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Diocese of Monmouth



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

News

Conference 2024 - Videos and Transcripts



Continuing with our look back at the Diocesan Conference which took place at St Teilo's earlier in November here are some more videos and transcripts of the value presentations.

Please click on the images or buttons in the coloured areas below to download and view Integrity and Humility.

Integrity

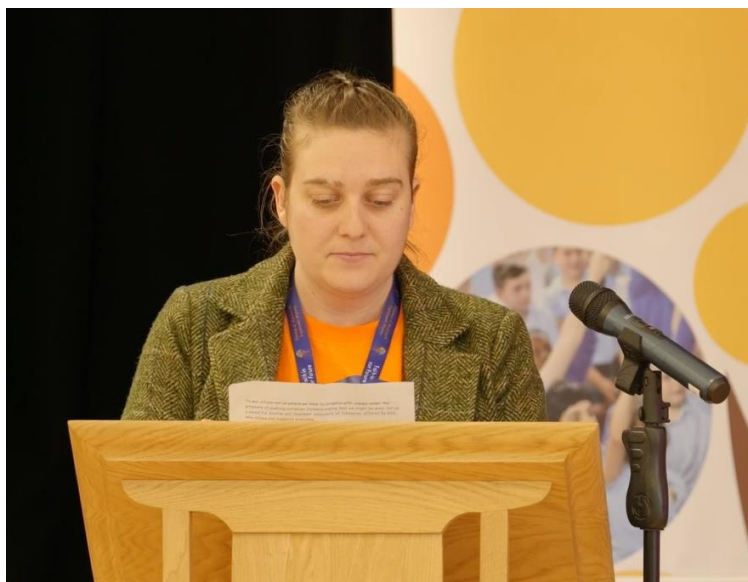




[Click here for a PDF transcript of 'Integrity' video](#)

[Click here for a WORD transcript of 'Integrity' video](#)

Humility



[Click here for a PDF transcript of 'Humility' video](#)

[Click here for a Word transcript of 'Humility' video](#)



Woolos Winter Wonderland at Newport Cathedral!



Come and see the smallest Christmas Tree festival in Wales (if not the whole world!) at Newport Cathedral!

Our Posada (from the Spanish word for inn) for Christmas 2024 features a forest full of Christmas trees decorated by local businesses from around the cathedral. It was the idea of Wendy Diamond, Bishop Cherry's partner, who is a gifted potter and artist.

Wendy has enjoyed visiting many Christmas Tree Festivals over the years and wondered how we might fit one into our small cathedral, and so the idea of the Woolos Winter Wonderland was born – a Christmas Tree Festival in miniature.

Ably assisted by members of the Cathedral community Carol Brown, who made the mini-Christmas trees, Fay Howe who painted the mini 'Piper' windows and Sally Lightbown who assisted with all things technical, the Woolos Winter Wonderland began to take shape!

At the centre is a representation of Newport's famous landmark the Transporter Bridge, illuminated by representations of the cathedral's famous John Piper east window. The forest of trees are decorated in all kinds of fun ways representing each business, among them our local launderette, art school, nail bar, dress shop, Vittorio's Italian restaurant, and Tovey Brothers' Funeral Directors who took part as well!



James Tovey, said it was marvellous way of connecting the Cathedral with the wider community. Tovey's tree was a 'family tree' featuring all the Tovey family involved in the firm as well as all their staff. George, Head Waiter at Vittorio's produced a truly amazing tree, rooted in a large empty tin of Italian tomatoes and featuring decorations made of pasta and their colourful menus!

The Posada will be on display until the Feast of the Epiphany and can be viewed daily at the Cathedral. Come and see Mary and Joseph as they journey to Bethlehem on the Woolos Express steam train!

For further information, please contact Newport Cathedral on

01633 267464

or visit our website www.newportcathedral.org.uk

Choral Evensong Patronal Festival Grants 2025



Celebrate Your Church's Patronal Festival with a Grant of up to £500

The [Choral Evensong Trust](https://www.choralevensong.org/uk/pfg25.php) is delighted to offer Grants of £250 and £500 to parish churches to celebrate their patronal festivals in 2025. This initiative builds on the success of recent trials in rural churches, where choral evensong services drew remarkable attendance and fostered community engagement.

For example, at St Michael and All Angels in Dinder, near Wells, over 90 people attended a choral evensong on Michaelmas (29 September), sung by the Wells Cathedral Chamber Choir. The church was filled to capacity, with many attendees participating in church activities for the first time.

