



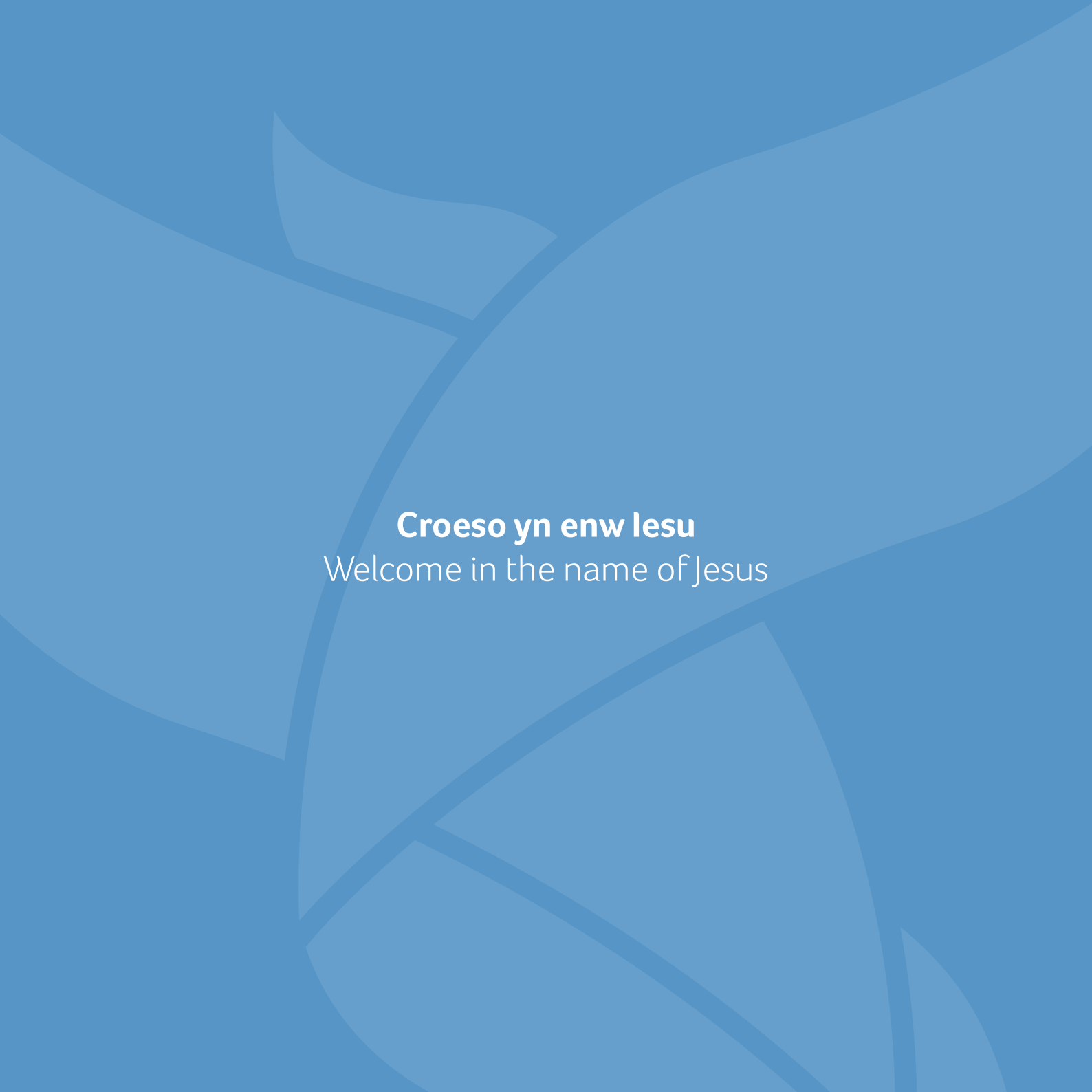
Esgobaeth Llandaf
Diocese of Llandaff

Lle Mae Ffydd Yn Cyfrif | Where Faith Matters

Recruitment Pack | Autumn 2023

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 strategic vision '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. We have invested heavily in our ministry amongst young people, recruiting outreach and schools workers to work alongside our churches. We are supporting front line ministry through the work of our Growth Enablers. We have reorganised ourselves into Ministry Areas and regional Deaneries, which is encouraging collaborative ministry and empowering our congregations as we reach our communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Archbishop Andrew has announced a £100 million Church Growth Fund for the next ten years, so we are working together to develop new ways of introducing others to the Christian faith.

First launched in 2015, the Pontypridd Ministry Area was the first Ministry Area in the Diocese of Llandaff. This new post completes the 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 six 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 Mary Stallard
Bishop of Llandaff

Welcome to the Ministry Area of Pontypridd. We are a group of six 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 to re-evangelise Pontypridd, revitalise our churches and transform our communities. We are looking for a priest to join us to help us grow in Christian character and maturity and develop our knowledge and understanding of Holy Scripture. 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 while providing pastoral care to a small group of local churches.



Our Ministry Team

New role

Vicar for Spiritual Formation and Learning

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



The vicar for Spiritual Formation and Learning will be expected to:

- Develop and deliver a strategy for spiritual formation and discipleship across all church traditions within the Ministry Area, enabling both current congregations and new Christians to grow in confidence and maturity of faith.
- Create a culture of shared learning to increase biblical literacy across the Ministry Area.
- Develop and support lay leaders create small study groups in different contexts and locations across the Ministry Area.
- Revitalise our current strategy for outreach and engagement through the ministry of life events, and to draw those on the periphery deeper into the life of the church.
- Nurture existing congregations whilst purposely looking for opportunities to grow and plant new communities of worship.
- In collaboration with the existing team, provide pastoral care for all congregations across the Ministry Area with particular responsibility to those of the Anglo Catholic tradition.

