



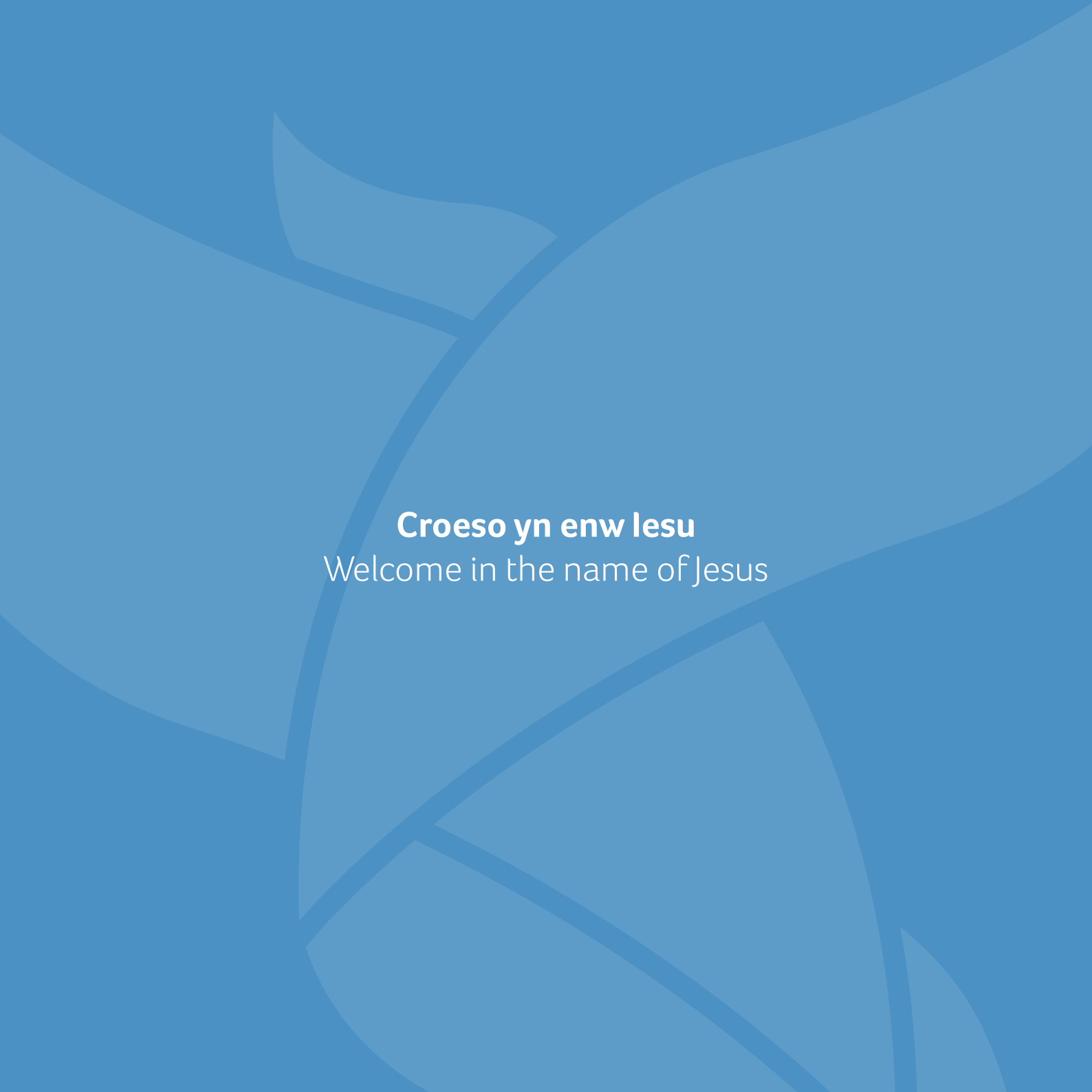
**Esgobaeth Llandaf**  
**Diocese of Llandaff**

