

Recruitment Pack

Vicar and Ministry Area Leader
of Bro Cwyfan



Esgobaeth
Bangor
The Diocese
of Bangor



Eglwys Cwfan

Welcome

As Bishops in the diocese of Bangor we hope you find the information in this profile helpful and engaging. For more than a decade we have focused all our ministerial energies through our Ministry Areas convinced that we can do more together and better than we can apart.

Our hopes for all who serve with us is that this step of faith leads to flourishing church communities and disciples who delight to be belong to the Bangor family. This profile is comprised of human elements – physical geography, the nature of the communities and the churches who serve them, language and cultural factors alongside the spiritual opportunities and dynamics within the Ministry Area.

We believe it's an honest and hopeful reflection of the realities as they are experienced by those who live within them. Should you choose to journey with us we can assure you of our strong support and our prayers for your future should you minister elsewhere.

May God's grace and peace be with you in your discernment.



+Andrew Cambrensis
Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Bangor



+David Enlli
Bishop of Bardsey and Assistant Bishop in Bangor



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Introduction



Eglwys Cwfan

We are looking for a priest to serve and lead in the Ministry Area of Bro Cwyfan in the Diocese of Bangor. Bro Cwyfan covers much of the west part of Anglesey (excluding Holyhead and Ynys Cybi/Holy Island). Its churches serve the villages of Rhosneigr and Llanfaelog, Valley, Llanfachraeth, Bodedern and surrounding small settlements (population approximately 8800, 2021 census). The use of the church buildings is arranged to ensure a sustainable pattern of life and worship: two churches (at Llanfaelog and Valley) are prioritised as centres for weekly Sunday services and weekday events; three more have a monthly Sunday service; an additional four buildings are used for seasonal worship and occasional events.

We're looking for a Ministry Area Leader with love for God and people who is:

- Committed to working with the Ministry Area Council to plan strategically for the future in relation to mission, property and finance.
- Dedicated to collaborative working, who will identify and build up the potential of others, encouraging individual and collective vocation for the development of mission and ministry.

- Able, with imagination and creativity, to explore further with us new forms of worship alongside the cherished forms of traditional worship, and new forms of contact alongside established ways of engagement.
- Enthusiastic in developing our social and community involvement across age groups and languages to engage us with the needs of the world and creation.
- Willing to engage deeply with the Welsh language and culture. The post is suitable for a Welsh speaker or a Welsh learner – as a diocese we are well-established in providing support for clergy in learning and developing their Welsh language skills.
- Strategically and pastorally equipped to lead within a diverse and growing set of communities.

Eglwys Cwfan



St Edern

Diocese of Bangor

We are a vibrant Christian community with a rich history dating back to the fifth century, rooted in the traditions of early Celtic saints such as Deiniol, Cybi, Seiriol, Tudwen, Madryn, and others. These saints are immortalised in the names of our churches, villages, and towns.

While our mission remains steadfast over a millennium and a half, our contemporary context presents new and challenging opportunities. In response, we have embraced a vision of following Jesus with renewed vigor and innovative approaches.

We have established three key principles, three priorities, three plans, and three new platforms to guide our journey.

Read more about these on our website.

bangor.eglwysyngnghymru.org.uk

Our commitment revolves around three visionary principles that we believe should define our communal life:

- Worshipping God
- Growing the Church
- Loving the World

We welcome you to join us in this transformative mission, as we navigate the challenges of our time with faith, dedication, and a commitment to worship, growth, and love.



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Our Welsh offer



Eglwys Cwfan

We are committed to providing a completely bilingual service in all aspects of the work of the Diocese, including provision for the public, worshippers and staff.

- Our identity and the image are completely bilingual. There will be a principle of equality at all times, with the Welsh appearing above or before the English.
- We strive to ensure that every message is given bilingually and at the same time on our social media accounts and we are also committed to providing a completely bilingual website.
- We always strive to encourage and support staff who wish to learn Welsh and support staff who speak Welsh and who want to improve their language skills.
- We encourage individuals to feel comfortable in using their chosen language when worshipping. Similarly, we encourage individuals to contact us in their chosen language.
- We give a proactive offer of Welsh to everyone by starting conversations in Welsh.
- When welcoming guests and staff from outside Wales to the Diocese of Bangor we will educate them about the language and culture of Wales.

Learning Welsh

We offer everyone who joins us an opportunity to learn Welsh or improve their Welsh. Our Welsh Language Enable will work with you to develop a Welsh language plan to enable you to speak, write and – in time - preach in Welsh.

There are plenty of Welsh learners in the diocese who become confident Welsh speakers and are now leading services in Welsh. Some of the opportunities are:

- Our 10-hour online taster course is designed to give learners of all levels a taste of the Welsh language.
- Immersive Welsh residential courses at Nant Gwrtheyrn.
- Paid-for Welsh courses.
- Duw a Dysgwyr – our monthly Welsh learners service for all levels.





