



Friday Round Up


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

A Message from Bishop Cherry



I would like to invite all active clergy who hold my Permission to Officiate to one of two meetings that I am hosting next Thursday. One will be 4.00 – 5.30pm; the other 7.00 – 8.30pm. This will be an opportunity for us to talk together about the Ministry Areas that we are establishing as a diocese and to share hopes and dreams, fears and concerns about how they are going to work. I am keen to hear your views and to share with you the careful and prayerful thinking that has gone into the plans. Above all, it will be good to connect a group of colleagues, many of whom I have not yet had the chance to meet; even on zoom!

My PA, Vicki, will be sending out a zoom link on Monday to all for whom we have an e mail address. Because of numbers, we are proposing that I meet with those of you in Newport and the Gwent Valleys in the afternoon and those of you in Monmouth in the evening. I look forward to meeting with as many of you as are able on Thursday.



'What a Year' - Bishop Cherry Reflects on Her First Year in Post



A year ago this weekend, the bells of Newport Cathedral rang out across the city to celebrate the enthronement of the Right Revd Cherry Vann - welcoming her officially as the eleventh Bishop of Monmouth and the first woman to hold the post.

Read more [here](#).

New Appointment for Mid-Torfaen



A vicar from Manchester, with a 'very soft-spot for South Wales', will be taking up her new post in Mid Torfaen at Easter.

Revd Kate O'Sullivan, who is currently the Assistant Curate of the Parish of St Chrysostom, Manchester, has been appointed as the new Ministry Area Leader of the Mid Torfaen Ministry Area.

The Bishop of Monmouth, The Right Reverend Cherry Vann, says: "Kate brings with her experience of working in teams, knowledge of community development, gifts for encouraging individuals and churches, a passion for social justice and a deep desire to proclaim the love of God in Christ Jesus.

"We are excited that Kate is coming to join us in South Wales and look forward to working alongside her and to her contribution to the life of the communities of Mid Torfaen and the wider Diocese."

We look forward to offering Revd Kate and her family a warm, Welsh welcome when they join us in the Spring.

Read the full announcement [here](#).



LENT 2021: DYING TO LIVE

Whether you are a lay leader, a licensed minister or a member of clergy, we'd love to invite you to join in with our plans for this year's Diocesan Lent Course 'Dying to Live'.

The course is now available on our [Diocesan website](#) or you can download a copy below.

Download: [LENT 2021: DYING TO LIVE](#)

If you are planning to lead a small group, please complete our group registration form: <https://forms.gle/979J2dw5GSYi63Lk7>

Printed copies can be requested from the Diocesan Office.

Please email admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk to request one.

Anyone who has already order a printed copy can expect to receive it next week.

Candlemas Callings

We celebrate Candlemas this Sunday, when Mary and Joseph take Jesus to be presented at the temple.

Candlemas Day got its name years ago when people began bringing candles, their source of light, to be blessed. The candles symbolise Christ, the light of the world. At this time let us all remember we are called to be this light of Christ in the world today.

As we ponder our vocation you might like to use the [attached guided Ignatian Spirituality meditation](#) and to say the prayer below.

To the God who leads us no matter where we are on the journey of life,

May you open our ears to your call,

Soften our hearts to your will,

Prevent us from being a stumbling block for those who follow your call.

May our hands work for the love of our neighbours and the raising up of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Amen



Covid-19 Updated Guidance - Advice for Services during Lent, Holy Week and Easter

View the latest guidance [here](#).

Live-streamed Services & Reflections:



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



Would you like to make more time to pray, but aren't sure where to start? Or would you like to give your prayer a renewed focus for a week in Lent? Would you like a little help along the way?

Then the ***Week of Guided Prayer*** online is for you.

Leading into Holy Week this ***Week of Guided Prayer*** is individually tailored to your experience. It is suitable for everybody - beginners in prayer, those whose want to renew

their prayer-life and those who are experienced in prayer. You will use Bible passages, and other material, as a basis for prayer and meditation, with a guide alongside you to suggest what you might pray with and to hear how it went.

The ***Week of Guided Prayer*** starts with an introductory meeting on Zoom for all the participants and guides. 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 retreat ends with a closing session online.

Register your place

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/137910888179>

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

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Rev Jane Butler: jane.upperiswyn@yahoo.com (01495 231241).



The Moondance Foundation

£10 million further support for Welsh Charities

The Moondance Foundation Covid-19 relief fund has earmarked an additional £10 million in 2021 to distribute to Welsh charities and organisations who are supporting those struggling as a direct result of Covid.

To find out more and apply go to:

moondancefoundation.org.uk/c19fund

Survey – coping with lockdown

Last year there was a very successful survey run from out of York St John University during the first lockdown seeking to assess how clergy and laity are coping with the lockdown experience. You can read about some of the results at <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/coronavirus-church-and-you/> Those who organized the survey would now like to get a sense of how clergy and lay people are coping with the current lockdown. They have created a survey that builds on their experience of the last survey and which should enable them both to assess how things have changed and find out what people think as they look forward to a post-pandemic future for the Church.

The *Covid-19 & Church-21* survey is your opportunity to be part of this crucial research project. It will take about 20 minutes of your time, which will enable you to give a thorough picture of your experiences and opinions. This is an online survey, which will take you about 20 minutes to complete. Most of the questions simply require you to click boxes, though there are options to specify your particular circumstances, and an opportunity at the end for you to share your views in your own words.

For more information click [here](#).

Or to go straight to the survey, click on <https://tinyurl.com/y4fqgrza>

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING SESSIONS

Online via Zoom

These sessions are for all who hold an ecclesiastical office, or who hold licence/PTO/commission from the Diocesan Bishop (whether lay or ordained), for those who run Sunday School or Youth clubs, Organists/Directors of Music for whom an enhanced DBS is required.

The training is presented in two parts, Part 1 & Part 2, to complete the course both parts must be attended. The course lasts for approximately 2-2.5 hours. There is no cost to attend the course.

PART 1

Monday 8th March	10:00
Wednesday 10th March	10:00
Thursday 11th March	14:00
Monday 15th March	14:00
Wednesday 17th March	10:00

PART 2

Friday 19th March	14:00
Monday 22nd March	14:00
Wednesday 24th March	10:00
Monday 29th March	14:00
Wednesday 31st March	10:00

To book a place, please contact **Helen** via email on safeguardingtraining@stpadarns.ac.uk

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



Email safeguardingtraining@stpadarns.ac.uk to book.

Upcoming Webinars

CMD TRAINING

SMALL GROUPS, BELONGING AND LIFELONG DISCIPLESHIP

❖ TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY, 2.00-3.30PM
❖ WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 7.30-9.00PM

BOOK VIA EVENTBRITE
•
HOSTED VIA ZOOM

PRESENTED BY DIOCESE OF MONMOUTH
FOR CLERGY, LAY MINISTERS AND ANY OTHERS INVOLVED IN MINISTRY.

Small groups, belonging and lifelong discipleship

A chance to discuss in more depth the role that small groups and discipleship courses can play in the life of our Ministry Areas. How can small groups encourage belonging, facilitate pastoral care and enable lifelong discipleship?

[Book a Place](#)

- Tuesday 9th February, 2.00-3.30pm
- Wednesday 10th February, 7.30-9.00pm



Our education team will be putting together a range of great resources for our church schools to support them with home learning, if you would like to access these resources they're available [here](#).

There are resources for FP and for KS2 which will be available each week on the website with the following themes,

Week 1	Epiphany
Week 2	Judaism
Week 3	Judaism
Week 4	Judaism
Week 5	Candlemas
Week 6	Ash Wednesday