

Bishop Cherry's Lent Appeal Reflections

Join Bishop Cherry as she introduces our diocesan Lent Appeal 2024. This year's appeal will support projects in our link diocese in the Highveld, South Africa. Bishop Cherry visited the Highveld last year, with a several others from across the diocese, and during the forthcoming weeks of Lent, members of the group will be highlighting some of the projects they visited and some of the work that the Highveld Board of Social Responsibility is engaged in.



[Lent Appeal 2024 - introduction \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Vision In Focus - Lent



A special edition of Vision in Focus is dedicated to Lent. It offers resources, suggested reading, along with daily reflections and actions. The Ven. Ian Rees shares his thoughts on the link between Lent and St David, as we find out more about this year's Lent Appeal.

Click [here](#) to view full edition of Vision in Focus on our webpage.

HOLDING THE FARMING COMMUNITY IN OUR PRAYERS



News of farmers demonstrating may sound like a group of militants just stamping their feet, but that really isn't the case. The average income on Welsh farms is around £15,000/yr - which means a number of those farms must be earning far less than that! Also, those incomes are likely to drop as the cost of production continues to increase. Few Welsh farms can now afford to employ staff, so farmers are regularly working a 60+ hour week, on their own and for little financial reward.

Agriculture is an industry constantly affected by the weather – great when it's warm and dry, but devastating when crops are flooded, or livestock drowned or buried in snow. "Bovine TB is continuing to put an immense financial and mental health strain on farmers in Wales, with the cost of the disease to each farm business averaging more than £25,000 in the past 12 months alone." (Farmers Weekly 17/08/23). Whilst most of the population have little trouble

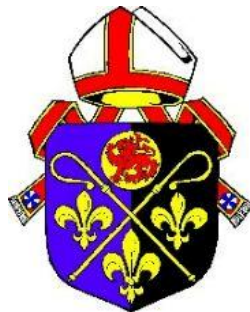
connecting to the internet and social media, farmers are often further isolated by poor or intermittent broadband and phone signals.

Now try and sense the feeling of farmers as they hear of Welsh Government proposals which they believe are unworkable. In the main, farmers have always been ecologically minded and keen conservationists, they fully understand working with nature. So, in principle the WAG's "Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) – Keeping Farmers Farming" might sound good. However, to be told that to gain any financial support from the scheme farmers will have to devote 10% of their land to trees, means that that 10% will no longer be part of their productive land or their income stream. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the National Food Reserve is already low, and it also suggests that the scheme may mean 5500 farm jobs losses – almost double the loss from the steel industry!

Approximately 85% of this wonderful country of Wales is rural, and it's kept beautiful by those who work the land, so please do pray that we 'Keep Farmers Farming'. Thank you.

Revd. Tim Clements, Diocesan Rural Life Advisor

Chrism Mass 2024



Chrism Mass will take place on the Tuesday of Holy Week, **26th March 2024**, at **11am** in Newport Cathedral. This 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.

We 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 of God, 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.

Please contact Bishop Cherry's EA, Vicki Stevens, at monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk and confirm:

- **that you will be attending**
- **whether you will be robing (i.e. 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 Monday 11th March 2024 at the latest so that there is time to organise seating and the buffet.

Please can you also remember to bring receptacles for the oils to be poured in to as the Cathedral do not have any spare for those who forget!

Training and Events

National LLM Support Day 2024

If you are interested in attending this online event, please ensure you register by **13th March** using the following link <https://bit.ly/3U20loA>

THE CHURCH IN WALES PROVINCIAL LLM DAY 2024

SATURDAY, 16TH MARCH
10:00 - 15:00, ONLINE

Come and join us for this event and meet other LLMs from right across Wales!

It's a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate lay ministry in all of its richness and diversity and will include worship, study, and discussion. We will touch on the new MDR Scheme for LLMs, with a firm focus on enhancing our prayer lives and encouraging a culture of prayer in our churches.

REGISTER BY THE 13TH MARCH:

<https://bit.ly/3U20loA>



To view this in Welsh please click [here](#).

Week of Guided Prayer



- Finding it difficult to hear God's voice?
- Wanting to know what God is saying to you?
- Would you like to make more time to pray, but aren't sure where to start?
- Would you like to give your prayer a renewed focus for a week in Lent?
- Why not learn a new way of using God's word?
- Would you like a little help along the way?

Then the **Week of Guided Prayer Online 2024** is for you!

