



Midweek Mailing

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

News

New bishops consecrated



Two bishops were consecrated at a special service on Saturday (Feb 26).

The new Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, John Lomas, and the Assistant Bishop in Bangor, Mary Stallard, were consecrated in a service at St Deiniol's Cathedral in Bangor which was live-streamed to allow everyone to join in.

The service was led by the Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John, who is also the Bishop of Bangor. The new bishops were led into the Cathedral by a long procession which included representatives from all of the dioceses and cathedrals of Wales. During the service, the new bishops were anointed with holy oil and presented with the symbols of office: a bishop's episcopal ring, a pectoral cross and mitre, as well as a Bible and a pastoral staff.



An address was given by the Archdeacon of Anglesey, Andrew Herrick.

New music, composed for the occasion, was performed for the first time at the service. The choir of Saint Deiniol's Cathedral sang a setting of the Communion texts by Joe Cooper, based on the melodies of well-known Welsh hymns. A special anthem, composed by Simon Ogdon, was sung at a high point in the service, immediately before the two new bishops were ordained.

Read more [here](#).

The service was the first consecration in the Church in Wales to be live-streamed. [You can watch it here](#).



Archbishop calls for urgent support for Ukraine crisis appeal

The Archbishop of Wales is calling for urgent support for Christian Aid's crisis appeal for Ukraine.

The Christian charity is working with its partners to distribute food and other life-saving essentials to people on the Ukrainian borders fleeing deadly violence. It is also calling for people to add their voices to the change.org petition launched by Together With Refugees member, Freedom From Torture, which calls on the UK Government to provide humanitarian support to the people of Ukraine. So far, an estimated 102 civilians have been killed with a further 406 injured - and the true figures could be far higher. Half a million people have fled the country in recent days, and many more have had to leave their homes to escape the fighting.

The Archbishop, Andrew John, says, "We are all shocked and sickened by Russia's merciless attack on Ukraine. A humanitarian crisis is unfolding rapidly as people flee for their lives and we must respond swiftly to help. I am calling on our churches and communities in Wales to step up and donate generously to Christian Aid's appeal and sign the petition to the UK Government to do more to help refugees.

"We must also continue to pray for Ukraine and for all its people at this terrible time."

Head of Christian Aid Wales, Mari McNeill says, "In light of the devastating events in Ukraine, Christian Aid has launched an appeal to support those fleeing deadly violence. We'll be working with partner organisations in the ACT Alliance to offer rapid humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people. So far, two of our ACT partners have distributed 28 tonnes of food supplies and other lifesaving essentials to people on the Ukrainian borders. In this dark and worrying time for the people of Ukraine and for everyone who believes in peace, we can join together to give, act and pray."




appeal

naid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-


The Church in Wales has been joining the wider church in Pope Francis's call to make Ash Wednesday, 2 March, a day of prayer and fasting for peace.

YR EGLWYS
YNG NGHYMRU



THE CHURCH
IN WALES

God of hope,
you have told us that when we call on your name you answer.
As we begin this season of Lent
we cry to you for the people of Ukraine.
We ask that you would bring protection,
that you would bring healing,
that you would bring justice.
By your Spirit guide the leaders of all nations
so they may discern the way to peace.
In the name of Jesus,
whose kingdom is peace,
Amen.



www.churchinwales.org.uk

Archbishop joins call for rethink on refuge Bill



The Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John, is among more than 1,000 faith leaders from across the UK who have written to the Prime Minister urging him to reconsider the Nationality & Borders Bill.

The leaders, representing the six major faith groups in the UK, said they are "horrified and appalled about the potential repercussions" of the Bill and called on the Prime Minister to make urgent changes "even at this late stage".

The letter, published today (Monday 28 February 2022), the day the Bill enters its final stages in the House of Lords - a crucial last opportunity to make changes - states: "While there is still conflict and injustice in the world, there will always be desperate people needing to seek sanctuary from war, persecution and suffering. We cannot close our door on them, but this Bill does just that."

“We assert that the values that bind UK citizens together, especially those concerning human dignity and life, will be fundamentally damaged by this Bill.”

In the context of rising global conflict, including this week in Ukraine, the way the bill undermines the UK’s ability to support all people fleeing conflict is even more prominent. The letter calls on the Prime Minister to make substantial changes to the Bill. These include abandoning the government’s plans to criminalise and restrict the rights of all people arriving in the UK seeking refugee protection outside pre-arranged schemes, including those coming via irregular routes, such as by boats or lorries. The signatories say this policy was made ‘without a basis in evidence or morality’.

