

AD CLERUM – JULY 2022



*Father, we hold before you our family
in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon
and we open our hearts and minds to your Spirit.*

*Bless us as we gather in your name;
guide us as we grow into the likeness of your Son;
lead us by your Spirit to go out and make disciples of others.*

*God of our journeying,
be our way and our truth and our life;
our beginning and our end.*

We pray through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you are managing to stay well in the present climate. Do take care, there are an awful lot of Covid cases at the moment and we are hearing of more each day.

Faith, being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see, means that we will, like Thomas just remembered, want to seek for reassurances from Christ that he is with us, active and alive in our world.

In our liturgy we will continue to see the wrestling of saints and sinners alike, as the world comes to terms with what it means to live with a risen Jesus. We are told if we seek, we will not be disappointed, and so I urge you, to continue to pray together and to search out God's will for our diocese and the communities we serve.

On that note, I want to personally thank you all for engaging so positively with the various meetings we have had around the diocese. There are a couple more so please do check out the times and dates and try and come along.

Summer draws us on and I know for those of you who are able, a well-earned holiday will be on the cards, I do hope all of us will be able to find refreshment of some kind over the next couple of months. On a personal note, I would value your prayers for the Lambeth Conference this year. It is taking place the last week of July and the first week of August. We are all aware of the seriousness of our times and the many issues we face as Anglicans. I believe we will only find our answers when we are conscious of living our lives in the presence of a risen Lord, that's when Thomas's fears were allayed, that's where all our fears are allayed, and we come into his eternal presence in prayer.

Thank you all.

God bless

+John

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR THE EVENING LAY REGIONAL WORKSHOP, 20th JULY

Due to good numbers booking for the regional workshop with Bishop John on 20th July we've moved the evening lay event from Llanddew Village Hall to St Mary's Brecon. This is ONLY for the evening event and the afternoon workshop for clergy will still take place at Llanddew village hall – the parking is easier and cheaper in the daytime there!

OPPORTUNITIES

- VICAR IN THE ST. CATWIG MINISTRY AREA - A stipendiary post based in Llangenny. Inquiries to Archdeacon Alan.
- Two stipendiary posts in the Archdeaconry of Gower which will be advertised later in the year. Inquiries to Archdeacon Jonathan.
 - KILLAY / DUNVANT / TYCOCH
 - SOUTH WEST GOWER

APPOINTMENTS & NEWS OF THE FAMILY

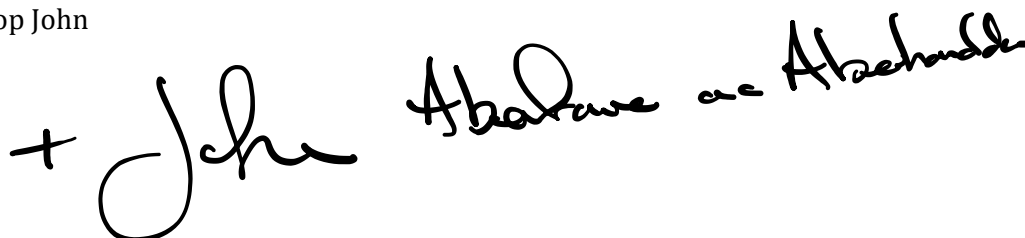
- We remember in our prayers Padraig Gallagher and his wife, Ruth. Padraig is very poorly in hospital. Although Padraig retired from stipendiary ministry a few years ago, he carried on as Assistant Social Responsibility Officer for the diocese and is a friend to many.
- We announce the forthcoming retirement at the beginning of October of the Revd Michelle Bailey. We thank her for her ministry with us and wish her well for the future.
- John Davies, former Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, has been appointed as an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the diocese. This includes Permission to Officiate.
- Peter Jackson who died recently after a long illness served the whole of his ministry in our diocese. After curacies at Llandrindod Wells and Gowerton he was incumbent of Crickadarn with Gwenddwr for six years, and then Rector of Llanfeugan. He held the posts of Canon Treasurer, Precentor and Chancellor of Brecon Cathedral. We extend our deepest sympathy to Ann and the family.

Apologies if any "family news" has been omitted. We are always grateful to be kept informed about such matters.

Gemma, the Bishop's PA, can be contacted by email at GemmaLornie@churchinwales.org.uk.

With best wishes,

Bishop John

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John" followed by a flourish. To the right of the signature, there is a handwritten note in a similar cursive script that reads "Abelave ac Abchudd".

DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS – ERYL JONES

eryljones@churchinwales.org.uk, or 07979 852265

Eryl can also be contacted via the Diocesan Office in Brecon 01874 623716

PROVINCIAL SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

Colin Taylor – 07956 790330 ColinTaylor@cinw.org.uk