



Friday Round Up

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

News

Conference 2021

We are pleased to announce this year's Conference will be held digitally. Papers for Conference will be posted out to members next week. If you wish to attend Conference as an observer, a YouTube link will be sent out by email and social media in the coming weeks.



• MONMOUTH DIOCESE •

CONFERENCE 2021

14TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.30PM

&

16TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 9.00AM

Church approves blessing service for same-sex partnerships

Same-sex couples will be able to have their civil partnership or marriage blessed in Church in Wales churches for the first time after new legislation was passed this week.

A Bill to authorise a service of blessing was approved by members of the Church's Governing Body at its meeting. It was passed by the necessary two-thirds majority in each order of the three orders – Bishops, clergy and laity.

The service will be used experimentally for five years and it will be up to individual clergy to decide whether or not they wish to lead it.

The service is for a blessing only as same-sex couples are unable to marry in church.

The Bill was introduced by the Bishops, following an indication from Governing Body members that it was "pastorally unsustainable" for the Church to make no formal provision for those in committed same-sex relationships.

Responding to the vote, the Bishop of St Asaph, Gregory Cameron, who introduced the Bill, said, "I come out of this debate with no sense of triumph but believing that the Church in Wales has done the right thing under God for the LGBTQIA+ community. The Church has spoken decisively today in favour of blessings.



"There is a journey still to be taken but I hope that we can do it together with all the wings of the Church."

The Bishops passed the Bill unanimously, the clergy by 28 to 12 with two abstentions and the laity by 49 to 10 with one abstention.

The discussion and vote was held on the first day of the Governing Body meeting at the International Convention Centre Wales in Newport.

- [Watch the live stream of the meeting](#)
- [Download the agenda and reports](#)
- [More information about the meeting](#)

Senior Bishop urges church to respond to new challenges



The Covid pandemic had changed the “landscape of life” and raised questions about what was essential in a way hardly seen before, the Senior Bishop of the Church in Wales said this week.

In his keynote address as President of the Church’s Governing Body, at the start of its two-day meeting, Bishop Andy John urged the Church to look for God in the changing world and respond to new challenges.

The impact of Covid on the economy and our national well-being had been profound, he said. He thanked all those who had cared for others in nursing and care homes and hospitals, and praised churches for being “light on their feet”, discovering new, online ways of being church and finding innovative ways to serve the community.

External events had always shaped Christian purpose, he said, stressing,

“What is significant has never been the size of the challenge but the scale of the faithful response.”

Bishop Andy, who is also the Bishop of Bangor, warned that organisations failing to adapt to changes ran the risk of “fossilization”.

He said, “Being incapable of responding to new challenges means a lack of freedom to discover what God is doing all around us. We can imagine what kind of church we would have been had our forebears remained ambivalent about slavery and not developed a fuller understanding of the value of humanity made in the image of God. Or what would we have been had we not grasped the matter of women being called to the priesthood and episcopate?”

Addressing members concerned about a Bill being debated at the Governing Body meeting to authorise a service of blessing for same-sex partnerships, Bishop Andy acknowledged a change would be painful for those who regarded it a departure from Christ’s word.

He said, “But every development is to some degree a departure; something changes whenever there is a new expression of practice. And even when such a change appears consonant with a stated position, it is nevertheless a change. When the church changed its position on forbidding meat with blood in it or saw that slavery in all and any form was wicked, there was change.

“The ‘authority of the eternal yesterday’ must not be a millstone around our necks but provide a basis for a courageous embrace of what God is doing in the world around us. Mission always lies at the heart of faith. And being alive to God, to what might happen next, is part of remaining curious and open to new opportunity.”

The Bishops, he said, were in the process of addressing deep issues of the future of the Church – both its structure and mission – to ensure it was mission focused and fit for purpose.

He praised the Church in Wales’ transformation of its traditional parish system into Ministry and Mission Areas. The new platforms kept what was good about parishes while also allowing new expressions of church to be embraced, he said.

“As diverse expressions of church become more normal, there will be new questions still about how we grow vocations - to the priesthood, and also lay leaders who will offer the support and direction needed. But we ought to be in no doubt that the hybrid, mixed ecology (or economy) of church life is here to stay and is across the whole of Wales.”

