



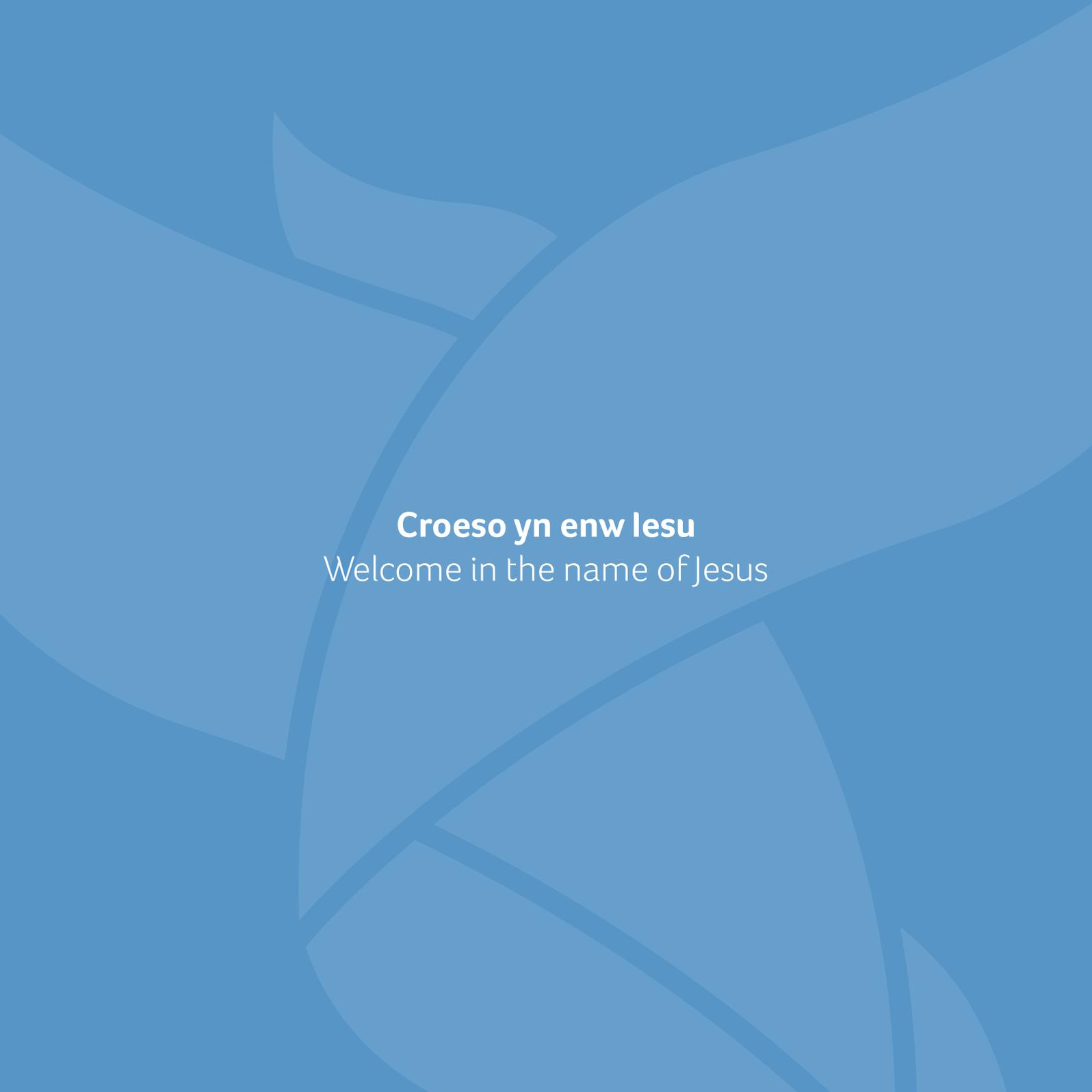
Esgobaeth Llandaf
Diocese of Llandaff

Lle Mae Ffydd Yn Cyfrif | Where Faith Matters

Recruitment Pack | January 2022

Pontypridd Ministry Area





Croeso yn enw Iesu
Welcome in the name of Jesus



Croeso! Welcome!

I am delighted you are exploring this exciting opportunity to minister in and around the town of Pontypridd. I am praying for you as you embark on this process of discernment.

These are exciting times in the Diocese of Llandaff. Our five year strategic vision 'Where Faith Matters' is becoming reality. As a Diocese we are encouraging one another to tell a joyful story, grow the Kingdom and build our capacity for good. With help from the Evangelism Fund of the Church in Wales, we have launched Citizen, a new Resource Church for the diocese, which has grown rapidly and is already preparing to plant churches across the diocese, one of which will be in the Pontypridd Ministry Area. We have invested heavily in our ministry amongst young people, recruiting outreach and schools workers to work alongside our churches. We have accelerated the transition to Ministry Areas, which will encourage collaborative ministry and empower our congregations as we reach our communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

First launched in 2015, the Pontypridd Ministry Area was the first Ministry Area in the Diocese of Llandaff. This new post completes a new team of lay and clerical colleagues, working with the Ministry Area Leader, sharing resources, playing to your strengths and reimagining what it means to be church in the twenty first century. There remains much to be done to forge new way of working together across the eight churches whilst, at the same time, enabling a new church plant to take root.

