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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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## Ministry Area Lay Ministry Commissioning Service

A team of lay worship leaders and pastoral assistants were commissioned in a special service held at St Cadoc's Church in Raglan. The group have completed the relevant training courses and are made up of those who have been involved in these ministries for some time and others who are new to this. The service was arranged and led by those who were commissioned.

In the address Archdeacon Ian reflected on lay ministry, saying, *'Whatever our call may be, as Christians we all have a calling - as you celebrate today those who have been commissioned, as you pray for their ministry going forward, pray and think also about whether God is inviting you to something different, something new...'*

It was wonderful to see a full church coming together to celebrate God's gifts, and look forward to the gifts of those who were commissioned being used widely throughout the ministry area



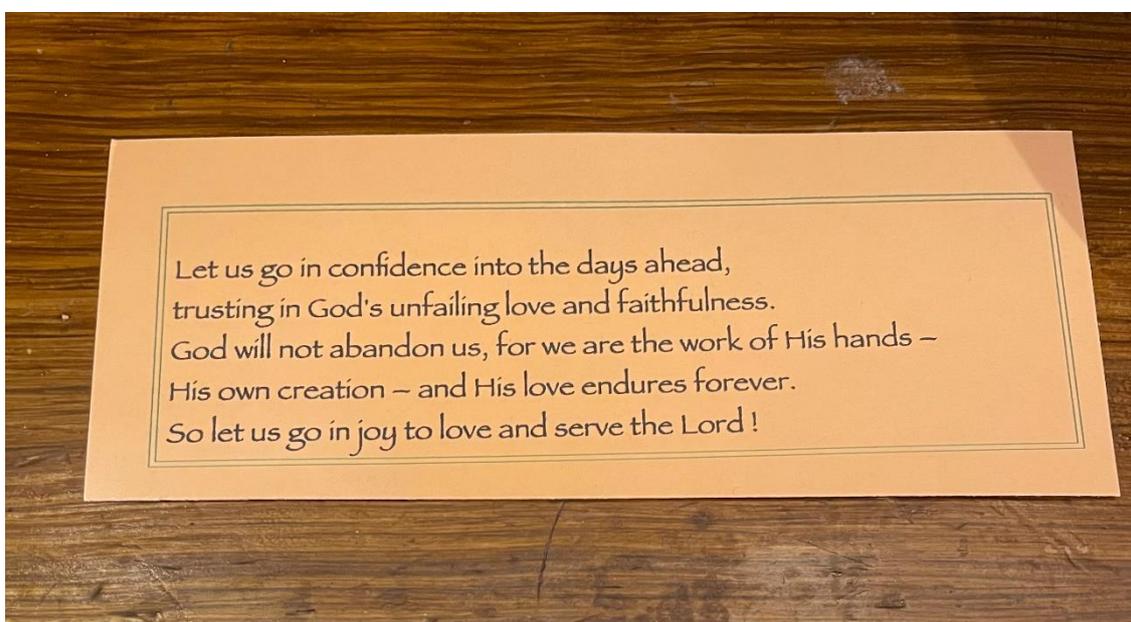
Here are some thoughts from those that have recently completed the training courses.

**Sarah Byford:** *'I found both the Worship leaders' and Pastoral Visitors' courses very beneficial. Having been a pastoral visitor for a number of years, and having led Morning Prayer in my local church during the past two years, I*

*found that the pre-reading and the sessions on both courses gave me a deeper insight into these two areas of ministry to which I feel called.*

*One area of the Pastoral Visitors' course which involved practical interaction – that of listening- I found particularly helpful. I discovered that I am, perhaps, not as good a listener as I thought I was, and this is an important skill I need to develop further.*

*The Worship Leaders' course confirmed that there is so much more to leading worship than simply delivering a set traditional liturgy – and that introducing variety of services, with different styles and content is something I can do in the future, whilst always ensuring a happy congregation who will come back for more, and bring their friends!'*



*The above prayer was used in the service and given out to all who attended.*

**Clare Bradley:** *'Having been licensed as a Lay Eucharistic Minister on St David's Day 2010 and having done various other days training on Intercessions and Reading the Lesson, much of this course was familiar territory – although it never hurts to do a refresher. Being in front of a congregation and leading a service is something I am mostly comfortable with.*