Introducing Bro Cwyfan

Bro Cwyfan in the west part of Anglesey is an area of stunning coastline and beautiful rolling countryside. It has excellent transport links with the mainline rail network from Holyhead to London running through it (and stations at Valley and Ty Croes within Bro Cwyfan), is crossed by the modern dual-carriageway A55, and the old A5 trunk road is the main road through several of its communities. Its coastal areas are among the most popular tourist destinations on Anglesey, with Rhosneigr having caravan parks, camping grounds, holiday homes and day trippers making for a bustling summer season. Water sports can be enjoyed, as can a wide range of leisure and fitness activities across the whole area. There is the motor racing circuit at Ty Croes. Equally, the pleasure of rural peace and solitude is easily available. The area is a haven for naturalists and bird watchers.

Besides its tourist activities, the area is home to a diversity of small-scale commercial, light-industrial and agricultural businesses, and has within its boundaries the military airbase RAF Valley (which has its own Forces chaplaincy).

There is a broad demographic of population. There are several primary schools, and the secondary school into which they feed is also in the Ministry Area, in Bodedern (just one primary school feeds into Holyhead).

The centres of population are Valley/Y Fali (2326), Llanfaelog including Rhosneigr (1498) and Bodedern (1193), with the smaller villages of Bryngwran (900) on the A5 and Llanfachraeth (573) and other communities (598) in the north-western part of the area. There is an additional focus of population in the vicinity of RAF Valley (1735).

Valley is a busy working village with a range of local shops and businesses, an extensive hardware store with garden centre, two hotels/pubs, two fuel stations and several food outlets ranging from takeaways to fine dining. The village is growing as new housing is under construction. There is a major retail park situated just a few minutes' drive away at Junction 2 of the A55. Rhosneigr is a busy village in summer, though with year-round businesses based there, and Bodedern is a traditional Welsh village expanded with new housing, with a primary and secondary school and some local shops. These and the smaller settlements of the area each offer community-based living with many opportunities for ministry and mission.





The churches of Bro Cwyfan

There are nine churches and also the churchyards of redundant churches in the Ministry Area. They are home to distinct congregational communities in Valley, Llanfaelog, Bodedern, Llanfachraeth, Bryngwran, and Llantrisant, Llanbabo and Llangwyfan. They operate a sustainable pattern of services, with two weekly congregations (St Maelog's, Llanfaelog and St Michael's, Valley), and three monthly congregations, and a united fifth Sunday service which moves around the Ministry Area. Services are bilingual.

The current clergy staff of the Ministry Area is the stipendiary Ministry Area Leader. This is supported by retired clerics and Readers. There are active volunteers in each church alongside the wardens, for enabling Sunday worship and weekday activities.

The Ministry Area is served and governed by the Ministry Area Council on which all the churches are represented. This is developing a coherent identity for the Ministry Area while maintaining the distinctiveness of each of the individual church communities.

1 St Cwyfan's Church ('the church in the sea')

This iconic Church building (twelfth century, later rebuilding, Grade I listed) stands on a promontory which due to erosion can only be accessed at lower tide. It attracts visitors from all over the world and is one of the most popular views and sites of Anglesey. It is on the Wales Coastal Path. The church is in occasional use for Sunday services (three services in summertime); it is in demand for summer weddings and for some baptisms. It's an atmospheric venue for concerts and popular with artists and photographers. It is cared for by a team of robust lay people and has a regular cycle of exterior maintenance in the challenging coastal conditions in which it's located.

2 St Mary's Church, Llangwyfan

This church was built in 1870 to provide a more convenient location for worship as the ancient St Cwyfan's fell out of use. Located in fields at some distance from Ty Croes, it is known as the Farmers' Church and is in occasional use, with a service at Harvest time, is in reasonable condition and receiving minor remedial work.

3 St Maelog's Church, Llanfaelog

The present church building (mid 19th century, Grade II listed) stands in the village of Llanfaelog, and is the focus for much of the church life for the lower geographical part of the Ministry Area. It was reordered 25 years ago and is a warm, light place of worship that lends itself also to other community purposes such as concerts and meetings. There is underfloor heating, comfortable adaptable seating, a kitchen and toilets, and upstairs is a gallery meeting place overlooking the body of the church below. Contemporary art in wood and glass feature in the church, and there is a window in pre-Raphaelite style reputed to be by Burnes-Jones.

The churchyard is carefully maintained according to our environmental ethos, and the church recently received a Silver Eco Church Award.

The church is the area church for the popular resort of Rhosneigr very nearby, and services are sometimes held there on the beach and in a community hall.

Worship at St Maelog's takes place every Sunday morning (except on a fifth Sunday), either the Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer, with a congregation of between 20 and 30. A regular Wednesday morning Eucharist is held too. In Lent, this midweek service is followed by a shared lunch, open to all. Fellowship after services is an important part of



St Maelog's Church, Llanfaelog interior



Rhosneigr



St Maelog's Church, Llanfaelog



St Michael's Church, Valley

church life here, regularly with refreshments and occasionally with 'bring-and-share' lunches. A recent Vision Day showed that the congregation is open to change and innovation and exploring new approaches to worship. The Mothers' Union branch is based here.