For more details on who can apply, what the grants cover and how to apply for the grant please visit <https://www.choralevensong.org/uk/pfg25.php>

The Deadline for applications is **2 February 2025**: Candlemas

Renewing Hope in Smaller Churches

You're invited to a ReSource day retreat

Renewing Hope in Smaller Churches



RESOURCE

ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT
ACTIVE IN MISSION

ReSource has a particular calling to support spiritual renewal in 'little, local, ordinary' churches. These churches form the backbone of the Church, but sometimes we feel isolated. Join us for a day focused on renewing hope in these smaller churches. Facilitated by the Ven Mones Farrah and others with biblical teaching from Bishop Mark Ashcroft, this day offers an opportunity for teams and individuals to:

- Worship and encounter God afresh;
- Renew confidence in inextinguishable power of biblical hope;
- Wrestle with the practicalities of living hopefully in the local church.

We will also pray for each other, enjoy good quality lunch and offer anointing.

Saturday 15th March 2025

Holy Trinity in Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5EY

Tickets £15 (lunch included)

To book visit [resourcingrenewal.org/events](https://www.resourcingrenewal.org/events)

www.resourcingrenewal.org



@Resourcingrenewal



@ReSourceARM

Charity no. 1180394



To book a place please visit

<https://www.resourcingrenewal.org/events/68/renewing-hope-in-smaller-churches-wales>

Protecting Our Churches During Floods



With the recent floods and severe weather, now is a good time to ensure that our churches are well prepared for the winter weather.

Apart from making sure that gutters, downpipes and drains are clear, it's also worth taking a look at boiler rooms if these are located below ground level, checking that roof coverings are watertight and that any slates or tiles that are loose are repaired.

Please don't put yourself at risk when checking the building and if you notice something that needs to be fixed, please get in touch with the property team for more advice or contact one of the contractors on the Approved Contractors List.

Regular maintenance is essential to keep our buildings warm, dry and in good condition as we head into what is likely to be a wet and cold winter.

If you have any concerns about the general condition of your church, please contact Paul, Senior Church Surveyor paulcascarini@cinw.org.uk and Martyn DAC Secretary martynjones@cinw.org.uk and take a look at the links to advice below and please consider subscribing to the Met Office Weather Alerts: [Met Office](#)

[Flood – protecting your church property | Church Guidance | Ecclesiastical](#)

[The Historic Religious Buildings Alliance | Flooding](#)

[Natural Resources Wales / Preparing for a flood](#)

Have you opened your Monmouth Diocese Advent Calendar?



Have you opened the doors on your Monmouth Diocese Advent Calendar yet?

For daily reflections from the Diocesan Prayer and Spirituality team during this Advent season please click [here](#) to access our virtual Advent calendar.

Training

Opening Evening for MA Theology, Ministry & Mission - 25th January 2025

The poster features a blue header with the text 'MA THEOLOGY, MINISTRY & MISSION' in yellow and 'OPEN EVENING ONLINE' in white. A date and time box on the right says 'JAN 25TH | 7-8PM'. Below the header is a photo of three people in conversation. Overlaid on the photo are two pink boxes: one on the left says 'BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW! SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK THE LINK' with a QR code, and one on the right says 'MEET OUR STUDENTS GET A TASTE OF THE COURSE ASK ANY QUESTIONS'. A green banner at the bottom of the photo area says 'STUDY THEOLOGY AT ST PADARN'S'. Below this, a text block describes the course as accredited by Durham University and designed for ordained and lay ministry. To the right of this text is a small icon of a graduation cap. At the very bottom, contact information is provided, flanked by the St Padarn's Institute logo on the left and the Durham University logo on the right.

MA THEOLOGY, MINISTRY & MISSION
OPEN EVENING
ONLINE JAN 25TH | 7-8PM

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!
SCAN THE QR CODE
OR CLICK THE LINK

MEET OUR STUDENTS
GET A TASTE OF THE COURSE
ASK ANY QUESTIONS

STUDY THEOLOGY AT ST PADARN'S

St Padarn's MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission (accredited by Durham University) is designed to support people in ordained and lay ministry. It is a spiritually refreshing and intellectually stimulating tool for Continued Ministerial Development (CMD) and personal growth.

