

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

News



Communion in Both Kinds

As Christmas approaches, the bishops are very mindful that Anglican practice and teaching is that "the cup of the Lord is not to be denied to lay people" (Article XXX). We therefore regularly review the current prohibition on sharing the common cup, which has been imposed for severely urgent health reasons only, and at first, at the direction of the Welsh Government. We recently gave permission for communion in both kinds by intinction, where the administration was by the priest or minister of communion alone, but we are aware that this is not really the best of solutions.

However, we do not feel that the current health situation allows the restoration of the common cup, and we continue to direct that the use of individual communion cups is not

permitted. This is for reasons of reverent disposal after Communion as much as any other reason, but we are persuaded that the introduction of individual cups would require a change to canon law at present.

We therefore ask you to bear with us in the current discipline. We undertake to review this once again in the new year.

The Bishop of Bangor, Andy John
The Bishop of St Asaph, Gregory Cameron
The Bishop of St Davids, Joanna Penberthy
The Bishop of Llandaff, June Osborne
The Bishop of Monmouth, Cherry Vann

Election of the Archbishop of Wales - December 6-8



A parish church in a
Victorian spa town in the
heart of Wales will host
an important event in
December – the election
of the next Archbishop
of Wales.

The doors of Holy Trinity Church in Llandrindod Wells will be locked for up to three days on December 6 as the Electoral College meets inside to choose the 14th Archbishop of Wales.

The mid-Wales town has been the location for the election of all the Archbishops of Wales since the first in 1920, due to its central location.

This election follows the retirement of the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, John Davies, who held the office of Archbishop of Wales for four years. His successor will be chosen from among the serving Welsh diocesan bishops – the Bishop of Bangor, Andy John, the Bishop of St Asaph, Gregory Cameron, the Bishop of St Davids, Joanna Penberthy, the Bishop of Llandaff, June Osborne, the Bishop of Monmouth, Cherry Vann, and the newly appointed Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, John Lomas.

Those making the decision represent churches across Wales. Each of the six dioceses elects

three clerics and three lay people onto the College and the bishops are also members – making a total of 42 people. The College President is the Senior Bishop, Bishop Andy John.

The meeting will begin at 9.30am with a public service of Holy Communion to which everyone is welcome. Following that, however, only college members and staff supporting the work of the college, will be allowed to remain in the church as its discussions are confidential.

After a discussion on the needs of the Province and a period of prayer and reflection, the President will call for nominations. The bishops nominated then withdraw from the discussion, only returning to vote. A nominee must achieve two-thirds of the votes of the college in order to be elected Archbishop. If after a vote is taken no candidate receives the necessary votes, the process begins again with fresh nominations, which may or may not include those who had been nominated in the previous round.

Once the Archbishop is elected, the church doors will open and the announcement made. The normal practice is for the bishop to confirm his or her election immediately. The new Archbishop will be enthroned in his or her home cathedral at a later date.

The College can take up to three days to elect an Archbishop. If it fails to do so after this time, the decision passes to the Bench of Bishops.

You can find out more about the Welsh Diocesan Bishop's at: https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/bishops/



Church Welcomes Welsh Government Pledge on Fossil Fuels



Christians in Wales are welcoming the Welsh Government's pledge to end oil and gas exploration within the next 15 years.

The Church in Wales is commending its decision to sign up to the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance (BOGA). BOGA is a coalition of 10 nations and regions including Denmark, Costa Rica, France and Ireland who have pledged to end oil and gas exploration by 2035.

The Welsh Government announcement was made during the recent COP26 climate summit in Glasgow.

The Bishop of St Davids, Joanna Penberthy, who chairs the Church in Wales' climate group, CHASE, says, "This is a step in the right direction for Wales and we are delighted the Welsh Government has shown such visionary leadership. The pledge is an example of the necessary action needed at every level of society to stop catastrophic climate change."

Following the conclusion of the COP talks, the Church in Wales is calling for a renewed determination to keep global warming below the relatively safe level of 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels.

Earlier this year, the Church's Governing Body committed it to be net zero carbon by 2030 and now, post-COP 26, churches are encouraged to:

- Continue to use the excellent Climate Sunday resources that will remain available on the Climate Sunday website <u>Climate Sunday | Home | Worship | Commit | Speak</u> <u>Up</u> You could invite other churches of all denominations locally to work together with you for mutual prayer, support and encouragement.
- Undertake the straightforward, easy-wins steps in the Church in Wales' 'Practical path to net zero carbon' booklet to set themselves on their own net zero path. The booklet

can be found on the Church in Wales' Climate Change webpage: Climate change - The Church in Wales

 Register for A Rocha's Eco-Church <u>Eco Church - An A Rocha UK Project</u>. Could Eco-Church be your church's Advent Project this year? And you could aim to gain the Bronze award or your next award by next September's Creation time.



