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Esgobaeth Mynwy

Diocese of Monmouth



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

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News

Funding Helps Ukrainian Refugees Build Community and Preserve Culture in Wales



"*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.*" – Matthew 25:35

A donation of £8,477 from the Diocese of Monmouth has helped Ukrainian refugees across Wales strengthen community connections, celebrate their cultural heritage and support the wellbeing of families rebuilding their lives after displacement.

The funding, raised through Bishop Cherry's Lent Appeal 2022, was distributed through the Welsh Refugee Council and has supported a range of community initiatives designed to foster inclusion, wellbeing and resilience among Ukrainians living in Wales.

The donation enabled:

- Ukrainian participation in the Welsh Refugee Council's Mini World Cup football tournament, helping refugees build friendships, develop confidence and celebrate diversity through sport.
- Fifty members of the Ukrainian community to attend the Krayoviy Zdvyh Festival, providing an opportunity to reconnect with their culture, traditions and heritage.
- Creative and cultural activities for Ukrainian refugee children through the Ethno DNA project, supporting wellbeing and a sense of identity.
- Activities delivered by the Golden Time Club, promoting wellbeing, social connection and digital inclusion among older Ukrainians.
- Ongoing work to strengthen Ukraine Hub Cymru Wales, a community network providing practical and emotional support to Ukrainians across Wales.



Reflecting on the impact of the funding, Olena Campbell of Monmouthshire County Council said: “Being able to wear a proper kit in their country's colours made the team feel immensely proud.”

Olga Shatova, who attended the Krayoviy Zdvyh Festival, added: “This festival gave us the opportunity to feel that we are not alone and not forgotten.”

The Diocese of Monmouth has welcomed the positive impact the appeal has had on those forced to leave their homes because of conflict.

Bishop Cherry says: “God invites us to be generous with what he has given us. This is just one more example of how God is able to use and to bless what we give and what we share.

“It is inspiring to see how gifts given through Lent Appeal have helped Ukrainians find friendship, preserve their cultural identity and build new lives in Wales. We continue to hold the Ukrainian community, and all those displaced by conflict, in our prayers, and give thanks for the work of the Welsh Refugee Council.”

The project highlights the lasting difference that local generosity can make, helping displaced people not only meet practical needs but also find belonging, dignity and hope as they establish new lives in Wales.

Give Back Friday!



'Black Friday' seems to get bigger every year. Stores are all competing for customers and it can become all about what you can get – snagging the best deal and making huge savings. But this year it can also be about generosity. Give your parishioners the opportunity to turn 'Black Friday' into 'Give Back Friday' instead! 70% of shoppers will do their Christmas shopping online this year - this shopping can turn into funding for your church!

