Esgobaeth Bangor
The Diocese of Bangor

Ministry Area Profile

Bro Cyngar

Vicar and Ministry Area Leader

We are looking for a priest to serve and lead in the Ministry Area of Bro Cyngar in the Diocese of Bangor. Bro Cyngar covers the central part of Anglesey and serves the town of Llangefni and surrounding local communities. It's a beautiful area of rolling countryside, with the town, villages and hamlets, and the old A5 trunk road and the modern dual-carriageway A55 running across it, served by our several churches. The area has a diversity of commercial, industrial, agricultural and tourist activities within it, and a wide range of age groups, from nurseries to nursing homes.

We're looking for a Ministry Area Leader with love for God and people who has the prayerful imagination to develop vision and the practical experience and wisdom to lead it into growth.

We are looking for someone who is:

- Experienced with and 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 encourage the potential of others, encouraging individual and collective vocation for the development of mission and ministry.
- Open to developing living relationships with other local Christian churches. 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. A fluent Welsh speaker or an actively developing Welsh learner will readily be at home here. While the ability to function in Welsh as well as English is desirable, we will consider applications also from those willing to participate in immersive learning when taking up the post, with ongoing support. As a diocese we are well-established in providing for clergy in learning and developing their Welsh language skills.
- Familiar with a wide range of IT and communication skills, with a focus on developing new forms of contact.
- Strategically and pastorally equipped to lead within a diverse and growing set of communities

Esgobaeth 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.

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

Esgobaeth Bangor | BBC Pilgrimage 2024

Introducing Bro Cyngar

Bro Cyngar is rich in history, nature and culture. It is the one land locked Ministry Area on the island though the coast in never far away from anywhere.

The town of Llangefni is its largest centre of population (the second largest town on Anglesey, which has a population of over 5,500) and is the administrative centre and county town of the island with the Anglesey Council headquarters located here. Its history dates from the early Middle Ages when it was a small village among agricultural communities, becoming a centre for the wool trade and being granted a charter by King Edward I. In 1785, the first animal and meat market was held in the centre of the town, which grew into a thriving general market and livestock market, which lasted until almost the end of the 20th century.

Llangefni has continued to grow and prosper. In the 21st century, the town, and the area, like everywhere else, has had to fight against a general recession and is striving to reestablish itself as an

an important centre. Although the main street has lost some of its lustre, exciting developments show that there is hope for the future and the A55 and A5 are within easy reach to connect with Holyhead and its free port (20 minutes), Bangor (¼ hour) and the rest of north Wales and north-west England once one of the Menai bridges is crossed.

An Industrial Estate was established, which continues to attract new businesses and offer job opportunities to the area. Llangefni, once again, is a marketing and shopping centre (food shops in particular), a busy place of work where all the necessities of life can be found. There are two surgeries, dentists, and opticians on the street and Ysbyty Cefni is nearby. Banking services for the island are located here. There is a Post Office and Letter Distribution Centre on the Industrial Estate along with a Police Station. With population growth and the hope for new work opportunities in the county, one new primary school has been built and another extended, with the Comprehensive School (Ysgol Gyfun) and the recently-established Coleg Menai site providing secondary and tertiary education courses. Canolfan Addysg y Bont is also located here which offers education to those with more complex needs.

In terms of leisure resources, the choice is wide with a central Library, Archives, Plas Arthur Leisure Centre, and swimming pool also Oriel Môn which exhibits the work of Charles Tunnicliffe and Kyffin Williams and items relevant to the history of the island. Football and rugby teams are competitive within their leagues.

There are several meeting places within close reach including Theatr Fach and the beaches of Anglesey are within easy reach, as are cycling and walking routes which include Llyn Cefni, Cors Ddyga and the Nant y Pandy Nature Reserve, which is home to a community of red squirrels.

Details of the other communities are included with the churches below.

Church life

There are six churches, the churchyards of redundant churches, and a church hall in the Ministry Area. They are home to distinct congregational communities of Llangefni, Bodwrog and Llandrygarn, Bodffordd and Heneglwys, Gwalchmai, Llangwyllog and Tregaian.

The current clergy staff of the Ministry Area is the stipendiary Ministry Area Leader. This is supported by retired clerics, a Reader, and a worship team in one congregation. Each church has active volunteers alongside the wardens, 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.

In terms of mission and ministry possibilities, we can identify a strong theme of 'connection', where invitations and encounters offer us opportunities to witness in many different ways.

