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# Esgobaeth Mynwy



## Diocese of Monmouth

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

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## News

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**Highveld Trip Thoughts from Bishop Cherry**



There will be an event on the evening of **Thursday January 18th** at the Cathedral, where you can hear more about the Highveld trip and how your church can become linked with a church in South Africa. Please do get that date in your diaries as more information will follow.



To read more about their trip, please visit the diocesan website [here](#).

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## **Announcement**

The Revd Canon Jeremy Harris has given notice of his intention to step back from stipendiary ministry at the end of May 2024. Currently Ministry Area Leader and Area Dean of Netherwent Ministry Area, Revd Jeremy has been part of our diocese for more than 25 years.

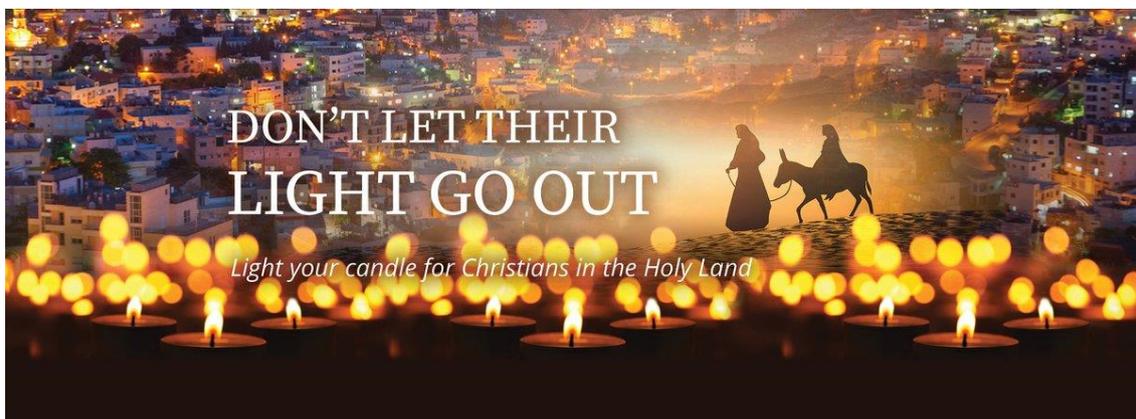
Speaking about his decision, he said:  
*"On Advent Sunday it will be 14 years since I first arrived in the area and now seems to be the right time for me to relinquish my responsibilities and move on to a new season of life and ministry."*

*As you may be aware I was due to take a three-month sabbatical early in 2024 but for various reasons decided to postpone this. My plan is to take time off during the summer and autumn to recharge and consider what next and then towards the end of the year to help out in the diocese as required.*



*There will be time next year for goodbyes but for now I would like to say what an immense privilege it has been to serve here over the years and how deeply indebted I am for the love and support shown to me by so many of you. You are very much in my prayers."*

Bishop Cherry said: *"There will be opportunity later on to thank Jeremy for the much valued ministry he has exercised in the diocese over 25 years of formal ministry; first, as a Reader (1998-2007) and then as an ordained minister (2007 to date). For now, I want to express my gratitude to him for giving us time to begin the process of appointing a new Ministry Area Leader whilst he is still in post. Please keep the congregations of the Netherwent Ministry Area in your prayers as they embrace a significant period of change. Pray too for Jeremy, as he holds the ministry area through another transition and for the other members of the ministry team."*



## Bishops' Christmas Appeal

The Church in Wales bishops are urging congregations to support a Christmas Appeal to help those affected by the war in the Holy Land.

The Appeal, launched by the charity [Friends of the Holy Land](#), is raising money to support Christian projects and humanitarian aid in Gaza, Israel, the West Bank and East Jerusalem. It has already received a donation of £5,000 from the Church in Wales' Overseas Mission Fund.

Donations will:

- Help local Christians show the love of Jesus in practical ways by supporting the basic needs of people of all faiths who are sheltering in churches in Gaza.
- Pay for essential medical equipment and supplies to help ill and injured people at the Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza, which is managed by the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem.
- Enable ongoing projects to continue in the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem and Israel through this turbulent period and beyond.

For more information, please visit the Church in Wales website [here](#).