For more info please visit
www.stpadarns.ac.uk/MATheology
or email tina.franklin@stpadarns.ac.uk

ATHWYLLA PADARN SANT
ST PADARN'S INSTITUTE

Durham University

MA Theology, Ministry and Mission Online Open Evening

25 January 7-8pm

St Padarn's MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission (accredited by Durham University) is designed to support people in ordained and lay ministry.

It is a spiritually refreshing and intellectually stimulating tool for Continued Ministerial Development (CMD) and personal growth.

Link to book place:

<https://bit.ly/4f2V9Yz>

For more information please visit www.stpadarns.ac.uk/MATheology or email tina.franklin@stpadarns.ac.uk

Burn Like Stars - Online Course



Clergy burnout is something that can affect anyone in ordained ministry. Trying to see the signs before it happens is really important obviously. To help with this the diocese have purchased free access for clergy to an online course which has been put together by Gillian Straine who many of you will have met on our clergy residential.

If you would like access to it, please let ianrees@cinw.org.uk know and he will let you have the sign in information.

The course can be taken at your own pace and you can repeat parts that are particularly useful.

Whilst the course is intended for individual use, you may wish to discuss it with a colleague or a small group, but that is your choice. Details are as follows:

Burn Like Stars is a 12 session online self-led course exploring how to avoid or recover from burnout. Go on a journey today to explore how to live and work in healthy and holistic way, grounded in the wisdom of our Christian faith.

To shine like stars is to remain energised and to consistently burn on, when some are burning out.

The course will allow you to:

- Identify the signs of burnout in yourself and others;
- Embed practices to help you heal from, or avoid, burnout;
- Reflect on a Christian response to burnout and find a healthy work-life balance.

You will receive:

- A prayerful and inspiring web based journey through the wisdom of faith and science content that is deeply interconnected with the realities of life;
 - Biblical reflections on burnout;
 - Anti-burnout practices based on the latest research from science and psychology;
 - Bonus GoHealth podcast content;
 - Prayers and blessings for yourself and others;
 - The ability to return the course whenever you are in need of a refresher!
-

Safeguarding Training Dates



[Safeguarding Training dates for the new year will be released soon!](#)

To find out when your Safeguarding training is due for renewal, please contact Vicki Stevens at Monbishpa@churchinwales.org.uk or by phone on **01633 263510**.

Contact details for all of the safeguarding team can be found here:

[Meet the team - The Church in Wales](#)

The Provincial Safeguarding Officer for the Diocese of Monmouth is **Colin Taylor** who can be contacted via email at colintaylor@cinw.org.uk or by phone on **07956 790330**.

Events

Winter Tree, Craft & Gifts Fair, 6th -8th December - St Stephens, Pill



Friday 6th December 6.30—8.30 pm - Adult Only with Cheese, Biscuits & Mulled Wine (Donation required) with Tree festival, gift, craft stalls and Raffle.

Saturday 7th December – 1.30–4.30 pm open to all with Children's craft, Stalls and decorated trees.

Sunday 8th December – 1.30–4 pm - Stalls and decorated trees. Raffle to be drawn at 3:30pm



St Stephens are planning a Winter Tree, Craft and Gift Fair on behalf of The Pill Trust.

Friday 6th December – Setting up from 3:30pm. Doors open 6:30-8:30 pm. Adults only, donation event with cheese, biscuits and mulled wine. Tree festival, craft and gift stalls and raffle.

Saturday 7th December 1:30-4:30pm Tree festival, Craft and Gift Stalls and Children's Craft & Games. Raffle.

Sunday 8th December 1:30-4pm Tree festival, Craft and Gift Stalls. **Raffle to be drawn Sunday 8th December at 3:30pm.**

Donations of gifts, raffle prizes, crafts and biscuits for cheese requested please.

Offers of help please - for refreshments, raffle and stalls.

To donate a small, decorated tree to be gifted or sold after the event or returned.

To sell own crafts £10 per table

Please contact Valery at valery@thepilltrust.com

St Basils Christmas Tree Festival, 6th - 8th December



St Basils Christmas Tree Festival

6TH-8TH
DECEMBER

Friday and Saturday 10am-6pm,
Sunday 11am-4.30pm

Super Saturday Christmas Crafts
10.30-12 in the hall

Sunday 8th 5pm
Christmas Carol Concert



Christmas Carols at St Basils, 8th December



CHRISTMAS CAROLS @ ST BASILS

**8TH
DEC**

**AN INFORMAL EVENING OF
CAROLS AND POEMS**

5PM



Resources

Contractors List



The DAC have provided a list of contractors that provide various services to our churches such as stain glass repairs, trees or bell work to name but a few.