Urging members to look for God through the changes happening around them, Bishop Andy concluded, “To see our task like this is to be open to what God has prepared for those who love him. It is to see the task through Christ’s eyes and to be set free to do what is truly important.”

Read the full Presidential address [here](#).

Vice-Chancellor is new chair of Church's trustees



A university vice-chancellor is to take up a senior role in the Church in Wales.

Professor Medwin Hughes, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD), is to be the new chair of the Church's trustees, its Representative Body (the RB).

Wales' longest serving university vice-chancellor, Prof Hughes will take over the role from James Turner who is retiring in December after nine years.

Announcing the news at a meeting of the Church's Governing Body this week, Mr Turner described Professor Hughes as a "man of enormous ability". He said, "Medwin's career accomplishments are very impressive indeed and just summarising them here would do him a disservice. Suffice it to say he is a man of enormous ability and with a wealth of professional experience that will be tremendously useful to both the RB and the Church in Wales more generally."

Welcoming the news, the Senior Bishop, Andy John, said, "This is an excellent appointment. Medwin brings a wealth of academic and institutional experience but with a track record of management change. A hopeful, radical [MA1] agenda for this next period of our life is wholly welcome and I am sure Medwin will help lead us forward as a church. The bishops look forward to working with him closely in the near future."

Professor Hughes, a former member of the Church's Governing Body, said, "I am delighted to be chosen as chair of the RB. This is an exciting time of transformation within the Church in Wales. I look forward to working with key stakeholders across the Church as we continue to ensure that resources are available for the benefit of the Church across Wales."

Simon Lloyd, chief executive of the Church, added, "Medwin will bring a wealth of experience to the role as well as the benefit of his long involvement in the life of the Church in Wales. I very much look forward to working with him."

Passing on the baton, Mr Turner warned that membership of the RB was not for the faint-hearted. He said, "I wish Medwin all the very best and assure him of my prayers as he takes on this extremely interesting role, which I'm sure he will enjoy very much. I would also like to thank all the members of the RB and its committees with whom I've served – being a member of the RB is not for the faint-hearted and their commitment and diligence over the years has been much appreciated. I have also enjoyed the support and wisdom of many members of


staff and I extend my thanks to all of them.”

Read more [here](#).

Ministry Team Training Day – 5th October

Ministry Area Leaders are coordinating attendance for our upcoming Ministry Team Training Day. This is an important formation opportunity for ministry teams that will help equip and resource you for working together in ways that will release the gifts and skills of each of the members. Its aim is to support the team in working as well as it can and modelling something that is complimentary, collaborative and fruitful.

MINISTRY TEAM TRAINING DAY WITH ALAN GYLE




All Ministry Area teams are invited to participate. We hope that all licensed clergy and LLMs will attend.

This is an important formation opportunity for Ministry Area teams and one that will help equip and resource you for working together in ways that will release the gifts and skills of each of the members. Its aim is to support the team in working as well as it can and modelling something that is complimentary, collaborative and fruitful.

Ministry Area Leaders can book places for their team (max 15) by contacting Vicki Stevens
Email: monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk
Tel: 01633 263510

IMPORTANT: Please notify us of any dietary restrictions.
Bookings must be made by **Friday 17th September**.

TUESDAY 5TH OCTOBER
THE PARKWAY HOTEL, CWMBRAN
9.30AM – 3.30PM



Free trees for churches



If you want to help Wales reach its net zero carbon targets, you could branch out and plant some trees. From a hedge to a working wood, Llinos Humphreys, from Coed Cadw – the Woodland Trust in Wales - describes what’s on offer for churches in a free tree scheme.

Coed Cadw wants to see trees and green spaces close to everyone, and to that end, wants to give everybody in Wales the chance to plant a tree. That's why it gives away thousands of trees every year to schools, colleges, universities, community groups and churches through its Free Trees For Schools and Communities scheme.

The UK needs millions more trees to reach its carbon net-zero target by 2050. And as churches often have plenty of publicly accessible land, they are the perfect place to start. The good news is, it couldn't be easier to get involved.