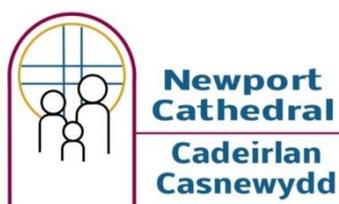
*The part that I did enjoy and feel that I really got something out of was the idea that we are encouraged to adapt services, or even write our own for particular occasions. This authority to try to make our services especially relevant to our congregations and celebrations is really liberating and I look forward to trying to make use of it in the future.'*

**Deidre Seabourne:** *'Although I have been leading services for the past two years, I had never attended or indeed received any formal training until this recent course was offered.'*

*Therefore, it was helpful to know that I was leading in the way I should be and offering suggestions as to how I could improve things moving forward. It was also very helpful to meet with the other lay ministers to share concerns and indeed learn new or different ways of leading services.'*

*I particularly like the weeks of Session 4 (Learning about Worship as a Mission) and Session 5 (Creating New Services) as I realised that you could change and/or adapt services and not just stick to the old ways.'*

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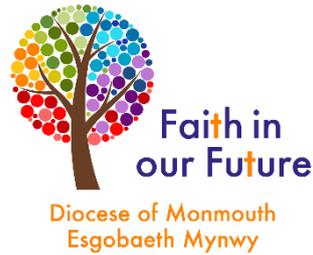
## New Cathedral Canon Installed



Congratulations to Hannah Rowan who was installed as a lay canon of Newport Cathedral during Evensong on Sunday.

Hannah said: *"I was very moved to be asked to join the team as a chapter canon and I am looking forward to serving the cathedral community, the people of Newport, and the wider diocese of Monmouth through their ministry."*

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## Diolch yn Fawr

As well as using our weekly mailing to announce new appointments to our diocese, it is also an opportunity for us to say 'thankyou' to all those who have served faithfully in ordained ministry for many years and have now retired or to those who have moved to serve elsewhere. We are tremendously grateful for the ministry they have offered.

Revd Pete Letson, of the Netherwent Ministry Area, will be leaving the diocese at the end of the year with his last service being on Sunday 31st December. This also means his wife Clare, who works in the diocesan office as Training, Events and Committee Coordinator, will be finishing in her role as well. In January, Revd Pete will be starting as a Hub Church Leader in Swansea and Brecon diocese and we send with them both our thanks and best wishes.

*Please continue to pray for one another and for the life of our diocese as we each seek to be faithful to all that God asks of us; may God continue to bless you in all that you are and all that you do in your service of the gospel.*

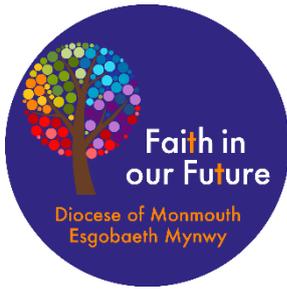
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## For Your Prayers

We were sad to hear of the death of Mr Donald Maxfield. Don had been a long serving Lay Reader and was made a member of the Order of St Woolos in recognition of his service to the diocese. Canon Andrew Willie has written the following **tribute**.

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## Bishop Cherry's Diocesan Address



For anyone who hasn't watched it yet, Bishop Cherry's Address at this year's diocesan conference is available [here](#).

You can also find out more about why 'a good welcome doesn't happen by accident' by watching the session on 'welcome' from our diocesan conference [here](#)

### **How can we be more welcoming and invitational?**

From courses to resources, there are plenty of helpful and practical ways to help us think more about welcome. Find out more [here](#)

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## **Resources**

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### **Advent Liturgy Resources Available**

We are developing space on our website to hold liturgies for special events and festivals. We have started with Advent - so please find prayers, hymns and readings for Advent Morning Prayer, Advent Morning Worship and All-Age Advent Worship [here](#)

More to follow soon.

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## Time is Running Out to Apply for Grants!

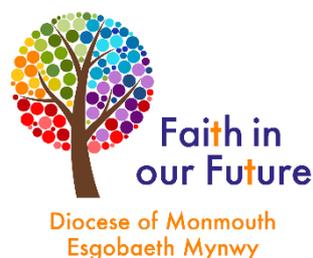
Have you applied for a grant from the National Churches Trust for 2023 yet? If not, the deadlines for applications are fast approaching.