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## Silver Eco Church Award

The Priory Church of St Mary, Usk has achieved an Eco Church Silver Award. Well done to everyone who has supported the team to reach this milestone! Thank you to the small group of volunteers who have inspired the whole congregation to keep working together, to find a way forward to achieve this award.



To find out more about how your church can work their way through the Eco Church awards, please visit their website: [A Rocha](#)

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## Llongyfarchiadau!

Many congratulations to Harald and Dorothy Thomas who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last Sunday, 19th November! As part of the celebrations, they had a service of thanksgiving at Holy Trinity, Pontnewydd, where both of them have served as clerics. The service was led by Revd Sue Hobbs with Harald, who continues to serve with PTO, doing prayers and blessing in a service of reflection. They sang the hymns that were in the original service, 60 years previously. We send them our prayers and very best wishes on this tremendous achievement.

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## Training and Events



# PIONEER EVANGELISM CONFERENCE 27-NOV-2023



[pioneerevangelism.vfairs.com](http://pioneerevangelism.vfairs.com)



## Pioneer Evangelism Conference - 27th November

You are very welcome to attend the upcoming Pioneer Conference for the Church in Wales next Monday, held on a virtual platform allowing you to join from where you are and accessible to all. The day will include inspirational talks from keynote speakers, workshops, opportunities to share ideas and pray about all things pioneering.

The hope is for the People of God to leave the conference inspired and equipped to go forth and contribute to the work of God's kingdom. Open to all the Church in Wales.

### Speakers include:

Archbishop Andrew John and all Welsh Bishops, Bishop of Lancaster Jill Duff, Mandy Bayton, Jo Leslie ~ Evangelism Lead for Church Army, Rob Jones ~ Director of Pioneer Ministry, Church of Ireland, and Bishop Susan Bell ~ Bishop of Niagara to name but a few.

**Date:** 27th November 2023  
**Time:** 12.00 midday – 9.00pm  
**Location:** Vfairs Virtual Platform

Book your place now:

<https://pioneerevangelism.vfairs.com/en>

**2nd**  
**DECEMBER**

# ADVENT QUIET DAY



Lead by Bishop Cherry



Join us for an Advent  
Quiet Day of prayer  
and reflection led by  
Bishop Cherry.  
Fish and Chip lunch is  
available at a cost of  
£8.50.



10am - 4pm  
St Michael's Church,  
Llanvihangel Crucorney

Book your place by emailing  
[maryheading.nmma@outlook.com](mailto:maryheading.nmma@outlook.com)



## Advent Quiet Day

North Monmouthshire Ministry Area are hosting a quiet day on **Saturday 2nd December**, from 10am - 4pm, at St Michael's Church (Llanvihangel Crucorney). The day will be led by Bishop Cherry and a fish and chip lunch will be available to purchase.

To book your place, please email [maryheading.nmma@outlook.com](mailto:maryheading.nmma@outlook.com)

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## Safer Recruitment and DBS Checking Training

The Representative Body have been working with the Disclosure and Barring Service to develop some bespoke training around safer recruitment and DBS checking.

If you have an interest in safer recruitment or DBS checking for your church, group or project, you are invited to attend an online training session, delivered by Carol Eland, regional DBS contact.

The sessions are particularly useful if you are a My Church People user, a Safeguarding Officer, administrator or volunteer manager.

The session lasts 90 minutes with time for questions at the end.

The dates are:

- 21st November, 11am
- 24th January, 1pm
- 12th March, 6pm

To book a place, please email [mychurchpeople@cinw.org.uk](mailto:mychurchpeople@cinw.org.uk)

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## Resources



## Vision in Focus - Discipleship

This edition looks at discipleship and why the good news of Jesus is too good to keep to ourselves!

With helpful resources and practical advice, we can all feel more confident in sharing our stories of faith.

Click to read and hear more [Vision in Focus - Discipleship Nov 23](#)

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## Maintenance Matters Week

Good maintenance is important to buildings of all ages and types. Some deterioration of a building over time is inevitable but regular maintenance helps slow the rate and lessens the need for large-scale, costly work further down the line. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings campaign, Maintenance Week (17-24th November 2023), is a reminder for anyone who looks after a building - regardless of its age, type or purpose - of

the simple, achievable steps they can take to prepare for the worst that winter can bring.