Lle Mae Ffydd Yn Cyfrif | Where Faith Matters

**Recruitment Pack** | Autumn 2025

# Taff Wenallt Ministry Area





**Croeso yn enw Iesu**  
Welcome in the name of Jesus



## Croeso! Welcome!

**I am so glad you are exploring this opportunity to lead the Taff Wenallt Ministry Area in the north of Cardiff, the capital city of Wales.**

We are working hard to ensure that the Diocese of Llandaff is somewhere you can be sure to flourish in your ministry. Having reorganised ourselves into ministry areas and regional deaneries to encourage collaborative ministry and empower everyone in our congregations to reach out into our communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ, a third archdeaconry has just been created to ensure there is robust and effective oversight and pastoral care for you as you take on these significant responsibilities.

The Taff Wenallt Ministry Area is a well-resourced, well-organised ministry area with a very strong clergy team working alongside dedicated and capable lay people. There is a real sense of togetherness and collective purpose that unites the ministry area. There is real potential for creative outreach and mission across the different communities. For the right person, this really is, in so many ways, a dream job.

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

**Rt Rev'd M. K. R. Stallard**

Bishop of Llandaff



Rhiwbina, photo by Mark Edwards

## Welcome to the Taff Wenallt Ministry Area

We are a vibrant community of four churches in the leafy suburbs of North Cardiff. Made up of the communities of Whitchurch, Rhiwbina, Birchgrove and Llandaff North, the Taff Wenallt Ministry Area is a popular place to live, with Rhiwbina, a village inspired by the garden city movement at the turn of the 20th century, recently voted one of the top seven places to live in Wales. The ministry area is mainly residential. Each community is vibrant and thriving with local independent shops, places to eat and a wide variety of sports clubs and gyms. The area is well served with numerous English and Welsh medium primary and secondary schools so attracts families with young children. The many transport links make easy access into the city centre wherever you are in the area.

The Taff Wenallt Ministry Area has a long history of collaboration, first as a rectoral benefice, then as a ministry area. We pioneered the first lay visiting team in the diocese over 20 years ago. We now work together across different areas including liturgy, a Mothers Union, Food Bank, Sunday kids clubs,

Lent groups, Messy Church and a mother and tots group. These ministries are overseen by the Ministry Area Council. This board of trustees includes a lay chair, ministry area wardens, a treasurer, and a safeguarding officer. The ministry area has a central office at St Mary's Whitchurch, staffed by an experienced part time administrator. There is a finance sub-committee which manages the single consolidated ministry area account using the online diocesan system. Each church has its own church committee which deals with the day-to-day administration of the four churches.

You will work with a dedicated clergy team which include two other stipendiary clerics, a Curate and a non-stipendiary minister, alongside a Lay Reader and a whole host of volunteers. We will support you as you learn to play to your strengths, helping you and the team to grow our congregations, reach young families and encourage generosity and giving.



# The Role: Ministry Area Leader

Bishop Mary is looking for a dynamic priest with energy and drive, who can share in her episcopacy. They will effectively exercise oversight and pastoral leadership of the ministry area, fostering new relationships, encouraging greater collaboration, and building trust across the different churches and teams, so that the ministry area becomes one coherent community with a clear identity and purpose, empowering and enabling the gifts of all as they lead the mission of the church in that area.

## Role Description

*St Thomas Birchgrove*

### The ministry area leader would be expected to:

- **Lead the Ministry Area:** Ministry Area Leaders are strategic pastors, offering vision, creating culture, enabling change, and planning for the future, taking the ministry area on a journey towards renewed life and spiritual health. This will involve the development of a ministry area development plan, buildings plan, generosity plan and evangelism plan.
- **Oversee the Clergy Team:** Ministry Area Leaders are supervisors, meeting regularly with the clergy team, providing oversight, encouraging mutual respect, close collaboration and the flourishing of each other's ministry. This will involve regular team meetings, 121s, MDRs and good pastoral care.
- **Encourage Volunteers:** Ministry Area Leaders are collaborators, working closely with the Lay Chair, Church wardens, licensed and commissioned ministers, encouraging and enabling every member of each congregation to discern their gifts and get involved in the life of the church in ways that are sustainable and well supported.
- **Ensure Good Governance:** Ministry Area Leaders are good governors, creating clear and kind decision-making processes, robust accountability structures, and a safer culture, ensuring the Ministry Area Council fulfils its duties as a board of charitable trustees.
- **Create a culture of generosity:** Ministry Area Leaders are financially literate, working with the treasurer to provide financial oversight, encouraging regular giving and a culture of generosity across the ministry area.