The Week of Guided Prayer Online is suitable for everybody. You will use Bible passages, and other material, as a basis for prayer, with a guide alongside you to suggest what you might pray with and to hear how it went.

Previous participants told us:

'During this short time I was able to consider the pathway of my spiritual journey and reflect upon the will of God for my life. Thank you!'

'My guide was/is a brilliant spiritual person. I was having a really bad week outside the week of Guided Prayer, but the love and support that my guide gave me is beyond words.'

'Thank you for your accompaniment and care this week - a valuable time of focus on my prayer life. See you next year!'

The Week of Guided Prayer Online starts with an introductory gathering on Zoom for all the participants and guides on **Sunday 17th March at 7pm**. 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 week ends with a closing session online on **Saturday 23rd March at 6pm**.

Register you place <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/week-of-guided-prayer-online-2024-tickets-830330219037>

Important: Please book as soon as possible so we can match you with an appropriate guide.

If you would like to find out more please contact Revd. Lea Ryder -

LeaRyder@cinw.org.uk

South African Night

Thurs 22 February, 6:30pm



*St Illtud Ministry Area
presents*

SOUTH AFRICAN NIGHT

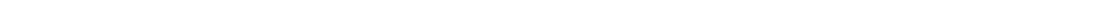
*Thursday 22 February
at 6:30pm*

at St Peter's Church, Station Road,
Y Blaenau (Blaina) NP13 3BW

Celebrating our link

 **THE DIOCESE OF THE HIGHVELD**
&
THE DIOCESE OF MONMOUTH 

*Come and join us for a night of South African
music and food and find out the ministry and
projects in our link parishes*



Mass in Welsh for Feast of St David

Friday 1st March, 7pm



Offeren yn Gymraeg dros ŵyl Dewi Sant

1 MAWRTH
a m 7:00 p m

Eglwys Dewi Sant
Y Cendl NP23 5PB



**Mass in Welsh for the Feast
of Saint David**

1 MARCH
at 7:00 p m

St David's
Church
Beaufort
NP23 5PB



World Day of Prayer 2024

Friday 1st March, 2pm



Praying for the people of Palestine

St Julian's Methodist Church
NEWPORT
(St Julian's Avenue, NP19 7JT)

Friday 1st March at 2pm

All are welcome

Light refreshments available



Diocesan Day of Prayer



Our Diocesan Day of Prayer takes place on **15th April** and Bishop Cherry is inviting us to join her! The day will be held at St Mary's Church, Abergavenny,

from **10am-4pm** - drinks will be provided but please bring your own lunch. All are welcome.

Bishop Cherry explains that the 'purpose of the day is not to teach us *about* prayer, but to provide a space for us *to pray*.' Hear a personal invitation from Bishop Cherry [here](#).

Resources

Meadow Management Signs

By popular request, the conservation charity Caring for God's Acre have designed some signs for churchwardens to use in their churchyards. These are designed to go next to areas that are being left to grow long and flowery in the summer months.

To access the signs, which are ready to print off, please visit the webpage below and enter the name of your churchyard. This will help us track in which county and diocese great work is taking place!



https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/free-meadow-management-sign/?fbclid=IwAR0KGHsR9eOx65L1rC5ATx14UebN89V_dF4qWNB6GrUkK3rX-hZiy-nsLSq

Services



Join us for the Ash Wednesday Service from the Cathedral, today (Wednesday) at 7:30pm [here](#).

Join is for the service from the Cathedral, this Sunday at 10:30am [here](#).

Vacancies

House for Duty Priest - North Monmouthshire MA



NORTH MONMOUTHSHIRE MINISTRY AREA

HOUSE FOR DUTY PRIEST

We are looking for a collaborative and caring priest with a genuine passion for working with others, lay and ordained, in a beautiful part of Wales.

Based in the lovely village of Llanddewi Rhydderch and primarily working with churches around that area, you will also be part of the Ministry Team covering the new Ministry Area of North Monmouthshire which has 17 churches.

We hope for a Priest who will be:

- ❖ **Caring** - has a strong pastoral heart and passion for encouraging the members of each of the congregations in discipleship
- ❖ **Collaborative in nature** - working well with the Ministry Team, lay and ordained, within the Ministry Area and is a good team player
 - ❖ **Community focused** - being a visible presence in the Ministry Area
- ❖ **Engaging** - has energy and commitment to engage with the local communities and is sympathetic to the needs of rural communities

If you think you might be that person... we would very much like to hear from you.