The recently-built Ysgol Corn Hir (primary, pupil roll 245), the extended Ysgol y Graig (primary, pupil roll 362), Ysgol Corn Hir (ysgol gynradd â 245 and Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni (secondary, pupil roll 717) as well as schools mentioned elsewhere in this profile all have strong links with wider community, where local churches can offer to support and serve.

'Open The Book' has previously been offered at Bodffordd Community School, and Christingle services for local primaries have received positive responses, as have school tours of church buildings.

Ecumenical working together has provided warm spaces, food bank collection and support for places of conflict; Shine Your Light carol singing in town and the Tree of Lights service in St Cyngar's are some of the examples of public engagement.

Connection and collaboration with the Town Council brings involvement in a summer activity day; Brownies and Scouts hire the church hall; Coleg Menai with its many training and educational facilities presents a great but as-yet-untapped opportunity for connection.

The Church Hall in Llangefni itself is ripe for development. All age groups and interests use it at present but with some work and imagination it could become so much more of a community hub.

Saint Cyngar, Llangefni

The Church (Grade II listed) and its separate Church Hall are in a convenient location with a substantial car park (under the care of the County Council) on the edge of town. The current building was built in 1824 because the previous one was too small for a growing town. Further additions were made, and its lych-gate was built in 1890. It has some impressive stained glass, including one on the theme of Creation which was presented to the church in 2021. The oldest relics of the church are the Culidorus Stone dating from the 5th century, a 1673 sun dial, a holy water trough or stoup (12th century), an ancient wooden chest (1811) and an octagonal baptismal font. It has a Belltower with three bells dating from 1868.

The members of both congregations (Welsh and English) help with the Sunday services, and the church and the Ministry Area are very fortunate to receive help from the a retired Archdeacon a Lay Reader.

Two services are held on Sunday mornings in Llangefni, in Welsh at 9.30 a.m. and in English at 11 a.m. The pattern of worship has been of the Holy Eucharist twice a month with members of the congregation leading Morning Prayer on two Sundays. A fifth Sunday in the month has a service held in another of the MA churches and there is a Bring and Share lunch to follow, when circumstances allow.

Bilingual Holy Communion is held on Wednesday mornings and Holy Communion is administered at Hafan Cefni on a monthly basis. A number of special civic services take place in the Church.

Saint Llwydian, Bodffordd (Heneglwys)

The present church building (Grade II listed) stands just beyond the edge of Bodffordd, a small village that has retained its Welshness. A service is held every Sunday morning.

The Welsh tradition is very much alive in the village with a literary society and an annual eisteddfod. There are two chapels, a community school with a busy meeting hall, an industrial estate nearby in Mona, on the A5. Adjacent to the estate is Mona Airport which is used by Royal Air Force aircraft from Valley and by private aircraft.

In the name Hen Eglwys, 'old' means 'previous' rather than 'ancient'. The meaning of Llwydia[o]n is 'blessed'.

Saint Trygarn, Llandrygarn

St Trygarn's is a rural church standing just off the B5109, which runs through lovely open countryside typical of rural Wales, in the centre of Anglesey.

The area has a very close-knit and lively community with a number of activities going on, and the church plays a large part in these local activities.

The congregation consists of a wide age range who are keen to take part in services and in the running of the church. The building is in fairly good condition and members try to carry out care and maintenance as required.

The area consists of four small villages with a population of about 1000, and various sites of local historical interest. As well as the church, there are four chapels in the area. In the village of Llanfaes, there is a Memorial Hall, a busy meeting places for locals and for organisations such as the male voice choir Hogia Bodwrog and the female choir Genod y Gwyndy, and the local branch of Merched y Wawr.

It is also the venue for concerts and carol singing seasonal parties, and not forgetting the Prize Bingo held to raise funds for the church!

Saint Morhaiarn, Gwalchmai

St Morhaiarn's Church (grade II* listed) is situated on the left-hand side in the lower part of Gwalchmai, just off the A5 trunk road. The village stands about 5 miles west of Llangefni and is divided into Gwalchmai Isaf (Lower) and Gwalchmai Uchaf (Upper).

The well-kept church grounds are regularly visited by residents of the village and from further afield; within the grounds, there is a well-used public footpath which acts as a shortcut between the upper and lower parts of the village. T

The village's resources include the Ffridd Community School, a chapel, a GP surgery, a shop and post office, a public house, and the Pensioners' Centre. Close to it, there is Llyn Hendref and Cors Bodwrog (a Site of Special Scientific Interest). Gwalchmai is the village closest to the Anglesey Agricultural Show on the A5.