4 St Michael's Church, Valley

St Michael's stands alongside the old A5 trunk road in the centre of Valley, the bustling village located just before the Stanley Embankment takes the A5

off the main island of Anglesey over to Holyhead. Dating from the 1880's, the church building has a sympathetic modern extension which provides it with a meeting place, small kitchen and toilet, making it a flexible place for meetings and events, with some past community use as well as church. Pre-COVID there has been an active Sunday School here. There are good relations with the local primary school which regularly visits the church. The church received recently the Eco Church Bronze Award.

Worship at St. Michael's takes place every Sunday morning, either the Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer, again with the recent Vision Day highlighting a willingness to adapt forms of worship. Regular attendance is usually between 17 and 22. Fund raising for a number of local and national charities is part of church life here, with quizzes and concerts arranged.

The church has a hall nearby on an adjacent housing estate. It is run by a small committee, and is used by St. John's Ambulance and local groups of Brownies and Rainbows. The Rectory, where the Ministry Area Leader lives, is the next-door property to St. Michael's, and places the incumbent in the heart of the village and well-placed geographically for access to all the Ministry Area.



St Edern's Church, Bodedern

5 St Edern's Church, Bodedern

St Edern's Church (medieval with later additions and alterations, grade II* listed) is situated in the village of Bodedern, in the central part of Bro Cwyfan. The village has a primary school and also the secondary school for the catchment area. There are good relationships with the schools, and some seasonal school services take place in the church.

Worship in St. Edern's takes place once a month, on the fourth Sunday. A major recent initiative was to organise in the community Brick (Lego) Church which drew several families together for story-based play and worship.

6 Holy Trinity Church, Bryngwran

Situated in the village of Bryngwran on the A5 trunk road at the eastern side of Bro Cwyfan, this Victorian church has worship taking place once a month, on the first Sunday. It has a church hall, offering flexibility for functions and a place for community gathering.

7 St Machraeth's Church, Llanfachraeth

This church building 'has been entirely rebuilt in modern times' in the nineteenth century. It stands by the roadside at the north end of the village. Worship takes place here, in a traditional form, once a month on the second Sunday.



Ss Afran and Ieuan Llantrisant Friends of Friendless Churches

8 Ss Afran, Ieuan and Sanan (New Church), Llantrisant

The old church (now in the care of the Friends of Friendless Churches) was supplanted by this new Victorian church in 1899. Worship here now though is on a festival basis, four times a year on a Sunday afternoon.

9 St Pabo's Church, Llanbabo

This building (medieval, Grade II* listed) is regarded as 'an important survivor' having been largely untouched by the rebuilding or restoration which many Anglesey churches experienced. It stands alone alongside a minor road near Llyn Alaw reservoir. At present it has just one service a year, at Harvest Thanksgiving, though recently they have taken place occasionally.

The Rectory

The house is a four-bedroom traditional property which a large amount of work has been done. It has a very attractive modern extension stretching across the entire back of the house, giving an open kitchen/diner, and a modern study to the side. It has a well-maintained garden, and lovely views out back across the countryside. It is well-situated for access to all the Ministry Area, only minutes from the A55, and convenient for the local railway station. Recent occupants have been very happy here.

Possibilities and Opportunities

The church buildings are generally in good repair and the finances are reasonably sound. There are congregational members in several churches looking inspiration and leadership to develop their mission. The recent Vision Day already mentioned brought out the willingness to broaden styles of worship and to try new forms of encounter. The experience of Brick Church in Bodedern shows the potential of just one approach. School-connected ministry has great potential, as does imaginative engagement with tourism. Connecting with traditional life in the villages will be warmly welcomed, and growing the confidence of the churches that they have life to offer in a changing world will bear fruit. Engaging with the island's rich cultural heritage would be one direction for mission, another would be to connect with the needs of the natural world in this area which in its beauty evokes powerful responses from those who visit and those who live here. There's a deep desire in the churches for community-focused work to thrive, and a praying for the appropriate person to respond to God's call to come here.

What our people say

'Being invited to a service at St. Maelog's a year ago has changed my life'

(new member of the congregation).

'We felt so welcome ... thank you'

(a visitor to a service)

'I feel at home here'

(a Hindu visitor attending a service at St Cwyfan's)

*'We feel supported as our wedding approaches';
'It's always lovely to come into church, everyone is so welcoming'*

(couples who will be married later in the year)

'We're looking for someone who will help us grow missionally, pursuing the presence of Jesus in the Ministry Area'

(a church member)

Interested?

The Ministry Area of Bro Cwyfan offers exciting opportunities for the future. This is an attractive area in which to live and work and minister, with good communication links. The Ministry Area and its churches are looking to developing their life in ways which will strengthen mutual support and enable greater outward-looking mission in witness and service. Opportunities for engaging with families and schools are many across the Ministry Area. The dynamic changes brought with social and economic developments and the ongoing evolution of tourism across the area invite imaginative forms of worship and engagement.

Application process

Please send your CV together with a letter of application by email to Archdeacon John Harvey johnharvey@churchinwales.org.uk

Your CV should outline your educational and training qualifications and your employment history.

Your letter of application, taking up no more than two sides of A4, should describe what attracts you to the role and relate your skills and experience to the person specification.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview.

More information and an informal chat

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