We are therefore looking for a priest who:

- Is a collaborative team player who possesses the maturity of faith to work alongside laity and colleagues across the Anglican tradition.
- Is a practical theologian with a passion and commitment to spiritual growth, who delights in seeing new and existing Christians grow in confidence of faith.
- Is approachable, easy to be with and able to come along side people from different traditions within Anglicanism.
- Is passionate about the revitalisation of the church and is eager to participate in church planting strategies.
- Is flexible and able to adapt to the ever-changing demands of a growing ministry area.
- Is a creative self-starter who takes the initiative to make things happen.
- A resilient priest with a heart for the local community and culture, and a desire to sustain ministry for the long term.
- 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 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.

Housing

The Vicar will be housed in St John's Vicarage, 28 Llantrisant Road, The Graig, CF37 1JB, a four-bedroom detached property, with three reception rooms, bathroom, downstairs toilet, kitchen, utility and a rear garage, just five minutes 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 governance and the Flourish Project and supports the staff team in their ministry and mission throughout the Ministry Area. She is working closely with our partners at Citizen Church following the church plant into St Mary's Glyntaf. Charlotte is most at home in the Evangelical tradition within Anglicanism and has pastoral responsibility for St Catherine's. She loves all things Star Wars.

Vicar for Community Engagement and Outreach:

Revd Rachel Campbell

Rachel joined the team in 2022 having previously served her title as Curate in Harrow in the Diocese of London. Rachel is a passionate disciple maker, eager to reach out into the communities she serves, introducing people to Jesus and forming them in the faith. Rachel is a priest in the charismatic tradition and has responsibility for St Luke's and Christ Church. She is married to Rob, and they have a young son called Euan.

Curate: Jeremy Heuslein

Jeremy was ordained deacon in June 2023 alongside his wife Natalie who is serving her title as Curate in Caerphilly, a neighbouring ministry area. Jeremy trained at Ripon College Cuddesdon in Oxford as an ordinand from the Diocese of Europe. Originally from the United States, Jeremy moved to Brussels in 2013 as Outreach Worker at Holy Trinity where he met Natalie.

They have two children. Jeremy is currently working on his doctorate in theology. Jeremy has a passion for Eco-Church and children's spirituality, and is leading on planting Bubble Church in partnership with Ascension Church, Balham.

Lay Reader: Phil Hopkins

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

Lay Chair: Ann Davies

Ann is very well known in and around Pontypridd. As a retired Health Visitor, there isn't many people that Ann doesn't know! Ann loves Jesus and demonstrates her faith by chairing both the Pontypridd Over 50 Forum and the Hopkinstown Community Hall, as well as being a trustee of the Pontypridd Foodbank. She has earned herself the nickname of 'The Ponty Mermaid', due to the amount of time she spends swimming at the open air lido.

Children, Family and School Engagement Officer:

Trish Tazinni-Lloyd

Trish has served the children of Pontypridd faithfully for over 14 years. Her pink hair is legendary, and children are instantly drawn to her warm character. She has excellent relationships with all eleven English medium primary schools within the Ministry Area and takes the lead on all primary school engagement. Trish leads our mid-week Mini Church sessions and is integral to our strategy for drawing families into the life of the church. Trish also resources our lay teams in leading age appropriate, Sunday worship.



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 two Mothers Union groups, the Connect Café, a social enterprise and community café and the Ponty Pantry, a twice weekly free market. There is an average Sunday congregation across all the churches of more than 150.



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, age-appropriate Sunday school and mid-week communion and groups. St Catherine's is a congregation of 63, with 28 children regularly attending Sunday worship.

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 local Karate club. St Luke's is a congregation of 5.

Christ Church Ynysybwl

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. The congregation gather after their mid-week communion for bible study. They are pushing forward to reorder the church building in readiness to launch a new family centric service for those who do not yet know Jesus. Christ Church is a congregation of 18.

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. The congregation have a talent for fundraising and a heart for social justice, with strong links with Pontypridd Foodbank. St John's is a congregation of 19.

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 music. The Church frequently host choral concerts and fundraisers with Volante Opera Productions. The Pontypridd Foodbank has its origins here. The church has been recognised as an Eco Congregation twice. The promote fairtrade and run a weekly Snack and Chat outreach which has led to people coming to know Jesus, as well as a monthly ecumenical Messy Church. St Luke's is a congregation of 26.



St Mary's Church, Glyntaff

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 Abbott-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 6,000 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



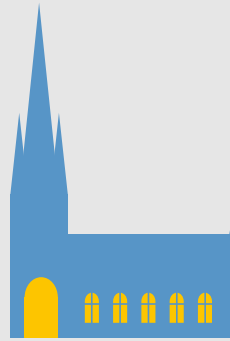
130 serving clergy



33 Licensed Lay Ministers



207 Churches



1 Cathedral



1 Eco-Diocese



6 Deaneries



More than **6000** regular Church in Wales worshippers



3 Church in Wales High Schools



22 Church in Wales Primary Schools



1 Resource Church



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