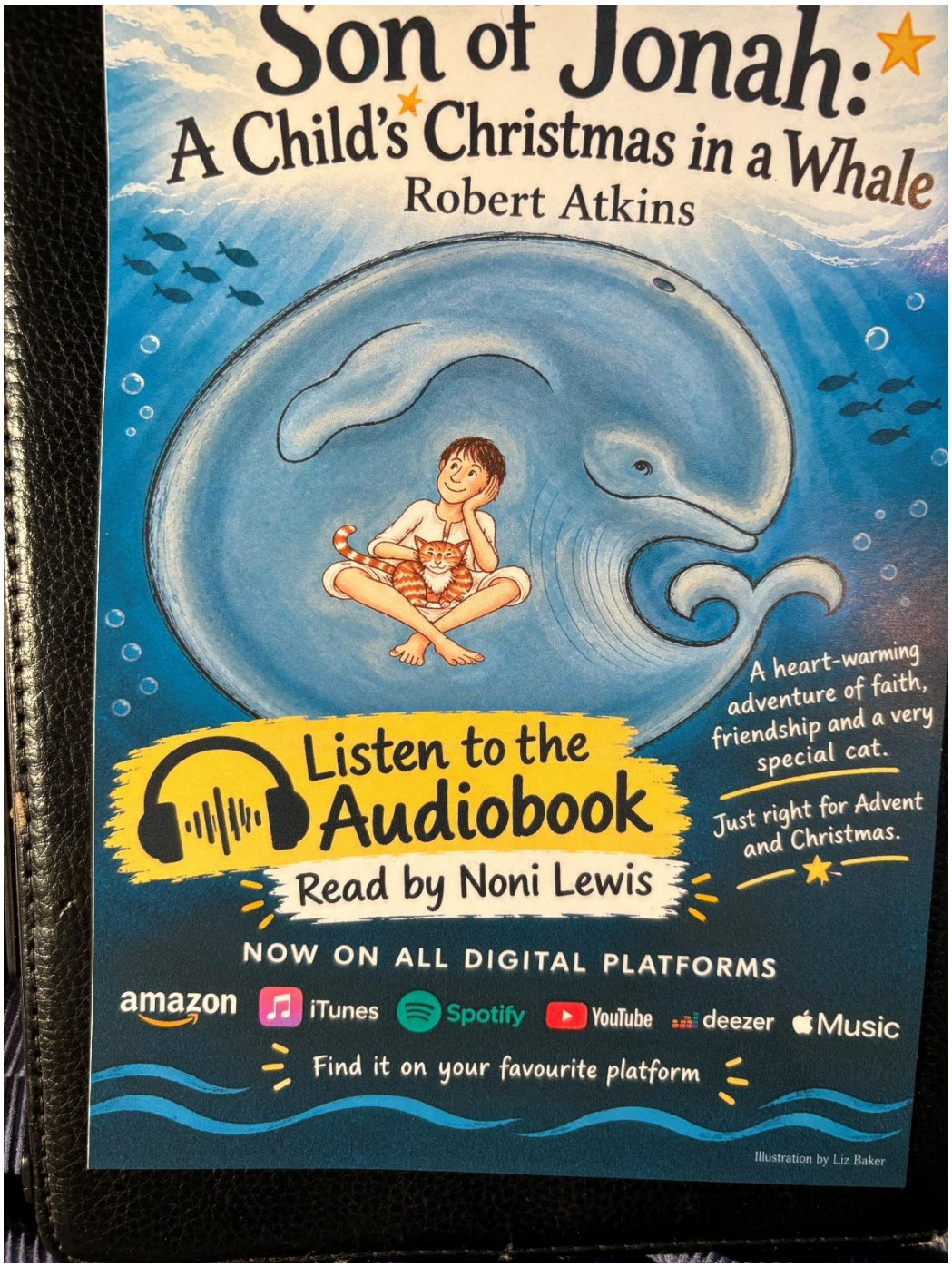
8,000 popular online shops including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, Currys, Etsy, M&S, Boots, Waterstones and Moonpig will **donate money whenever your parishioners (or their friends and family) shop** with them online. To join in for 'Give Back Friday', register your church with funding website easyfundraising here: **www.easyfundraising.org.uk/diocese-of-monmouth/**

Newport Cathedral Christmas Services 2026



To find out what other events are taking place at the Cathedral between now and Christmas please click **here**

Son of Jonah: A Child's Christmas in a Whale



At St Michael's Church in Mitchel Troy last week over 40 people were present to hear the World Premiere reading of the poem 'Son of Jonah, a Child's Christmas in a Whale', written by Robert Atkins from the parish who is a musician, poet, teacher and retired Baptist minister. A man of many talents!

It is beautifully read by Noni Lewis and, is available on many digital platforms such as **Amazon**, **Spotify** and **YouTube**.

Son of Jonah: A Child's Christmas in a Whale is a visionary narrative poem that weaves together the biblical story of Jonah, the Nativity, and a daring theology of hope.

Orphaned and restless, young Jonah sets out with his cat, Jaspera, in search of a great whale that once swallowed his father. Along the way he encounters shepherds fresh from angel-song, wise men following a star, kings both holy and corrupt, and finally a vast tide of humanity drawn toward the sea. What awaits them inside the whale is not darkness but revelation: a living cathedral where mercy is preached, grief is answered, and all that was lost is restored.