I hope you will find this profile helpful in discerning whether you feel called to apply.

Rt Rev'd June Osborne
Bishop of Llandaff

Welcome to the Ministry Area of Pontypridd. We are a group of eight churches based in and around the Pontypridd area, serving a mixture of valley villages, town centre communities and the student community at the University of South Wales campus in Treforest. We have a vision for “Transforming Life” through worship, prayer, social justice and love. We are looking for a priest to join us to engage our communities, through evangelism and community outreach. You will be part of a team of three stipendiary clerics, working alongside a Curate, Lay Reader, Schools Engagement Officer and a team of retired clergy. You will share your gifts and strengths across the Ministry Area whilst providing pastoral care to a small group of local churches.



Our Ministry Team

New role

Vicar for Community Engagement and Outreach

We are looking to grow our churches by reaching into our local communities, making connections and creating pathways into church life.



The vicar with responsibility for community engagement and outreach will be expected to:

- Lead on the community outreach and engagement projects for the Ministry Area.
- Work with lay people across the Ministry Area to connect with the community and serve local needs, providing volunteers with the support and confidence they need to sustain these new ministries.
- Develop welcome teams in each church to provide an inclusive welcome for everyone and a clear pathway into the life of the church.
- Provide pastoral care for the communities in the Nant Clydach Valley, responsible for Sunday worship at Christchurch, Ynysybwl and St Luke's Church, Cilfynydd and any seasonal services at St Gwynno's Church.

We are therefore looking for a priest who:

- Is approachable, easy to be with and able to come alongside people from different backgrounds, eventually drawing them into the life of the church.
- Has a heart for the local community and culture, with a calling to both people and place.
- Has resilience and a desire to sustain ministry for the long term.
- Is a creative self-starter who takes the initiative to make things happen.
- Is a collaborative team player who is able to encourage and empower volunteers from across the Ministry Area.
- A priest who is able to adapt their worship style to reflect the worshipping tradition of the different churches within the Ministry Area.



Pontypridd

This post-industrial market town is the gateway to the Valleys. Just 12 miles from Cardiff to the South and 20 miles from Brecon to the North, it is an increasingly popular place to live for students and young families. At the heart of the town is the Old Bridge built across the river Taff in 1756 and, at the time, the longest single span stone arch bridge in the world. The Ynysangharad War Memorial Park houses a monument to local brothers Evan and James James, composers of the Welsh

Housing

National Anthem, as well as the newly refurbished art deco open air Lido. Rugby remains the lifeblood of the town. Home to Pontypridd RFC, one of the historic rugby clubs of South Wales, Sardis Road, otherwise known as the house of pain, is at the centre of the town. The vibrant town centre also includes the famous art deco The Prince's Café.

The Vicar will be housed in a four bedroom detached property in the village of Maesycloed just fifteen minutes walk from Pontypridd town centre.

Existing Ministry Team



Ministry Area Leader:

Revd Charlotte Rushton

Appointed during the lockdown in 2021, Charlotte is passionate about making the church accessible to all and growing God's Kingdom. Charlotte oversees Life Events and Discipleship, and supports the staff team in their ministry and mission throughout the Ministry Area. She is working closely with our partners at Citizen Church as they prepare to plant a church at St Mary's Glyntaf. Charlotte is most at home in the Evangelical tradition within Anglicanism, and has pastoral responsibility for St Catherine's and St David's.

Vicar:

Revd Canon Michael Gable

Michael is currently seconded part time to the Diocese as Ministry Area Finance Advisor. Michael has over 16 years of experience serving the churches in the Ministry Area of Pontypridd. He is Dean of Area Deans, working across the Diocese, supporting the ministry

of the other Area Deans, and Ministry Area Finance Advisor, supporting treasurers as they transition to Ministry Areas. Michael has a passion for social justice and knows how to get things done. Michael is a priest in the Anglo-Catholic tradition and has pastoral responsibility for St Luke's, St Mary's, and St John's.

Curate:

Revd Peter Watson

Peter is a self-supporting minister and was ordained priest in St Catherine's Pontypridd in 2021. He will continue as Curate for the Ministry Area, supervised by Fr Michael as he completes his training.

Lay Reader:

Phil Hopkins

Phil loves the Bible and wants to see a biblical literacy to develop across the Ministry Area. He leads services of Morning Prayer and regularly at St Luke's.



