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Esgobaeth Mynwy



Diocese of Monmouth



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

News



Spring Conference 2023

Our Spring Conference was held last Saturday, and it was lovely to see so many people attend (especially as the weather was far from Spring-like!).

The special Conference was held to discuss several constitutional amendments as the diocese, with its 16 ministry areas, moves forward. These included motions on diocesan restructuring and electronic voting and a discussion item about creating a single Diocesan Council.

The morning started with a wonderful worship from Newport North West Ministry Area before the conference business began.



Motion A asked Conference to agree amendments to the Diocesan Constitution required since forming all 16 ministry areas, to include the Cathedral in the Ministry Share Scheme and the Exceptional Support for Ministry Share and also to allow the Cathedral to nominate clergy and laity for election to provincial and diocesan bodies. The motion was carried.

Motion B asked for Conference to agree to an addition to the Diocesan Constitution which would allow electronic voting in any election that the

diocese is required to conduct, pursuant to the Constitution of the Monmouth Diocesan Conference or the Constitution of the Church in Wales. The motion was carried.

Next, Bishop Cherry introduced a consultation paper for discussion to restructure our diocesan committees and create a single Diocesan Council. This would merge the membership of the Standing Committee, Diocesan Board of Finance and Diocesan Trust.



She said; *“This paper proposes the creation of a single Diocesan Council, which will bring together discussion, debate and decision-making about finance and strategy, therefore making us more able to respond effectively to the challenges and opportunities we are facing.”*

The proposal can be read [here](#).

Following a review of the feedback from this special Conference, a more substantive motion will be taken to Diocesan Conference in October 2023.

Conference was followed by an afternoon discussing ministry area life with Archdeacon Stella Bailey. The keynote speaker for the afternoon was the Rt Revd John Lomas, Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. Find out more about his talk, 'Moving at the speed of God' next week.

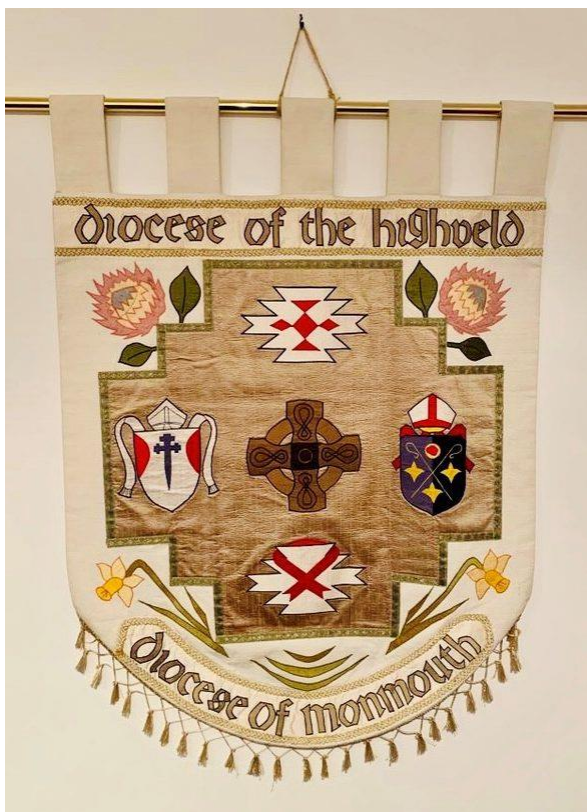


Important - Annual Vestry Meetings

The Archdeacons have drafted a document outlining the procedures for the upcoming Annual Vestry Meetings. This information has already been circulated to Ministry Area Leaders earlier in the week and it is attached below for all members of our Ministry Areas Councils to refresh their knowledge.