Please click [here](#) to access the list of contractors and services.

Grants and Fundraising

Building Projects Fundraising & Grants Guide - Amended Link



Building Projects Fundraising & Grants Guide



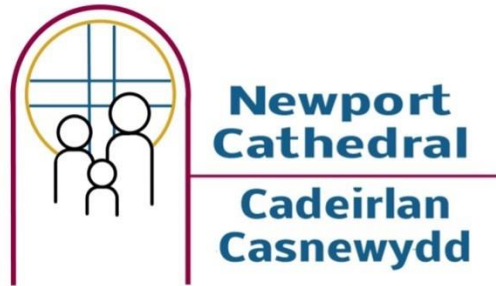
Last week we shared a message from **Calum Glanville-Ellis** regarding his Building Projects Fundraising & Grants Guide. Unfortunately the guide could not be opened via the link we provided.

Apologies to Calum, the Property Team and all our mid-week mailing readers for any inconvenience.

We have now published the guide to our website and it can be accessed at [Building Projects Fundraising and Grants Guide - Monmouth Diocese](#)

If you need help with fundraising for a project, please get in touch with CalumGlanville-Ellis@churchinwales.org.uk

Services



Join us for the Advent 2 service from the Cathedral, this **Sunday** at **10:30am**

[You can watch the Advent 2 service here](#)

ESGOBAETH MYNWY - GWASANAETHAU CYMRAEG

Date Dyddiad	Time Amser	Venue Lleoliaeth	Service & Theme Gwasanaeth & Thema
Ionawr 11 ^{eg} January 11 th <small>Saturday / Dydd Sadwrn</small>	9.30 am /y.b.	St Thomas Monmouth	Eucharist Ewcharist (St. Hilary / Ilar)

Amfwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Ruth Willis: ruth_willis05@hotmail.com

For further information contact Ruth Willis: ruth_willis05@hotmail.com

Vacancies

House For Duty Priest - Monmouth Marches MA



MONMOUTH MARCHES MINISTRY AREA HOUSE FOR DUTY PRIEST

Ready to take a different step in ministry?

We are looking for a collaborative and caring priest with a genuine passion for working with others, lay and ordained, in a beautiful part of Wales.

Based in the lovely village of Llandogo and primarily working with churches around that area, you will also be part of the Team covering the Ministry Area of Monmouth Marches.

We hope for a Priest who will be:

- ❖ **Caring** - has a strong pastoral heart and passion for encouraging the members of each of the congregations in discipleship
- ❖ **Collaborative in nature** - working well with the Ministry Team, lay and ordained, within the Ministry Area and is a good team player
- ❖ **Community focussed** - being a visible presence in the Ministry Area
- ❖ **Engaging** - has energy and commitment to engage with the local communities and is sympathetic to the needs of rural communities

If you think you might be that person... we would very much like to hear from you.

For an informal conversation please contact The Revd. Tim Dack, Ministry Area Leader on **07958 022782** or TimothyDack@cinw.org.uk

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

Application form and full profile available at

<https://monmouth.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/jobs/>

Applications should be submitted by email to:

archdeacon.monmouth@churchinwales.org.uk

Closing date for applications: 3rd January 2025

Interviews to take place soon after



Team Vicar - Monmouth Marches MA



MONMOUTH MARCHES MINISTRY AREA

TEAM VICAR

Do you have a strong faith and a passion for the church to grow? Do you want to live and work in a beautiful town and surrounding villages with incredible history?

Then please read on because we would love you to know more about our wonderful area and the people who make it so special.

Are you interested in discipleship, and developing worship? Are you someone who is excited by good communication, by reaching those who are not familiar with church, and really have a heart for town and rural ministry? Alongside the person specification and other essential skills, answering yes to these questions would be a good fit for our team.

Monmouth Marches, which covers the area in and around the town of Monmouth is looking for a team vicar who wants to be part of a team that is growing! Growing in our relationship with God and with other people and growing in our ministry together as we continue to discern ways of best working and ministering across the whole Ministry Area. We have a range of church traditions and styles of working and really look forward to welcoming someone to complement the gifts and skills we have.

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

For an informal conversation please contact Revd Tim Dack

on **07958 0227822** or TimothyDack@cinw.org.uk

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

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

Closing date for applications: 7th January 2025

Interviews to take place shortly after