Coed Cadw's Free Trees for Schools and Communities scheme offers Free Trees packs in a variety of sizes from 15 to 420 trees; these include mixed species packs with different options to suit your specific site needs. For instance, you could pick an 'urban' tree pack, designed for residential areas with limited communal space; a 'wildlife' pack, to help provide food and shelter for wildlife and create a living legacy for future generations; or a 'hedge' pack to create a natural screen, or connect with existing woodland to help wildlife stay on the move. Other options include a 'wild harvest' pack, to provide an array of fruits and nuts for making your own jams, jellies, or wines; and even a 'working wood' pack which could provide fuel for a log burner in 7-10 years.

Read more and find out how to apply [here](#).

Training and Events

Open Doors - Newport Cathedral - tomorrow!



Visit Newport Cathedral on the 11th of September as part of the Cadw Open Doors event. The Cathedral will be open 10am - 4pm with a free concert at midday and a talk about the history of the magnificent Norman building.

Refreshments will be available and the shop will be open.

Find out more [here](#).

RSCM International Chorister Day Event

Sunday 19th September, Newport Cathedral, 2-6pm

The Royal School of Church Music is organising "International Chorister Day" as a way of celebrating the opportunities that being a chorister provides.

The official event for SE Wales will be at Newport Cathedral: come and "be a chorister for an afternoon"!

An afternoon of singing, musical activities and games and refreshments, ending with a service (which parents are welcome to attend)

Start time - 2pm

Closing act of worship - 5pm

Contact for more details - Emma Gibbins 07952 514117 / emma gibbins1978@gmail.com

You can register for a place here:

<https://www.rscm.org.uk/courses/icd-wales/>

Diocesan Healing Service



We're pleased to announce the next Diocesan Healing Services on **Wednesday 22nd September at 7.30pm.**

This service will be led by Bishop Cherry and Rev. James Henley with Bishop Cherry delivering the sermon. Healing and Reconciliation lie at the heart of our Christian faith and we invite you to join us in drawing nearer to Christ and opening ourselves to the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Book you place here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diocesan-healing-service-registration-169638245559>

Calling Conversations

The next session is about Vocations in the Workplace and is on the 28th of September. Join the session [here](#).

– DIOCESE OF MONMOUTH –

CALLING CONVERSATIONS

VOCATIONS IN THE WORKPLACE

OUR PANEL


❖ DARREN MILLAR MS – MEMBER OF THE WELSH PARLIAMENT FOR CLWYD WEST

❖ IAN LOYND – HEADTEACHER OF ST TEILO'S CHURCH IN WALES HIGH SCHOOL

❖ PENNY HEARD – OPERATIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE HIGHVELD ANGLICAN BOARD OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

• LIVE ON FACEBOOK • TUESDAY 28TH SEPT AT 7PM •

God is Calling







SAFEGUARDING TRAINING SESSIONS



Safeguarding training Module B sessions will resume week beginning the 18th October 2021

Further information about dates, times and booking will follow in due course

(Please note Module A Safeguarding Awareness is still available through the Church in Wales Website)

For further information please contact SarahRobinson@cinw.org.uk

The Church in Wales has a responsibility to ensure that all church members are cared for and protected.

Email SarahRobinson@churchinwales.org.uk for more details.

Certificate in Pastoral Supervision and Reflective Practice

Gloucestershire Spiritual Direction Trust is inviting interest from spiritual directors, clergy and pastoral workers in the surrounding area for an exciting programme of learning newly available in this area starting in November 2021. The venue in Chipping Sodbury, South Gloucestershire, has good road (M4 & M5) and rail links with Bristol at Yate railway station.

Module 1: 3 days 29 Nov - 1 Dec 2021	Introduction to Pastoral Supervision & Reflective Practice
Module 2: 3 days 7 – 9 Feb 2022	Behind the Words – beneath the surface: theoretical Frameworks and Practice
Module 3: 3 days 4 – 6 April 2022	Integrating Learning and Practice

The certificate is validated by The Institute of Pastoral Supervision & Reflective Practice (<https://www.ipsrp.org.uk/>) and comprises 3 modules delivered face to face over a 6 month period:

Individual practical learning is achieved through offering supervision to at least two supervisees or a group during the course.