Download: [Annual Vestry Meetings 2023](#)

Visit to Highveld Diocese



As mentioned in Bishop Cherry's pastoral letter in October 2022, planning is underway to visit our link diocese, the Highveld in South Africa, later this year. The dates set aside for the trip are **10-19 November 2023**, arriving back in the UK on the morning of 20 November. Whilst final itineraries and costs are yet to be confirmed, ***please can you let the Bishop's PA, Vicki Stevens know by Friday 24 March if you would be interested in being part of the trip.*** For those of you who have already expressed an interest, Vicki will be contacting you in the coming weeks to confirm you still wish to attend.

We are hoping that a number of clergy will be part of the trip and lay people are also welcome. There are some grants available that could help with the cost of the trip.

Please contact Vicki on monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk with any queries or to register your interest.

Metal Theft

Metal theft has become, as we are well aware, an escalating national crime problem. Churches in particular are popular targets for thieves, containing as they often do large amounts of metal such as lead and copper. The police advise that there have been at least 9 incidents involving theft of lead from church roofs in Gwent in the last 12 months.

Under the Heritage Watch Scheme any reports of Heritage Crime are followed up with contact from the Rural Crime Team and free Smartwater packs and deterrent signage are provided to those that wish to participate. This service by the dedicated team also serves to provide participants with a point of contact should any further issues or concerns arise.

The police are keen for the opportunity to participate in Heritage Watch to be extended to all churches not only within Gwent, but across Wales as a whole. For any more details or clarification on any of this John Pavett, a local church warden in the North Monmouthshire MA, is happy to be contacted on johnpavett@aol.com.

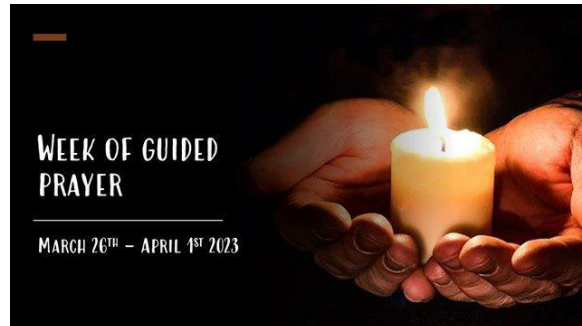
Please see the following document for more information: [Metal Theft](#)

Lost Property after Spring Conference

A glasses case (with glasses included) was left behind at St Teilo's High School last Saturday. If they're yours, please contact the Diocesan Office on **01633 267490**.

Training & Events

Last Chance to Book: Week of Guided Prayer 2023



*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, **26th March - 1st April 2023** is for you.

To book a place, please register here: [Week of Guided Prayer 2023](#)

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Rev Jane Butler: jane.upperislwyn@yahoo.com (01495 249021).

Come and Sing Compline

**COME AND SING
COMPLINE**

AT NEWPORT CATHEDRAL
**Tuesday of Holy
Week,**
4th April 7.30pm

**Address given by the Dean,
the Very Revd Ian Black**

**Rehearsal 6-7pm
Tea/coffee 7pm
Service 7.30pm**

All welcome to come and sing

For more information / to register interest /
to request a copy of the music in advance,
Please contact the Director of Music:
Emma Gibbins
emmagibbins1978@gmail.com

Newport
Cathedral
Cadeirlan
Casnewydd



LGBTQIA+ Clergy Social Evening

6.45pm, Thursday 11th May 2023 at Bishopstow, Newport

Bishop Cherry would like to invite LGBTQIA+ clergy, along with their partners to meet and enjoy fellowship together. Those new to the diocese are especially welcome.

Drinks and canapés will be provided.

There is limited parking at Bishopstow, available on a first come basis, with on-street parking next to the Cathedral available free of charge. This is only a short walk from Bishopstow.

To plan the refreshments, please can you RSVP to Bishop Cherry's PA, Vicki Stevens at monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk by **Friday 28th April 2023**, along with any dietary requirements.

Churches Unlocked Festival

In June last year, Llandaff Diocese ran the first '*Churches Unlocked*'. This is a summer festival supporting churches in opening to visitors for things such as tours, family events, flower festivals, bell-ringing, music, concerts, family history and themed exhibitions.