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

For an informal conversation please contact The Revd. Julian Gray, Ministry Area Leader on 01873 859881 or mardylvicarage@yahoo.co.uk

Application form and full profile available at <https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/jobs/>

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

Closing date for applications: **Friday 15th March 2024**

Interviews to take place soon after



For an informal conversation please contact The Revd. Julian Gray, Ministry Area Leader on 01873 859881 or mardyvicarage@yahoo.co.uk

Application form and full profile available at:

<https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/jobs/>

Or can be found below:

[North Mons MA HforD Bilingual Advert](#)

[HforD Role Profile](#)

[Application Form](#)

Applications should be submitted by email to:

archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk

Closing date for applications:

Friday 15th March 2024

Interviews to take place soon after.

Children and Families Pioneer

Saints in Chepstow & Saints in Tredegar

Children and Families' PIONEER

SEEKING THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS FOR OUR NEW CHURCH PLANTS

Ignite Faith, Spark Joy!

Are you enthusiastic about sharing the joy of faith with the under 40s? Join Saints, a vibrant church plant, as our Children and Families' Pioneer. Be part of a Hub Church Leadership Team in either Chepstow or Tredegar, pioneering new initiatives, designing engaging activities, and nurturing young hearts. Your role involves building relationships, partnering with schools, and creating safe spaces for growth.

If you have a heart for children, a passion for ministry, and a desire to make a difference, check out the full job description on our website. Join us in creating a lasting impact on young lives.

For more information please click [here](#) or use the links below:

[Job Pack](#)
[Application Form](#)

Applications should be submitted by email to:

emilymartins@cinw.org.uk

Closing date for applications:
Friday 16th February 2024

Interviews to take place on Thursday 29th February 2024

Hub Church Plant Lead

Saints in Chepstow & Saints in Tredegar

HUB CHURCH PLANT LEAD

SEEKING THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS FOR OUR NEW CHURCH PLANTS

Be the Architect of Belonging: Shape community, Kindle faith.

Are you passionate about creating faith communities where everyone belongs? Saints, our dynamic set of church plants, are seeking Hub Church Plant Leads for our Chepstow and Tredegar locations. Be part of a visionary team committed to breaking down barriers, reaching the under 40s, and fostering a family culture.

As a Hub Church Plant Lead, you'll evangelise, shape worship experiences, and build deep relationships. If you're excited about authentic discipleship, genuine community, and making a lasting impact, visit our website for the full job description. Be a catalyst for transformation – join our story!

We strive to be an inclusive diocese and welcome applications from any communicant member of the Anglican Church, a Church in communion with it, or a Member of CYTUN.

For more information please click [here](#) or use the links below:

[Job Pack](#)
[Application Form](#)

Applications should be submitted by email to:

emilymartins@cinw.org.uk

Closing date for applications:
Friday 16th February 2024

Interviews to take place on Thursday 29th February 2024

Senior Church Buildings Inspector



The Dioceses of Monmouth and Llandaff are looking to appoint a Senior Church Surveyor to lead a team which will include a Junior/Graduate Surveyor, a DAC Secretary and a Grants and Funding Officer.

This is an excellent opportunity for a dedicated professional to lead a team that will make a real difference to an exceptional group of historic buildings. Across both dioceses there are 380 church buildings. 46 of these are Grade I listed, 83 Grade II*, 114 Grade II and the remainder unlisted.

The successful Senior Building Surveyor's Role

The successful Senior Church Surveyor will be responsible for a broad range of tasks, with a particular emphasis on producing quinquennial condition surveys on church buildings.

A key aspect of the Senior Building Surveyor's responsibilities will be to support local volunteers to use these condition surveys to maintain, repair and develop their church buildings.

The successful Senior Building Surveyor will -

- Be a Chartered Building Surveyor, Architect, or similar with significant practical experience in the building industry and the historic environment.
- Have a proven ability to manage a team and support junior members to develop their skills.
- Have good communication skills with the ability to build strong working relationships with a wide range of colleagues – including clergy and church volunteers.
- A proven ability to deliver clear and concise reports and to explain sometimes difficult concepts in easy-to-understand language.

Salary - £50,595

Pension - 5% employer pension contribution

Annual Leave - 25 days annual leave (rising by one day per annum to a maximum of 30 days)

Deadline for applications – 23rd February 2024

Completed application should be sent to
- llandaff.recruitment@churchinwales.org.uk

Interview date – 5th March 2024

For more information or for an informal conversation, please contact: Isabel Thompson (Diocesan Secretary of Monmouth) on 07493 669511/01633 267490 or isabelthompson@churchinwales.org.uk