## We are therefore looking for priests who:

- Are passionate about making the good news of Jesus Christ known in the churches, the local community and across the ministry area.
- Can teach the faith once delivered to all the saints, proclaiming it afresh in this generation, leading the people of God in holiness of life and encouraging discipleship, ministry and mission across the ministry area.
- Are ready to explore new ventures in mission, work for peace, justice, and the integrity of creation, working with others to discern what the Spirit is saying to the churches and put it into practice.
- Love their colleagues, churches and communities, managing conflict well, building consensus, and making decisions and leading teams of clergy and lay people.
- Are gifted administrators, offering the oversight and organisation the ministry area needs.
- Have warm and generous hearts, able to offer pastoral care gently and kindly.
- Is comfortable ministering across a wide range of traditions within the Church in Wales.
- Has a heart for the local area.
- Has a commitment to their own continued learning and formation.



# Our Communities

## Whitchurch

Originally a village on the outskirts of Cardiff, Whitchurch grew significantly during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It has a bustling village centre and a busy high street with several well-known chains sitting alongside independent retailers, artisan coffee houses and eateries. To the north of the village is the Velindre Hospital, the leading regional centre for the treatment of cancer in Wales.



## Rhiwbina

Inspired by the Garden Village Movement at the turn of the 20th century, Rhiwbina retains its character and integrity as a garden village which makes it a very popular place to live. The community is proud of the area's heritage and works hard to maintain it. It has a thriving village centre with a variety of independent and boutique traders, alongside two pubs, two restaurants and the popular Rhiwbina Recreation Club.



*Gareth Bale mural, Whitchurch Cardiff*

## Birchgrove

Developed in the early 20th century as Cardiff continued to expand, Birchgrove straddles the Caerphilly Road. Known for its terraced housing and local eateries, the Birchgrove Inn on the crossroads is its most familiar landmark. The University Hospital of Wales, the largest in the country lies to the southeast.

## Llandaff North

Growing out of the expansion of the railways and the creation of the Glamorgan Canal in the 19th century, Llandaff North grew considerably in the early 20th century as the local authority invested in a new housing estate stretching all the way to Whitchurch. The high street is small, but popular with its own Co-op and Lidl stores. The Taff river valley corridor runs along the west of the high street, taking in Hailey Park

Cardiff Bay, photo by Mark Edwards



Cardiff Millennium Centre, photo by Mark Edwards



Cardiff Castle, photo by Mark Edwards



River Taff with Principality Stadium in distance, photo by Mark Edwards



## Our Churches

### St Mary's Whitchurch

The original parish church dates from the 14th century. Its remains can be seen on the Old Church Road. By the 19th century the church building was too small for the growing population so a new church was opened in 1885. (This is why the Welsh name for Whitechurch is Eglwys Newydd (New Church)). The current church is a Grade II listed landmark at the centre of the village surrounded by a large churchyard with several Commonwealth graves. The building seats around 220 people. There are two regular services each Sunday at 8am and 10am with an average attendance of 12 and 35. There is a choral evensong every month with an average attendance of 30 and a midweek eucharist every Thursday with an average attendance of 27. Close to the church is the church hall and the Curate's house which is owned by the ministry area.



### Housing

The Rectory, the home of the Ministry Area Leader, stands on Penlline Road, only one hundred meters from the church. It is a large Victorian stone-build house extensively refurbished seven years ago. It has well-proportioned rooms throughout, with two reception rooms, a study, kitchen, utility room and toilet downstairs. On the first floor there are four bedrooms, a box room, a bathroom and another toilet. On the second floor there are two large attic rooms which have, in the past, been used as bedrooms. There is a large, gated parking area together with a substantial double garage at the front of the house and a lawn at the back.