In 2023 Monmouth Diocese will be taking part too with 10 churches involved.

Archdeacon Ian said, '*Our church buildings represent a massive treasure but they are too often closed, other than for services or occasional other events. As we increasingly focus on being outward looking in mission, we also have an opportunity to extend an invitation for people to come and look around our buildings, and to become inspired by the history as well as the generations that have worshipped in those buildings before us.*

But it's also an opportunity to show how we are telling the Christian story today and our buildings are important tools in doing that. I have no doubt that Churches Unlocked will be a success for those taking part from Monmouth Diocese and we look forward to it growing in years to come.'



The aims of the project are:

- To **raise awareness** of our church buildings, celebrating not only their heritage but also what they offer to their local communities today
- To **encourage** churches to be open and welcoming to visitors, with a focus on those churches not usually open other than for worship
- To **engage** with those who may not attend church but have an interest in heritage/community history/architecture

Results in Llandaff were very encouraging, with over 3000 people either participating in events or visiting the 10 churches involved. Church organisers were overwhelmingly positive in their feedback describing the experience variously as *'inspiring, emotional, good for morale, celebrated local identity, community involvement and confidence building'*. There were many comments about how the festival enabled connections to be made or to be re-established post-Covid with schools, local people, or former members of the congregation.

Churches Unlocked 2023 will run from **Saturday 3rd - Sunday 11th June** this year. More details of the churches involved and events happening will be available soon.

Count on Nature



Churches across Wales can now register to participate in Churches Count on Nature, an annual scheme where people visit churchyards and record the plant and animal species they encounter.

The biodiversity survey, supported by environmental charities A Rocha UK and Caring for God's Acre, as well as the Church in Wales and the Church of England, will take place from **June 3-11**, at the same time as Churches Unlocked.

The data is used to determine where rare and endangered species are located in the country and to aid churches of all denominations increase biodiversity on their land for the enrichment of the environment and local communities.

Churches Count on Nature is part of Love Your Burial Ground Week, which is open to anyone with a love of nature. Churches are being encouraged to connect with local schools, wildlife groups, and those who may not have visited before to discover their churchyards.

The Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John, appealed to those who look after churchyards, *"to join in Churches Count on Nature during Love Your Burial Ground week in June. Invite the whole community, young and experienced, and make a day of it – it's an easy, free and fun way to show just how much we care for God's creation."*

Register your church for this summer's Churches Count on Nature at this link: caringforgodsacre.org.uk/getinvolved/event-register



Festival of Prayer 2023

Tickets are now available for the 2023 Festival of Prayer – to be held on **Saturday 8th July 2023** from **10am-4.30pm** at St Teilo's Church in Wales High School.

This will be 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 17 topics available.

Bishop Cherry will be presiding at the opening Eucharist and giving this year's Address.

To find out more or book your place: <https://festivalofprayer.live/>

A number of leaflets advertising this event will be sent to Ministry Area Leaders in the coming weeks. Please distribute in your churches and encourage your congregations to take part.

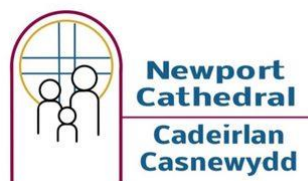
Services & Resources



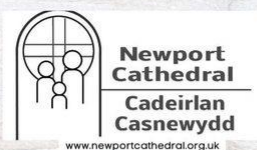
Food-related Outreach

Information has been put together to assist community organisations and charities who distribute food for free, such as Foodbanks.

To read more, please download this document: [Community Food](#)



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



Holy Week & Easter April 2023

**Monday 3rd 7.30pm – Reflection on the Cross
by Canon Andrew Lightbown**

Tuesday 4th 7.30pm – Compline & Address by The Dean

Wednesday 5th 7.30pm – Holy Week Reflection by Ven Stella Bailey

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm – Choral Eucharist & Watch until 10.00pm

Good Friday 2.00pm – Liturgy of the Cross

Holy Saturday

**10.30am - Come Walk With Me - Divine Absence -
meet at Tredegar House Cafe**

8.30pm – Easter Vigil & Choral Eucharist
(Any Ministry Areas who so wish may bring their new
Paschal Candles for blessing during the service.)