Playful, learned, and deeply compassionate, Robert Atkins' poem moves freely between scripture, myth, and imagination. It is a Christmas poem, an Easter poem, a meditation on whether love might yet have the final word.

A work for readers of Dylan Thomas, George Herbert, and anyone who dares to wonder whether "all shall be well".

Events

Tears of Gold Art Exhibition - Running until 22nd November



Open Doors Art Exhibition at Newport Cathedral.

Viewings until 22nd November 2026 (possibly until 23rd November - To Be Confirmed)**.**
Open 9am - 5pm daily but please check website for any updated details

Featuring powerful portraits by Hannah Rose Thomas of Christian women in Africa who have faced persecution because of their faith and gender, alongside the women's own self-portraits.

These moving artworks tell stories of suffering and hardship, but also of remarkable courage, strength, and unwavering faith. They reveal how these women are rebuilding their lives and finding hope in the face of adversity and about the work of Open Doors.

Come and be inspired by their stories and witness the resilience of the human spirit.

Newport Cathedral, Stow Hill, Newport, NP20 4ED.

01633 267464

enquiries@newportcathedral.org.uk

Diocesan Quiet Day - 3rd December



The Diocesan Prayer and Spirituality Group invite you to a Diocesan Quiet Day
The COLOURS of ADVENT

Thursday 3rd December
9:45am - 3:45pm
St Mary's Priory and Church, MONMOUTH

As the bustle and busyness of the pre-Christmas season builds up, this is an opportunity to step aside for some spiritual preparation. Using the colours of Advent and the Advent wreath as prompts, we'll reflect on some eternal Christian themes: penitence, faithfulness, desire, gratitude.

The day will be structured as short talks each hour followed by time to reflect and pray.

Hot drinks will be provided but bring your own lunch. Parking in nearby car parks.

Contact: Rev Janet Bone
revjanetbone@gmail.com ☎ 07748 344161

Training

Safeguarding Training Dates



New dates to follow shortly

Please check CiW website for updates



Date	Day	Time	Course
18/11/2026 Bellringers only	Wednesday	6.00pm - 8.30pm	B
FULL 01/12/2026	Tuesday	10.00am - 12.30pm	B
07/01/2027	Thursday	13.00-15.30	B
27/01/2027	Wednesday	10.00-12.30	B
01/02/2027	Monday	18.00-20.30	B
20/02/2027	Saturday	10.00-12.30	B
23/02/2027	Tuesday	10.00-12.30	B
04/03/2027	Thursday	13.00-15.30	B
10/03/2027	Wednesday	10.00-12.30	B
18/03/2027	Thursday	18.00-20.30	B

Please check CiW website for updates

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**.

To access the **booking form** and book your place please click on the button

Safeguarding Training Booking Form

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

The Provincial Safeguarding Officer for Monmouth Diocese is **Colin Taylor**

Meet the team - The Church in Wales

Email: colintaylor@cinw.org.uk
Phone: **07956 790330**

Grants and Funding

Diocesan Growth Fund

Faith in our Future
Diocese of Monmouth
Esgobaeth Mynwy

One of the priorities of our diocesan vision, *Faith in our Future*, is to encourage, support and equip our Ministry Areas to grow.

To help resource that work, the Diocesan Board of Finance has established a new Diocesan Church Growth Fund.

The fund will provide grants of up to £10,000 per Ministry Area to support locally-led projects that encourage evangelism, deepen community engagement and contribute to church growth.

We are keen to support ideas that are rooted in your Ministry Area's planning and vision. We will hopefully be working with your ministry area soon on the MA Planning Tool and this will be an excellent opportunity to consider whether additional resources are required for new initiatives. Projects do not need to be large or complicated. We are looking for clear ideas, local

commitment and a desire to help people encounter the Gospel and become part of flourishing Christian communities.

The application process has been designed to be simple and proportionate. We are interested in:

- What you want to do
- Why it matters
- What outcomes you hope to see
- How it fits within your Ministry Area plans
- How your Ministry Area will support the project

Applications will be considered by the Growth Fund Committee four times each year.