Our worshipping communities

Our churches are all very different, spanning the full breadth of the Church in Wales, yet we work closely together. The Ministry Area has a variety of study and prayer groups including Bible language classes and courses to introduce others to faith. There are four Mothers Union groups, a Foodbank which has grown significantly during lockdown and is preparing to move to new facilities, the Men's Shed community project, upcycling furniture as part of the Ministry Area Job Club, a Debt Advice Centre and the Connect Café, a social enterprise and community cafe. There is an average Sunday congregation across all the churches of more than 200.



St Catherine's, Pontypridd

This imposing building at the centre of Pontypridd has dominated the skyline for more than 150 years. As such, life events form a major part of the ministry here. More recently, the church building was connected to the hall, creating a hub of community life. As a result, the ministry of the church has

diversified to include children's work, community café, and meeting space for community organisations. The worship is varied, with a quiet early morning Eucharist, followed by alternate family Eucharist and modern praise and worship services with separate Sunday school and more informal worship in the evening.

St Luke's, Cilfynydd

St Luke's feels like a village church with a small congregation of seniors from Cilfynydd and Trallwn. There is a traditional Eucharistic ministry with a faithful community focus that gently involves and nurtures its members. It has a good relationship with the local primary school and hosts the Men's Shed.

St David's, Hopkinstown

Despite a thoroughgoing refurbishment in 2016 that removed the pews, levelled the floor and installed in new heating system, the maintenance of the building has become increasingly burdensome for the small congregation. The Ministry Area is currently considering how best to relocate the congregation, giving it a stronger focus on community ministry.

Christ Church, Ynysybwll

Christ Church overlooks the Lady Windsor Colliery further up the valley. The church has an active congregation who take pastoral care seriously, regularly visiting the sick and housebound. They have a heart for young people and for mission, enthusiastically participating in different outreach projects across the Ministry Area whilst maintaining a good relationship with the local school.

St Gwynno's, Llanwynno

High on the hill, almost at the top of the mountain, nestled amongst the forest and woodlands of Llanwynno lies the ancient church of St Gwynno. Christians have gathered on this site since the sixth century. The simple stone church was constructed in the twelfth century and remains

much loved by the local community as local hero, Gruffydd Morgan is buried in the graveyard. The church has a high profile, featuring in TV shows, at a local race and as part of the Penrhys Pilgrims Way.

St John's, Graig

St John's has a strong Eucharistic focus and a wide reach into the local community, hosting a variety of community events at St John's Hall, complete with its new modern kitchen.

St Luke's, Rhydyfelin

Historically the daughter church of St Mary's, St Luke's is a modern church building with a Eucharistic focus and a heart for justice. The Pontypridd Foodbank has its origins here. The church has been recognised as an Eco Congregation twice. The promote fairtrade and run a Wednesday Club for local families and a monthly Messy Church.

St Mary's Glyntaff

With the growth of the coal industry in the nineteenth century, the population of Treforest grew dramatically. St Mary's was consecrated in 1839 to minister to this new community. This Grade II listed building is of special historical interest, not only boasting the



St Mary's Church, Glyntaff

graves of local celebrities, but also as a church built for the preaching of the word over ritual. The Ministry Area is reclaiming this original intention as Citizen Church partners with the Ministry Area to establish a church 'campus' here to reach local students.

Our Diocese

Irish monks first established the Christian faith in Morgannwg during the 5th and 6th centuries. St Cadoc established the monastery at Llancarfan and ruled the area as Abbot-King. St Illtud established a school of world renown at Llantwit Major where he trained St David and St Patrick. St Dyfrig became the first bishop of the area, followed by the great St Teilo. However, it was St Euddogwy, the third bishop who finally settled at Llandaff in the sixth century.

Today we are the most populous of six dioceses in the Church of Wales, with over one million inhabitants, covering much of South Wales, including the urban centres of Cardiff and Barry in the South East, the Heritage Coast to the South, the South Wales Valleys in the North and the post-industrial regions of Neath and Port Talbot in the West. The diocese is a family of over 10,000 regular worshippers with over one hundred clerics and more than two hundred churches spread across 29 new Ministry Areas.



1 Theological Institute



29 Ministry Areas



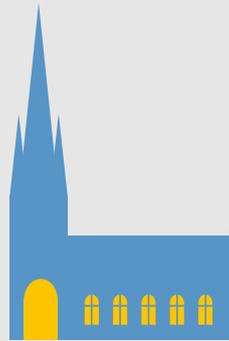
133 serving clergy



33 Licensed Lay Ministers



228 Churches



1 Cathedral



1 Eco-Diocese



11 Deaneries



10,257 regular Church in Wales worshippers



3 Church in Wales High Schools



22 Church in Wales Primary Schools



1 Resource Church



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