The course will be led by two experienced tutors in this field, Fr Tony Nolan and Revd. Bob Whorton

The combined course fee for the modules and practical supervision will be £1098.00. A number of bursaries are available to successful applicants for up to 50% of course fees.

INTERESTED? Contact Chris Mason on 07749 903 658 or revd.chris.mason@gmail.com for further information and/or an application form. The deadline for receiving completed applications is Friday 17th September 2021

Services and Resources

Join a Service from the Cathedral on Sunday at 10:30am [here.](#)

Esgobaeth Mynwy

Gwasanaethau Cymraeg Medi 2021 – Awst 2022

Date Dyddiad	Time Amser	Venue Lleoliaeth	Service & Theme Gwasanaeth & Thema
Medi September 11 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas Monmouth	Eucharist Ewcharist
Hydref October 12 th Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth	7pm / y.h.	St Mary, Magor	Harvest Festival Diolchgarwch am y Cynhaeaf
Tachwedd November 13 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas Monmouth	Eucharist: Remembrance Ewcharist: Sul y Gofio
Rhagfyr December 14 th Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth	10.30 am /y.b.	St John, Maindee, Newport	Eucharist: Advent Ewcharist: Adfent
Ionawr January 8 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	5 pm /y.h.	Cathedral Cadeirlan	Plygain
Chwefror February 8 th Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth	7 pm / y.h.	St Mary, Magor	Eucharist Ewcharist
Mawrth March 12 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas, Monmouth	Eucharist Ewcharist
Ebrill April 26 th Tuesday / Dydd Mawrth	10.30 am / y.b.	St John, Maindee, Newport	Eucharist Ewcharist
Mai May 8 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	9.30 am / y.b.	St Thomas, Monmouth	Eucharist Ewcharist
Mehefin June 15 th Wednesday / Deydd Mercher	6.30pm / y.h.	Cathedral Cadeirlan	Choral Evensong Hwylol Weddi
Gorfennaf July 9 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas, Monmouth	Eucharist Ewcharist
Awst August 9th	<i>tbc</i>	<i>Islwyn Ministry Area</i> <i>tbc</i>	Gymanfa Ganu
Medi September 10 th Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas, Monmouth	Eucharist Ewcharist

Sight Loss Sunday

20% of your community will experience sight loss in their lifetime.

Sunday 17th October

Take part in Sight Loss Sunday and equip blind & partially sighted people to contribute to church life.

Free resources available from sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk/slsunday

Sight Loss Friendly Church from TORCH TRUST



Find out more at sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk/slsunday

Kneelers Available!



St Grwst's Church in Llanrwst in the Diocese of St Asaph completed a major £1.2m restoration and reordering project last year, part of which involved removing the pews and replacing them with chairs.

Previously they had had kneelers in church, which feature tapestry designs of the six Welsh diocese, and they have 22 Diocese of Monmouth kneelers left which we are looking for a home for.

If you would be interested please contact Jon Richmond
- saintgrwstchurch@gmail.com / 07936 973476

Vacancies

Ministry Team - East Cardiff (3 Posts)

East Cardiff Ministry Area are forming a new creative and collaborative Ministry Team, who will help us to grow in our united mission to serve the communities of East Cardiff. Our goal is for each member of our team to work to their strengths, bring their own complementary gifts and skills and, we pray, to flourish in their own ministry and vocation.

Post 1: Vicar for Liturgy and Worship

Are you someone who:

- Has a deep and mature spirituality rooted in the sacraments?
- Values the breadth of worshipping traditions across the Anglican Church?
- Has relevant experience developing vibrant liturgy which draws on sources both ancient and modern?

Our new Vicar for Liturgy and Worship will help us to develop a vibrant and diverse worship and prayer life, taking full responsibility for coordinating public worship across the Ministry Area.

Post 2: Vicar for Belonging and Pastoral Care

Are you someone who:

- Has a pastoral heart, sensitive to the needs of others?
- Is passionate about the occasional offices as an opportunity for hospitality, mission and faith formation?
- Has experience providing one-to-one pastoral care and developing a team of pastoral visitors?