As part of our supportive and relational approach, the committee will arrange a conversation or visit to learn more about your proposal during the application process.

A year after receiving funding, successful projects will be invited to share their experience with the committee so that learning and good practice can benefit Ministry Areas across the diocese.

Full details and application requirements can be found **here**
To apply for the fund please complete this **application form**

We look forward to hearing your ideas and seeing how God continues to grow His Church across the Diocese of Monmouth.

Net Zero Newport Decarbonisation Programme

SERO NET CASNEWYDD
NET ZERO NEWPORT

Newport-based community groups, charities and organisations may be eligible for support through the **Net Zero Newport Decarbonisation Programme**.

The programme aims to help organisations reduce energy costs, cut carbon emissions, and contribute to Newport's goal of becoming net zero by 2050. It offers free technical advice, decarbonisation support, and grant funding towards energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Applications are now open for 2026/27. For more information please click **here**

Other Grant Resources

The Macaulay Moat Foundation offers grants of up to £5,000 per year to organisations across England and Wales where funding can make a meaningful difference. The Foundation has a particular interest in supporting Church Outreach projects that address social needs within local communities, alongside organisations providing dedicated autism support.

Grants can support a wide range of costs, including projects, staffing, equipment, and core organisational expenses, although building repair and renovation projects are not eligible. Applications are accepted throughout the year and assessed three times annually. Click **here** for more information and eligibility criteria.



[Church Grants Database] - click [here] for instructions on how to use this resource.

You can also use the [Grants Strategy Template]. This template is designed to help you plan and organise applications using the opportunities you find through Church Grants.

The Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme - Full guidance, eligibility criteria and application details are available on the WCVA website [here]

Cynllun Cymunedau y Dreth Gwarediadau Tirlenwi
WcVA CgGC
Ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cymru Funded by Welsh Government
Landfill Disposal Tax Communities Scheme

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL CAERFFILI

Welsh Church Acts Fund

Welsh Church Acts Fund - For more information and to check eligibility criteria please click on the link below:

https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/services/benefits-and-grants/grants-for-communities/welsh-church-fund/welsh-church-acts-fund-application-criteria

Bernard Sunley Foundation -
For more information including eligibility and to apply for funding please click on the link below:

https://bernardsunley.org/our-grant-giving/community/

If you need support with these or any grant-related work, please contact calumglanville-ellis@churchinwales.org.uk

Services

Services at Newport Cathedral

Newport Cathedral
Cadeirlan Casnewydd

Join us for the **Christ the King Service** from the Cathedral, on **Sunday, 22nd November** at **10:30am**

You can watch the service here

Esgobaeth Mynwy - Gwasanaethau Cymraeg 2026



Amserlen / Time table

Hydref / October	Amser / Time	Lleoliad / Location
Dydd Sadwrn 3 Hydref Saturday 3 October	9:30am	Eglwys Sant Thomas, Trefynwy St Thomas , Monmouth
Dydd Sul 4 Hydref Sunday 4 October	11am	Eglwys Crist, Ffordd y Gogledd, Y Fenni Christ Church, North Street, Abergavenny
Dydd Sadwrn 10 Hydref Saturday 10 October	9:30am	Eglwys Santes Fair, Cas-gwent St Mary, Chepstow
Dydd Sul 18 Hydref Saturday 18 October	9:30am	Cadeirlan Casnewydd Newport Cathedral
Tachwedd / November		
Dydd Sul 1 Tachwedd Sunday 1 November	11am	Eglwys Crist, Ffordd y Gogledd, Y Fenni Christ Church, North Street, Abergavenny
Dydd Sadwrn 7 Tachwedd Saturday 7 November	9:30am	Eglwys Sant Thomas, Trefynwy St Thomas , Monmouth
Dydd Sadwrn 14 Tachwedd Saturday 14 November	9:30am	Eglwys Santes Fair, Cas-gwent St Mary, Chepstow
Rhagfyr / December		
Dydd Sadwrn 5 Rhagfyr Saturday 5 December	9:30am	Eglwys Sant Thomas, Trefynwy St Thomas , Monmouth
Dydd Sul 6 Rhagfyr Sunday 6 December	11am	Eglwys Crist, Ffordd y Gogledd, Y Fenni Christ Church, North Street, Abergavenny
Dydd Sadwrn 12 Rhagfyr Saturday 12 December	9:30am	Eglwys Santes Fair, Cas-gwent St Mary, Chepstow
Dydd Llun 14 Rhagfyr Monday 14 December	Y Nadolig 11am	Eglwys Sant Cadog, Rhaglan St Cadoc Church, Raglan