There are lots of great tips and films available on this website: [SPAB campaign](#)

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## New Guidance on Church Maintenance

New guidance on church maintenance is now available on the Church in Wales website. Advice on managing church halls and on developing a net zero heating strategy can be downloaded from this page:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/church-property/>

The guides are also available in Welsh here:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/cy/clergy-and-members/church-property/>

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## Services

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**Newport  
Cathedral**  
Cadeirlan  
Casnewydd

Join us for the service from the Cathedral at 10.30am [here](#).

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# Vacancies

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## Vicar - Mountain and Marsh Ministry Area

We are looking for a collaborative and supportive priest with a genuine passion for discipleship to join us in a newly formed Ministry Area serving a group of communities in South-East Wales.

Are you someone who:

- is a skilled communicator and an effective preacher
- knows what it takes to grow churches both numerically and spiritually, and has a track record of doing so
- has the flexibility to appreciate and develop worship in different traditions
- has exceptional gifts in listening and discernment, good attention to detail as well as the ability to see the bigger picture
- understands how to manage change
- has ability to meet people 'where they are'
- has a lively faith, rooted in personal prayer, with the desire and ability to share God's love with people from all walks of life

If you think this could be you then we would very much like to hear from you.

For an informal conversation please contact the Revd Ross Maidment, Ministry Area Leader, on 01633 633990 or [rossmaidment@cinw.org.uk](mailto:rossmaidment@cinw.org.uk)

Application form and full profile available at

Applications should be submitted by email to the Archdeacon of Newport: [jonathanwilliams@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:jonathanwilliams@churchinwales.org.uk)

Closing date for applications:  
**Monday 27th November 2023**

*Interviews to take place on Friday 15th December 2023*

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

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## House for Duty Priest - St Illtyd

**Is God calling you** to South Wales and the welcoming communities of the Valleys?

Are you **collaborative in nature**, able to recognise the many talents and gifts of laity?

Are you **community minded**, able to engage with people of all ages, inside and outside the church, and be a visible part of the local community?

Are you **caring** with a strong pastoral heart and passion for encouraging the congregations in discipleship, and building a strong unity in Christ?

Are you **forward and outward looking** with a creative approach to ministry and outreach?

*Based in the upper Eastern Valley you will be part of a supportive Ministry Team.*

### **We hope for a Priest who will:**

- Respect our sacramental tradition but broaden our horizons.
- Communicate the Gospel in an inclusive and engaging way.
- Relish working as part of a team.
- Enjoy supporting and developing small churches.
- Laugh at themselves and with others.

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

For an informal conversation please contact Fr Dominic McClean, Ministry Area Leader on (01495) 304919 or [frdominic86@gmail.com](mailto:frdominic86@gmail.com)

Application form and full profile available at <https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/news-and-events/house-for-duty-priest-st-illtyd-ministry-area-september/>

Applications should be submitted by email to: [archdeacon.gwentvalleys@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:archdeacon.gwentvalleys@churchinwales.org.uk)

Closing date for applications:  
**Monday 27th November 2023**

*Interviews TBC*

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## House for Duty Priest - North Monmouthshire

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 focussed** - 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 [mardyvicarage@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mardyvicarage@yahoo.co.uk)

Application form and full profile available at:

<https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/news-and-events/house-for-duty-priest-north-monmouthshire-ma/>

Applications should be submitted by email to:

[archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk)

Closing date for applications:  
**Monday 27th November 2023**

*Interviews to take place soon after.*

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## 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 Venerable Ian Rees on 07983684151 or [archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk)

Closing date for applications:  
**Monday 11th December 2023**

## Interviews TBC

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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](#).

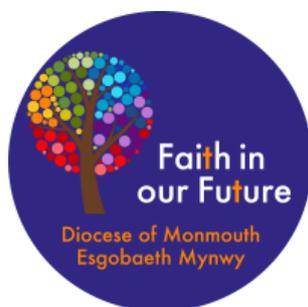
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## Diocese of Monmouth · Esgobaeth Mynwy

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Monmouth Diocesan Board of Finance is a company registered in England and Wales.  
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