Our new Vicar for Belonging and Pastoral Care will help us to develop our inclusive welcome, ensuring all are able to belong fully to the life of the Church. They will take full responsibility for co-ordinating pastoral care across the Ministry Area.

Post 3: Priest for Children, Families and Community

Are you someone who:

- Has a servant's heart, with a community focused and strengths-based outlook?
- Believes in the profound goodness of children, even the most challenging, and has experience of youth and/or schools ministry?
- Is deeply loving, inclusive and affirming with a highly effective understanding of the challenges and opportunities in urban communities?

St Teilo's, the largest Anglican school in the Province of Wales, is at the heart of the new East Cardiff Ministry Area. Together, we are seeking to develop creative and deeply Christian partnerships within and between St Teilo's and the East Cardiff Ministry Area, our Church in Wales primary schools and other local schools.

Our new Priest for Children, Families and Community will help us to create projects and initiatives focused on wholeness and wellbeing in our schools and local communities, with a particular focus on the poor and vulnerable. They will explore and encourage discipleship by growing opportunities for prayer, hospitality and service.

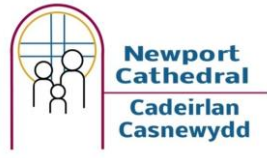
The salary for the post will be a little over £38,000 and will increase with inflation in line with JNC pay awards. The post is subject to membership of the national Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

For an informal conversation on any of these posts, please contact Reverend James Henley, Ministry Area Leader on 02920 752138 or james.henley@gmail.com

For the recruitment pack and applications forms please click [here](#).

Applications should be submitted by email to: james.henley@gmail.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 15th October 2021



Canon Residentiary

The Dean in consultation with the Bishop wishes to appoint a full-time Residentiary Canon for Newport Cathedral.

This is an exciting time to join Newport Cathedral as a new team is being formed.

The role is both pastor and missionary: to develop the life and faith of the congregation as well as look beyond to draw in new people and broaden the demographic balance. This will also involve nurturing a rich combination of the existing and new styles of worship that will underpin the Cathedral's life and witness.

We are looking for a mission-minded, open, relational and engaging person, someone who can think beyond the established, while working within it.

Newport is the gateway to South Wales with excellent road and rail links.

Closing date for applications is 12noon Friday 24th September 2021.

Interviews over Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st October 2021 (both days).

For further details and application form: www.newportcathedral.org.uk/vacancies



Verger and Sacristan (full-time)

Applications are invited for the Cathedral Verger and Sacristan. This is a key position in the functioning of the Cathedral. The verger holds the space and is an ambassador to all who come.

Salary package: 23,000 plus 10% to the approved pension scheme.

Newport is the gateway to South Wales with excellent road and rail links.

Closing date for applications is 12noon Friday 8th October 2021.

Application is by submitting the completed application form which includes a confidential declaration – a CV substitute is not sufficient. In addition please write a letter of application stating how you meet the requirements of the post.

Completed applications by email to deanofnewport@churchinwales.org.uk by 12noon on 8th October 2021.

Interviews will be on Friday 5th November 2021.

Further details and application form can be downloaded [here](#).



Diocese of Llandaff Church Buildings Officer

As first point of contact in the Church Buildings team you'll be working with a variety of people with different needs and you'll be someone who thrives on helping others develop their ideas and achieve their plans. We're developing our work around environmental issues and achieving carbon net-zero so you'll be involved with projects centred around Eco-church, churchyards and energy audits.

You'll be working with churches to encourage them to be open to visitors and the local community, and if you enjoy using social media there'll be opportunities for you to promote the beautiful buildings.

You will need to be good at admin as you'll be running the systems for church inspections, energy audits and online faculty applications (training will be given in specific systems) and you'll be someone who's at ease using MS Office suite and Zoom.

This is a full-time permanent post 37.5 hours per week (with occasional need to attend evening or weekend events). Currently mainly working from home. Going forward likely to be working on a hybrid model of home/office working.

Salary: £25,800 per annum

Closing date: Thursday 16th September

Find out more [here](#).