The signatories also assert that the government must urgently address the failure to establish safe routes through the Bill, which would help people seeking sanctuary reach the UK, saying that this failure fundamentally undermines its aims. They urge the Prime Minister to be ‘compassionate and ambitious’ in opening schemes such as family reunion, routes for unaccompanied refugee children in Europe and resettlement.

Representatives from communities in every county in England have signed, as have a broad representation in Scotland and Wales. Many faith groups across the UK have witnessed first-hand the positive impact of safe routes on people in their communities, working in refugee integration initiatives, community sponsorship programmes and providing emergency support to refugees recently arrived from Afghanistan.

The letter calls on the Prime Minister to show ‘political leadership’ and promote ‘compassion, human life and dignity’. Faith leaders have asked the Prime Minister to meet to discuss their concerns.

The letter was coordinated by the ecumenical Joint Public Issues Team, made up of the Methodist Church in Britain, Baptist Union of Great Britain and United Reformed Church, working with the Church of Scotland.

[Faith leaders' letter](#)



Coronavirus Guidance

Update: 2nd March 2022

Our guidance notes have been updated to reflect the latest regulations for Covid-19. It remains a legal requirement to prepare a written risk assessment to control the risk of Covid transmission and the guidance seeks to help local church councils consider what would be appropriate in their circumstances.

In addition to face coverings no longer being required (except in retail, transport or health settings), the QR codes on the Covid-19 app for England and Wales are no longer operational as a means of recording attendance.

The Bench of Bishops has signalled that, subject to local risk assessment, the common cup might be restored from Easter Day. There is no requirement to do so and communion in one kind remains valid. No communicant should feel compelled to take the common cup. Updated guidance for the administration of holy communion has been provided to help you think about how to conduct communion safely and to consider the relative risks of different approaches. You should consider your approach carefully and communicate this to your congregation.

- [Covid 19 Churches Risk Assessment Guidance Alert Level 0 March 22 \(Word\)](#)
- [Covid 19 Church Halls Risk Assessment Guidance Alert Level 0 March 22 \(Word\)](#)
- [Covid 19 Guidance Marriages and Funerals Alert Level 0 March 22 \(Word\)](#)
- [Covid 19 Guidance on Celebrating Holy Communion Alert Level 0 March 22 \(Word\)](#)
- [Covid 19 Guidance on Conducting Baptisms Alert Level 0 March 22 \(Word\)](#)

Read the update on the website [here](#).

Save the Date - Chrism Mass 12th April

Chrism Mass will be taking place at 11am on Tuesday 12th April 2022 at Newport Cathedral, followed by a buffet lunch. Please save the date, more details in due course.



Nomination to Co-opted place on the Governing Body

In December 2021 members of the Governing Body were invited to make annual nominations for potential co-opted members of the Governing Body.

One nomination was received and the Standing Committee made this co-option.

This means that there are several remaining co-opted places to fill. They are:

For the three-year period which ends on 31 December 2024:

- 1 cleric
- 1 unbeneficed cleric
- 1 lay person
- 2 lay persons under the age of 30 years

For the two-year period to 31 December 2023:

- 1 lay person

Nomination forms and more information is available here:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/governing-body/nomination-to-co-opted-place-on-the-governing-body/>

Please send nominations for co-options to johnrichfield@churchinwales.org.uk by Monday 7 March 2022

Training and Events

Safeguarding Training

The current round of training sessions are now fully booked. The next series of

dates will be available after Easter when it is hoped in person training sessions may resume, as well as some training outside of the normal working day.

World Day of Prayer

The Newport Committee for the World Day of Prayer would be very grateful if the following poster could be displayed and a note placed in the pew sheets regarding the service to be held at **2pm on Friday 4th March 2022** at **St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Stow Hill, Newport.**




Please check the World Day of Prayer website www.wwdp.org.uk for a service that may be nearer to where you live.

For further information, please contact Jen Robinson (Secretary for the Newport Branch of the World Day of Prayer) by email on cameldrom13@hotmail.co.uk

Download a copy of the poster [here](#).

Provincial LLM Day


YOU ARE INVITED



Speakers

Dr Elizabeth Corsar

Bishop Cherry Vann



ATHROFA PADARN SANT
ST PADARN'S INSTITUTE

**The Church in Wales
Provincial LLM Day**

Saturday, 5th March, 10:00-15:15
ONLINE

The event is supported by all six of our dioceses, and provides a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate lay ministry in all of its richness and diversity.

The day will feature worship, study, debate, and small group discussion around lay ministry, and will include:

- Bible study led by Dr Elizabeth Corsar
- A Vision for lay ministry in the Church in Wales led by Bishop Cherry
- A facilitated discussion entitled 'What would you like to say to your Bishop?'
-

Pre-booking is required so please book your place before the 1st March by clicking the link in the description. You will automatically receive a meeting link once you have registered.