Celebration Sunday

On November 21st, the Feast of Christ the King, all churches were invited to join in celebrating our life and witness together as the Diocese of Monmouth. It was an opportunity to recognise our unity in Christ, the King of all things, and to celebrate all that binds us together in our common life in Christ.

A special liturgy was created which can be downloaded below and there is also a sermon given by Bishop Cherry - available on video and as a hard copy. Congregations were encouraged to join together wherever possible.

Download: Celebration Sunday Liturgy

Bishop Cherry's Sermon



Download: Bishop Cherry's Celebration Sunday Sermon

Hymn - Newport Cathedral Choir



Here are some photos from, Trellech Grange, the Cathedral, St Mary's Monmouth, St Mark's Newport, St Paul's Newbridge and East Cardiff.













Wales joins a 24-hour global wave of prayer

People in Wales are being invited to join in a 24-hour global wave of prayer this month.

The Church in Wales is taking part in the Anglican Communion virtual <u>Day of Prayer</u> on November 30, thought to be the first of its kind. It will bring people together from across the globe to pray for a world suffering from the Covid-19 pandemic and climate change, as well as injustice, exploitation and war.

The Church is leading one half-hour session with a film featuring prayers and reflections on the theme of climate change from each of its six dioceses, including some of its primary schools. The session will be introduced by the Senior Bishop, Andy John, the Bishop of Bangor and begins at 9.30am.

He says, "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to join in prayer and express our solidarity with people across the world.

The parish has got a lot bigger over the past year, thanks to digital technology.

"We have all seen how effectively we can worship online and how easy it is to reach across boundaries and borders. As the world becomes more inter-connected we learn, too, how much we have in common with each other, how our actions in one place impact our neighbours and, crucially, how we have to solve problems together to ensure the common

good of all. I am delighted the Church in Wales is leading one of the sessions and I urge you to sign up, join in and make a day of it."

The event is co-ordinated by the mission agency, <u>USPG</u>, and more than half of the Anglican Communion's 42 provinces will be taking part.

How to join in

The event is open to everyone. There is no need to register. You can get involved via Zoom or Facebook. When you want to join just click on one of these links:

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82308523750?pwd=dzRXQ3A2TVM5VjhwZVpaaGpKTFdD dz09

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USPGglobal

You can join at any time that suits you, stay for as long as you like and come back as many times as you want. You can join the slot allocated to your province (9.30am for Wales) or choose to pray with other parts of the world...or both.

Pray alone or together

You can choose to watch at home, at work – wherever works for you. And you can decide to pray alone or organise a Prayer Watch Party and invite friends or a church group to join you. Praying with others can be a particularly powerful collective experience. Whatever you decide, you will be contributing to a global wave of prayer and we hope you will feel inspired and united to the global church.

If you would like to share details with friends and family, you can download our printable poster <u>here</u>.

Resources

Here you can download resources related to USPG's Communion Day of Prayer.

Poster

Responses and a Collect

Ways to get involved

Church in Wales session

The Church in Wales will lead the session starting at 9.30am.

We are very grateful to the following for their contributions:



Pupils of Bishop Childs Church in Wales school, Monmouth Diocese, at their faith garden

Eglwys Wyllt, Forest Church, led by the Revd Stuart Elliot at Bangor Diocese

The Heritage Garden at Brecon Cathedral and intercessions led by the Dean of Brecon

Pupils of Ysgol Pant Pastynog School, St Asaph Diocese, for their harvest song

Revd Anne Beman for the Count on Nature project at St Davids Diocese

Pupils of St Mary the Virgin Church in Wales school at the Stations of Creation at St Mary the Virgin's Church, Cardiff, Llandaff Diocese



Christian Aid Christmas Appeal - South Sudan facing climate chaos

With COP26 turning out to be a mixed bag of results – some good, some definitely not – Christian Aid will continue to press the government on this vital issue. In particular, securing adequate support for those vulnerable countries facing the worst of the loss and damage caused by the climate emergency is a key demand.

Through its partners, Christian Aid itself continues its work in some of the world's poorest communities, standing with them as they fight the effects of climate change. One such example is highlighted in Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal this year. In South Sudan – also the focus of the Church in Wales's Centenary Appeal – communities are struggling with

droughts and flash floods.



One effect of this erratic weather pattern is that drinking water can be severely affected. For a mother like Adut, pictured, this meant having to face impossible choices. Would she risk the health of her children with dirty water, or face not giving them any water at all?

Adut's life was changed when Support for Peace and Education Development Program – Christian Aid's local partner – constructed a bore hole in her village. Through using a hand pump, Adut and her neighbours now have access to reliable and clean water. It's the kind of intervention that changes lives in a radical way.

As climate change continues to cause havoc and make extreme poverty even worse, such programs are a vital contribution to helping the most vulnerable communities adapt.