\* Medium-sized grants for £3,000 and £10,000, towards urgent and essential maintenance and repair projects costing between £20,000 and £80,000, have a deadline for applications of 11 December.

\* Cherish Grants for Wales are also available and have a deadline of 11 December.

Find out how to apply here: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants>

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## Energy Bill Support Second Round: Closing Friday 17th November

We are aware that many churches have received energy bills that have increased dramatically over the past few months. Some of these have been considerably higher, further increasing the pressure on ministry area budgets. The DBF set aside a support fund for ministry areas in this situation to offer financial assistance towards some of the increases incurred and the first round of these funds were awarded in September.

We are now reopening the fund for a second round of applications. We are hoping this will assist ministry areas where fixed term contracts have recently ended, resulting in price rises.

You may be eligible for this support if –

- you have had an energy bill that has increased significantly in comparison to the previous year,
- energy bills have made a significant impact to your finances, including reserves, resulting in the ministry area being unable to meet other costs,
- you have not received grants towards energy bills from any other sources (e.g. LA 'Warm Hub' grants).

If you require support, we ask that ministry areas get in touch by email, detailing the situation and include the following information -

- Copies of the relevant bills
- Details of previous bills to demonstrate a significant rise,
- Details of how it has impacted the MA finances
- Any other relevant supporting information

Please note –

Applications can only be submitted by a ministry area, not individual churches. Ministry area applications should include all churches which have had an increase in bills and wish to apply for support.

Ministry areas who were awarded a grant in the first round of applications will not be considered for this round for the same churches, unless there have been further significant rises or changes in circumstance, but are welcome to apply for other churches in the area.

Please contact Libby Morgan-Owen by Friday 17th November on:

[libbymorgan-owen@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:libbymorgan-owen@churchinwales.org.uk) or 07508 801511



## Top Tips for Diversifying Your Income

To successfully fundraise for your church, it's important to look at different approaches to income generation beyond the collection plate.

Ecclesiastical have hosted a webinar, in which you can learn:

- How partnering with other churches, charities, community groups can boost supporter audiences, economise on resource and amplify impact.
- Get creative examples of how to use church assets more commercially through event/space hire, food and beverage, etc, and what churches need to consider before embarking on commercial projects.
- How to think bigger than congregational collections, etc, so actually building major gifts strategies around specific campaigns and ongoing revenue needs, and what the ingredients for this look like.

If you would like to watch the webinar, please follow this link: [Diversifying Income](#)

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## Warm Welcomes Campaign

The Warm Welcome campaign was developed by **ChurchWorks Commission** – which brings together senior leaders from various denominations in the UK to explore the Church's role in national Covid recovery. They are encouraging churches and local communities to provide spaces that offer warmth and company for people in need. With over 7,000 Warm Welcome Spaces now registered across the UK we know many of you will be taking part.

Your church may be providing a Warm Welcome merely by advertising your existing church services as a warm space or extending your service to leave the building open to visitors. Alternatively, you may be opening in the afternoons or evenings and providing:

- office space including Wi-Fi

- food and tea/coffee
- activities for children
- counselling/signposting services to manage finances/heating bills
- cooking courses.

Whatever you have decided to do, you can find some simple guidance to keep everyone warm and safe this winter on this website: [Church Warm Spaces](#)

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## Services

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

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## ESGOBAETH MYNWY - GWASANAETHAU CYMRAEG

Tachwedd  
November  
11th  
Dydd Sadwrn  
/ Saturday

9.30  
am / y.b.

St Thomas  
Trefynwy /  
Monmouth

Ewcharist: Sul  
y Gofio  
Eucharist:  
Remembrance

Am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Ruth Willis: [ruth\\_willis05@hotmail.com](mailto:ruth_willis05@hotmail.com)  
For further information contact Ruth Willis: [ruth\\_willis05@hotmail.com](mailto:ruth_willis05@hotmail.com)

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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**

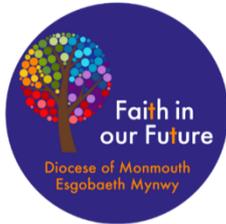
*Interviews TBC*

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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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