YR EGLWYS YNG NGHYMRU THE CHURCH IN WALES

Amfwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Karen Dent:
Karendent@churchinwales.org.uk
For further information contact Karen Dent:
Karendent@churchinwales.org.uk

Vacancies

Administrator - Mynydd Bedwellte MA



About the Role:

The Mynydd Bedwellte Ministry Area is seeking a highly organised and reliable Administrator to support the life and work of the church community.

This is a varied and rewarding role, providing essential administrative support to clergy, volunteers and church officers, helping ensure the smooth coordination of activities, effective communication, and strong organisational processes across the Ministry Area.

This role plays a key part in enabling the mission and ministry of the Church in Wales at a local level.

Key Responsibilities

- Managing emails, telephone calls and general enquiries in a professional manner
- Maintaining diaries, calendars and appointments
- Supporting the organisation of meetings and events, including taking minutes
- Preparing letters, notices and general communications

- Maintaining accurate filing systems (digital and physical)
- Updating and managing database systems (including ChurchSuite)
- Ensuring records are maintained in line with GDPR requirements
- Supporting clergy and volunteers with day-to-day administrative tasks

About You

The successful candidate will be:

- Highly organised with strong attention to detail
- An effective communicator with excellent written and verbal skills
- Confident in using a range of IT systems and software
- Able to work independently and manage their own workload
- Professional, reliable and able to handle confidential information appropriately
- Experienced in general administration
- Supportive of the values and mission of the Church in Wales

Desirable Skills and Experience

- Experience of minute-taking
- Familiarity with ChurchSuite or similar systems
- Understanding of Church in Wales structures
- Written/oral Welsh language skills

Additional Information

- This role requires a Basic DBS check
- The postholder will be expected to work flexibly and attend occasional meetings or events with prior notice

Why Join Us?

This role offers a meaningful opportunity to contribute to the work of the Church in a local community, working alongside clergy, volunteers and church leaders while developing a broad range of administrative and organisational skills.

How to Apply

DOCUMENTS:

Administrator Job Description

Administrator Application Form

Closing Date: 25th November 2026 at 12am
Interview Date: 2nd December 2026

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact:

Revd Matthew Davis (Ministry Area Leader)
Telephone: 07800 750259
Email: mattdavis@cinw.org.uk

Schools Engagement Pioneer - Cefn Forest, near Blackwood



Schools Engagement Pioneer
Salary: £28,610- £31,581 (dependent on experience)
Hours: Full time 37.5hrs (Part time would be considered)

We are recruiting a further visionary and enthusiastic school pioneer to join our current team and work on an exciting new project, developing relationships with children and young families through engagement with selected schools. You would be working in Cefn Forest near Blackwood with the aim of helping to build a new worshipping community.

We are looking for someone who is passionate about working with young people and families, and is confident in sharing faith sensitively as well as being able to be a consistent and trusted Christian presence in schools.

If this role sounds exciting to you, we would love to hear from you!

This role has a Genuine Occupational Requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for the postholder to be a communicant member of the Church in Wales or of a Church in communion with it or of a Member of CYTUN. If you are unsure, please do be in contact. Satisfactory enhanced DBS checks will be sought.

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

To Apply: Send a completed application form to

davidedwards@cinw.org.uk

Interview date: TBC

For an informal chat, please contact David Edwards on **07494 266748**