For more information about Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal and how you could help more communities like Adut's, please go to https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christmas-appeal

Help Needed

Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol are filming a piece about 'Clergy who Run' at Butetown Parkrun on the 4th of December. They're looking for more women who could be involved, if you can help please contact Father Edward Owen on 07403 935555 or vicar.gragetown@outlook.com

Re-engage Community Christmas





Community Christmas provides a free online directory of local festive events and activities taking place across the UK, all of which are open to older people who would otherwise be spending Christmas alone.



Community Christmas helps to make sure that older people who might otherwise be on their own have a place to go to celebrate the festive season.

Are you an organisation, group, or individual holding an event between 18 December and 1 January? If so, you can advertise your event on our online directory and we'll make sure that older people get to hear about it.

We also welcome events that are not aimed specifically at older people, as long as they are accessible for an older person. Please visit our website **reengage.org.uk/christmas** for more details and to sign up.

If you know someone who is 75 or older who may be on their own on Christmas Day, you can tell them about the directory or ask them to call **0800 716 543** and we'll help match them to an event in their local area. (This phone number is for event attendees only.)

Re-engage, 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DH, 020 7240 0630 Registered charity in England and Wales (1146149) and in Scotland (SC039377)

reengage.org.uk/christmas

Training and Events

Church in Wales - Archdiocese of Cardiff Shared Training

The Church in Wales and the Archdiocese of Cardiff have recently begun collaboration on an exciting new partnership offering training to churches to equip them with the skills needed for the post-Lockdown world.

The online events they are currently holding are:

• **30**th **November:** Welcoming Volunteers

Each session will be run by a specialist consultant in each field and will cover the up-to-date advice for the new environment many places of worship find themselves in when it comes to reaching out to the local community.

For more information, please see the following documents for each session.

Welcoming Volunteers

Christ's Healing Light in Advent



Liturgy and Prayers for Healing, Wholeness and Reconciliation

1.30pm Thursday 2nd Dec 2021Via ZoomLed by Reverend Beverley Smith

As we enter Advent you are invited to join the Diocesan Healing, Wholeness and Reconciliation Group for a service celebrating Christ's Healing Light, during which we are invited by Christ to receive his healing touch through prayer.

There will be an opportunity for each person to be prayed with in break-out groups, but this is not essential. No-one is expected to share personal information. If you wish to join in the liturgy but not the prayers and have a time of quiet, you are welcome.

Book your place here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christs-healing-light-in-advent-registration-205773763867

Hearing God in Advent and Christmas



Saturday December 4th 2021

10am to 3.30pm

St Mark's, Gold Tops, Newport, NP20 4PH

This is an opportunity to be together, to think of ideas for the future and to enjoy Eucharist together led by Bishop Cherry. Whilst part of the Licensed Lay Ministers Annual Programme, we have been able to open up this day for anyone.

Revd Professor Jeremy Duff, the Principal of St Padarn's Institute will lead us in some biblical reflections and offer some time for quiet through the day as well. Jeremy is an outstanding biblical scholar and speaker and we are delighted that he has agreed to come along to this event.

The day will include a Eucharist led by Bishop Cherry.

There is no cost for the event but we would ask that you bring along a packed lunch. Tea and Coffee will be provided.

Hopefully you will be able to come along to this – whilst December can be a very busy time it is important to take time out for some Advent reflection.

To help with planning please could you let us know whether you will be able to attend by emailing: archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk by November 30th

2022 Festival of Prayer - 9th July 2022

Bookings are now open for the 2022 Festival of Prayer. A day of varied and stimulating lectures, discussions and different opportunities for prayer. Participants will have the opportunity to select 3 workshops to attend out of the 19 topics available.



The day also includes a welcome address Bishop Cherry. To find out more or book your place: https://festivalofprayer.live/

Services and Resources

Join a Service from the Cathedral on Sunday at 10:30am here.

Join an Advent Carol Service from the Cathedral on Sunday at 5:00pm here.

Esgobaeth Mynwy Gwasanaethau Cymraeg Tachwedd 2021

Rhagfyr / December 14th
Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth
10.30am / y.b., St John Maindee

Ewcharist: Adfent / Eucharist: Advent

Calling Conversations

Our seventh session in our Calling Conversations series; involving a group of panellists from different ministries having a conversation about vocations.

This "Calling Conversation" is on training experiences and our panellists include:

- Revd Emma Ackland, Ordained Deacon
- Revd Prof Jeremy Duff, Principal of St Padarn's
- Darren Lynch, Training for Priesthood
- Marcus Pipe, Training for NSM Priesthood



Advent Course 2021



We're pleased to announce the 2021 Diocesan Advent Course is now available. This year's course has been drafted by Archdeacon Ian Rees and Revd Becca Stevens.