Please contact the CMD Team at St Padarn's on 02920 563 379 with any queries.

To sign up go to : <https://bit.ly/3gearxG>



Faith in the Future Webinars

National Churches Trust and the Welsh Historic Places of Worship Forum are

holding their next series of webinars over February and March.
These will take place on:

8th March: Innovative ways to raise funds and income

29th March: Rising to the climate change challenge

Each event starts at 1.30pm for about two hours and will involve hearing from interesting case studies with some presentations from key speakers.

Book your place [here](#).



Sight Loss Friendly Church Taster Sessions

Every six minutes someone in the UK starts losing their sight.

Christian charity Torch Trust are pleased to announce further dates of our popular Tasters.

These 30 minutes zoom sessions will give you the opportunity to learn about the benefits of being a Sight Loss Friendly Church as well as meeting the SLFC team and an opportunity to ask questions.

Tasters are easy to sign up to and held on the following dates:

Monday 14th March 2pm

Wednesday 23rd March 2pm

To book your place visit <https://torchtrust.org/sight-loss-friendly-church/taster/>

Every 6 minutes,
someone in the UK starts
to lose their sight.*



From **TORCH TRUST**

What does it mean to be a Sight Loss Friendly Church?

Join a free, 30-minute online Taster session to find out more.

The Torch Trust for the Blind. A company limited by Guarantee.
Registered in England number: 4616526 Registered Charity number: 1095904

*RNIB

Caring for God's Acre's



Online Day Conference
Tuesday 15th March, 10am - 5pm



The Beautiful Burial Ground Conference

Online booking: <https://tinyurl.com/godsacre>*

£15 non-members, £12 members

Concessionary places available if required

Join us for an inspiring day discovering how to transform burial grounds into havens for people, wildlife and heritage.

Hear from experts in the field and attend workshops of your choice.

There will be plenty of time for asking questions and networking.

Our Patron, Chris Baines, independent environmentalist with an international reputation as a landscape communicator, an award-winning writer and broadcaster will be launching the conference.



*** Payment by Cheque, BACS and PO also available**

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk
Charity reg no. 1155536

Details and booking here:

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/get-involved/beautiful-burial-ground-conference-2022/>

New Discovery Pack for Children

A downloadable resource with inspiring seasonal activities to help you to

explore churchyards and other burial grounds with young children.
From simple tree and bird id, to reflective prompts and quiz sheets. Take a look here.

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Burial-Ground-Discovery-Pack-FINAL.pdf>



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 2022** is for you.

This **Week of Guided Prayer Online** is suitable for everybody.
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.

Previous participants told us:

'It's been a thought provoking, reassuring and challenging week'

'It was good ... to have fellow travellers and to share some of our experiences; and wonderful to have guides prepared to give of their time, knowledge and experience to support us.'

'My guide was amazing. I felt he had God's ear to guide me'

The **Week of Guided Prayer Online** 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/week-of-guided-prayer-2022-registration-256051746667>

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.upperislwyn@yahoo.com (01495 249021).

Services and Resources



Diocesan Lent Resources

We've added some extra resources to our Diocesan Recommended Lent Courses list. Find out more about the brand new Lent Resources from Church Army!

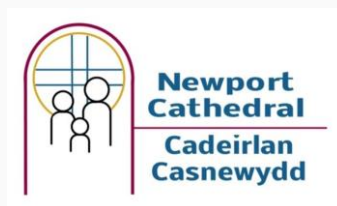
[DOWNLOAD: Lent 2022 - Course Recommendations \(PDF\)](#)



Archdeacon Ian Rees has drafted the attached list of suggested course options as well as written a wonderful set of Lent Reflections for us to use as a diocese.

[DOWNLOAD: Lent 2022 - Daily Reflections \(PDF\)](#)

If you are planning to host an online Lent course which is open for others to join, please let us know by emailing admin.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk. We hope to list any open groups with a group contact on the Diocesan website.



Join an Ash Wednesday Service from the Cathedral at 7:30pm [here](#).

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

Join the installation of Canon Residentiary Andrew Lightbown on Sunday at 4pm [here](#).

Esgobaeth Mynwy Gwasanaethau Cymraeg Mawrth 2022

Mawrth / March 12th

Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn

10:30am / y.b.

Eglwys Sant Thomas / St Thomas' Church, Overmonnow, NP25 4ES

Ewcharist / Eucharist

You may notice we are starting to add some more Welsh words and phrases to our diocesan communications!

Staff in the diocese office will soon be answering the phone with a 'Bore da' or ending an email with 'cofion cynnes' as we continue our journey to become a bilingual diocese.

Welsh language services that are held regularly across our diocese are a great way to embrace the Welsh identity of our diocese.