Easter Sunday

8.00am – Holy Eucharist

10.30am – Easter Day Choral Eucharist -The Bishop

4.00pm – Choral Evensong

ESGOBAETH MYNWY - GWASANAETHAU CYMRAEG

Ebrill 18
April 18
Dydd Mawrth / *Tuesday*

10.30
am /
y.b.

St John,
Maindee, Casnewydd /
Newport

Ewcharist
t: St.
Mark
Eucharist
: St
Mark

Mai 13 <i>May 13</i> Dydd Sadwrn / <i>Saturday</i>	9.30 am / y.b.	St Thomas Trefynwy / <i>Monmouth</i>	Ewcharist <i>Eucharist</i>
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Mehefin 13 <i>June 13</i> Dydd Mawrth / <i>Tuesday</i>	7.00 pm / y.h.	St Mary Magwyr / <i>Magor</i>	Ewcharist <i>Eucharist</i>
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Am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Ruth Willis: ruth_willis05@hotmail.com
For further information contact Ruth Willis: ruth_willis05@hotmail.com

Vacancies

Children and Families Pastor (part-time)

St Mary's, Marshfield are looking for an experienced and confident children and families pastor that can work with us to rebuild our engagement with families from the ground up. You will work with us to re-establish our previously very popular monthly family service and to introduce and lead a term-time Sunday School.

You will take a lead on working alongside families who come to St Mary's for special family events, like baptisms, and share with the Vicar in their work at the local Primary School.

To find out more information about this position or to apply: <https://docdro.id/DyYrS5x>

If you wish to apply for this role, please submit your CV along with a covering letter and details of two referees to rossmaidment@cinw.org.uk by **March 17th**.

Worship Leader / Director of Music (part-time)

St Mary's, Marshfield are looking for an experienced musician and confident singing instructor that can work with us to rebuild our choir from the ground up. You will work with us to develop the choir's musical repertoire and to recruit new members.

We believe in this project and are ready to invest in it.

We are prepared to offer:

- > A competitive package of remuneration based on experience
- > Funding for the recruitment of choristers
- > A substantial investment in improving our existing instrument

To find out more information about this position or to apply:

<https://docdro.id/s5Abln1>

If you wish to apply for this role, please submit your CV along with a covering letter and details of two referees to rossmaidment@cinw.org.uk by **March 17th**.

Team Vicar - Islwyn MA (part-time)

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

Will you thrive working as part of a supportive team?

Would you like to explore new ways to connect with your community?

Can you enable others in discovering and using their gifts for God?

Then join us to 'Live out a Love without Limit'.

Based in the area of Blackwood and the surrounding communities you will be part of the Ministry Team covering the Islwyn Ministry Area with a focus on Oakdale and Fleur-de-lis.

We hope for a Priest who will:

- *Inspire us to join God in mission*
- *Lead worship in a variety of styles*
- *Be a builder of community relationships*
- *Engage with and Support people of all ages*
- *Take Risks for God*

If this is you... we would very much like to hear from you.

For an informal conversation please contact The Venerable Stella Bailey, Archdeacon of the Gwent Valleys on

07741 661154 or archdeacon.gwentvalleys@churchinwales.org.uk

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

Closing date for applications: **Monday 10th April 2023**

Application form and full profile available at
<https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/jobs/team-vicar-islwyn-ma/>

Applications should be submitted by email to:
archdeacon.gwentvalleys@churchinwales.org.uk

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](#).



Diocese of Monmouth · Esgobaeth Mynwy

Diocesan Office, 64 Caerau Road, Newport, NP20 4HJ
01633 267490 · monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk

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64 Caerau Rd
Newport, Newport NP20 4HJ
United Kingdom