'Wait, Trust, Commit' explores the themes of anticipation and hope as we examine our relationship with and commitment to Jesus.

This 3-session course includes prayers, readings, commentary, and questions to enable discussion in your groups.

We hope you will find this a valuable resource.

DOWNLOAD - ADVENT 2021: WAIT, TRUST, COMMIT (PDF)

This course is also available on our Diocesan website.

If you are planning to use this course to lead a group and are open to receiving additional members, please let us know: https://forms.gle/1fLgdogrcN7cpxcAA

If you would like to participate in this course, but do not have a local group, please contact the Diocesan Office at admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk

Vacancies

Archdeacon of the Gwent Valleys & Diocesan Director of Mission

The Bishop of Monmouth is looking for an experienced and creative priest to become the Archdeacon of the Gwent Valleys and Diocesan Director of Mission.

She/he will work closely with the Bishop as part of her senior team, and with the churches of the newly established Ministry Areas, to embed the five marks of mission throughout the Diocese and develop transformational team working.

We are looking for someone who can demonstrate that they:

- can work as a collaborative team player as well as a leader
- have experience of helping people of all ages to grow in and share their faith
- are keen and able to foster and support new ways of being Church and help existing congregations to be missionally minded
- understand how to support the development of good team working amongst lay and ordained ministers
- have proven ability to communicate easily and effectively at all levels

The Diocese of Monmouth seeks to be an inclusive diocese and welcomes applications from people regardless of gender, sexuality, disability or ethnicity. Applications from BAME and women are especially welcome.

For an informal conversation please contact:

The Venerable Jonathan Williams, Archdeacon of Newport on

01633 215206 or archdeacon.newport@churchinwales.org.uk

Closing date: Friday 14th January 2022

For more details, including the full profile, click <u>here.</u>

Church Administrator for Mid Torfaen Ministry Area

Summary

Mid Torfaen Ministry Area is looking for someone to provide support to their team of Clergy and 'lay' people who manage the day to day running of their Churches. This is an opportunity to join and warm and friendly team, to manage and develop our office volunteers and to set up the office. This post is key in supporting us as we develop the vision and mission for this area. We are open to flexible working hours to fit with your circumstances. Would you like to join our creative and lively team? Would you like a new challenge?

Overview

Mid Torfaen Ministry Area covers most of Pontypool and outlying area. We are a new ministry area and have 7 very varied churches. You will be line managed by the Ministry Area Leader and will largely manage your own workload.

For an informal chat please contact: Revd Kate O'Sullivan, Ministry Area Leader for Mid Torfaen on 07854 598269

For job description and person specification, please email: revdkateosullivan@gmail.com

To apply, send you CV to revdkateosullivan67@gmail.com

Ministry Area Leader - Upper Eastern Valleys

The Upper Eastern Valleys MA are looking for a collaborative and creative priest with a genuine passion for mission, to join them in ministry working on the next steps of a new Ministry Area in the South Wales Valleys working around the towns of Ebbw Vale, Abertillery and Blaenavon and the surrounding areas.

This is a wonderful opportunity to help form the new Ministry Area working with lay and ordained colleagues and also working closely with the new Church Army Centre of Mission which will provide some new and exciting opportunities for mission.

For an informal conversation please contact:
The Venerable Ian Rees, Archdeacon of Monmouth on
07983 684151 or archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk

Closing Date: Friday 10th December

For more details, including the Ministry Area profile, click here.

Team Vicar - Mynydd Bedwellte Ministry Area

Mynydd Bedwellte MA are looking for an enthusiastic and creative priest to join them in a new Ministry Area in the South Wales valleys, mainly focused on the towns and villages of Bedwellty, New Tredegar and Aberbargoed.

This is a great opportunity to be part of a developing ministry team and work collaboratively across a diverse area. They want you to help build up the local church in its worshipping and spiritual life and be rooted in mission and community ministry.

For an informal conversation please contact: The Revd Matt Davis, Ministry Area Leader on 07800 750259 or mattdavisciw@gmail.com

Closing Date: Friday 10th December

For more details, including the Ministry Area profile, click here.

Team Vicar - Netherwent Ministry Area

Netherwent MA are looking for a collaborative, caring and creative priest with a genuine passion for working with others and for mission to join they as they form a new Ministry Area to serve the communities of this beautiful corner of South-East Wales.

Are you someone who:

Has a strong faith and a heart for community, for mission and for nurturing disciples?

- Understands and would like to work with rural communities?
- Is able to develop good relationships with people of all ages including schools, young people and their families?
- Is a team player and has the ability to motivate and inspire others?

If so... they would very much like to hear from you.

For an informal conversation please contact:
The Revd Canon Jeremy Harris, Ministry Area Leader on 01633882551 or jeremydharris@hotmail.co.uk

Closing Date: Friday 10th December

For more details, including the Ministry Area profile, click here.