Church services are held bilingually, previously on a weekly basis though currently fortnightly, along with occasional baptisms, weddings and funerals. Despite a significant decrease in the congregation over the past decade, both the church and cemetery remain an integral part of the village.

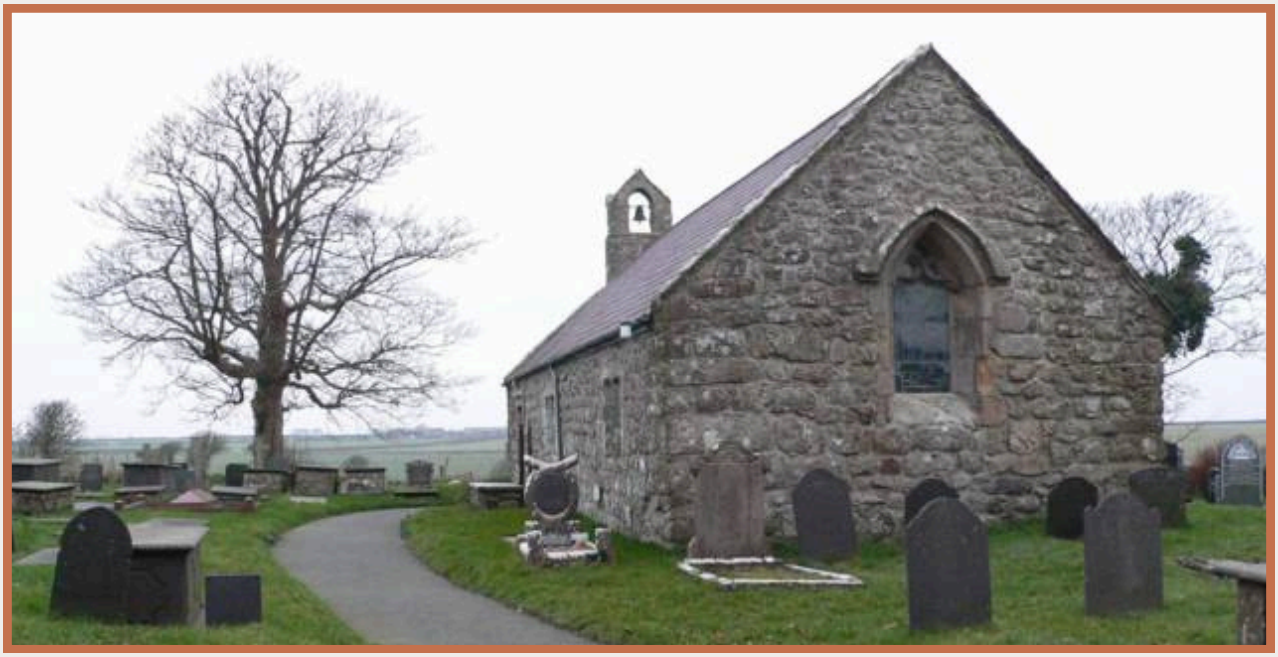
Saint Cwyllog, Llangwyllog

This medieval church building (Grade II* listed) with 18th century interior fittings and a 19th century school room attached beyond the west end of the church is a fascinating place at the end of a lane in lovely rural countryside, three miles from Llangefni. A service is held currently once a month, since reopening in September 2023 after issues with the interior ceiling, of falling debris.

The positive activity of this congregation in the face of the challenge has been noteworthy, as it connected with local businesses and Council to raise funds, and has been developing together a vision for its future. That future has opportunities in local tourism and faith pilgrimage, in potential for educational workshops and celebrations. Active members and supportive community people meet together to plan and organise.

Repairing & restoring Llangwyllog Church goes beyond mere structural improvements. It is about sustaining & continually developing a communal space that has for generations nurtured the spiritual, social & cultural needs of our rural community.

Saint Caian, Tregaian



St Caian's (Grade II* listed) is a small rural church about three miles from Llangefni, with a small dedicated congregation who have kept it open. Like many other places in Anglesey, Tregaian is in an agricultural rural area, not far from Capel Coch on the road to Maenaddwyn.

Interested?

Bro Cyngar 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 is looking to developing its 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 as well as formal civic ministry 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. There is a well-maintained modern parsonage in Llangefni on the Bro Ednyfed housing estate on Lôn Talwrn on the edge of town. Access is easy to the whole of Anglesey from here, as well as straightforward travel to Holyhead and crossing to Dublin or across the Menai Straits to the rest of the UK.

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.

For an informal conversation, please contact

Archdeacon John Harvey
07534 549682
johnharvey@churchinwales.org.uk

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