## All Saints Rhiwbina

All Saints was built by residents and opened in 1931. Of its time, the church is a simple building with minimal features. As such it reflects the style of the buildings around it and is loved and cherished for it. The building seats 200 people. There are two Sunday services at 8am and 10am with an average Sunday attendance of 15 and 55. The sung midweek Eucharist at 10am on Wednesdays has an average attendance of 35. There is a strong and active church choir, a junior church each week and a Messy Church each month with a congregation of 25 children and their parents. A church hall was built in 1982 which is available for hire.



## All Saints Llandaff North

The construction of All Saints began in 1890 as a chapel of ease for elderly and infirm members of the cathedral. The chancel was built in 1891 and the nave added in 1914. The church was destroyed in 1941 and rebuilt between 1953-1955. It is a spacious, light and airy stone building with good acoustics, making it popular for special services and concerts. There is one Sunday service at 10am on Sunday and a midweek service at 10am on Wednesday. Between them there is an average weekly attendance of 30. Messy Church and an All-Age Family Service are held each month.



## St Thomas Birchgrove

With the growth of the Birchgrove community in the early 20th century, a group of residents from St Mary's Whitchurch formed an outreach team and in June 1913 planted a new church. An iron church, seating 200, St Thomas's began its life as a mission church for the unchurched of the area who were intimidated by the elaborate worship in the churches around them. St Thomas's was reclad and refurbished in the late 1990s and a new hall developed next door used by a variety of community groups. It retains its heart for local mission with a weekly Sunday service at 10am with a growing congregation of 32. There is also a monthly healing service.





## Our Ministry Team

### Vicar: Peter Mortimer

With his passion for mission and evangelism, Peter leads on mission, outreach and life events across the ministry area whilst holding pastoral responsibility for All Saints Rhiwbina. Peter is married to Lois and has two adult children. He is a Welsh speaker and loves rugby and football. He is a lifelong supporter of Liverpool FC and as someone from North Wales, also follows Wrexham.



### Vicar: Andrew Highway

Andrew was ordained in 2012 and has served all his ministry in the diocese, first in North Cardiff and then Caerphilly. In 2019 he was appointed to the Benefice of Whitchurch and has been here ever since. He is a self-supporting priest working in local government. He is the author of several books on prayer.

### Lay Reader: Geoff Foot

Geoff has been a lay reader in Whitchurch for over 52 years. He has served the Church in Wales in different ways. He has been a member of the Electoral College, Lay Secretary of the Diocesan Conference and its Standing Committee, a Governor of the Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School and a group facilitator for the Theology for Life Course at St Padarn's Institute.



### Vicar: Anna Harwood

Anna has served in the ministry area for just three years, joining the diocese from the Church of England. Anna loves working with children and young people, she works in many of the local schools, leads the ministry area youth group and is a Governor at Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School. She also has pastoral responsibility for All Saints Llandaff North and St Thomas's Birchgrove.



### Curate: Henry Grover

Originally from Ewell, Henry studied English Literature at the University of Portsmouth where he first felt a call into ordained ministry. After moving to Cardiff in 2020 as part of the church planting team that formed Citizen Cardiff, the new Resource Church for Llandaff, Henry was ordained in 2024 to serve his title in the Taff Wenallt Ministry Area. Henry is married to Amber, another cleric in the diocese. He enjoys reading, running and travel.



## 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 Southeast, 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 Ministry Areas.



**1** Theological Institute



**29** Ministry Areas



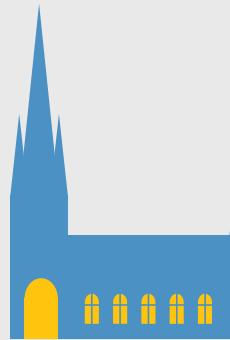
**130** serving clergy



**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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