



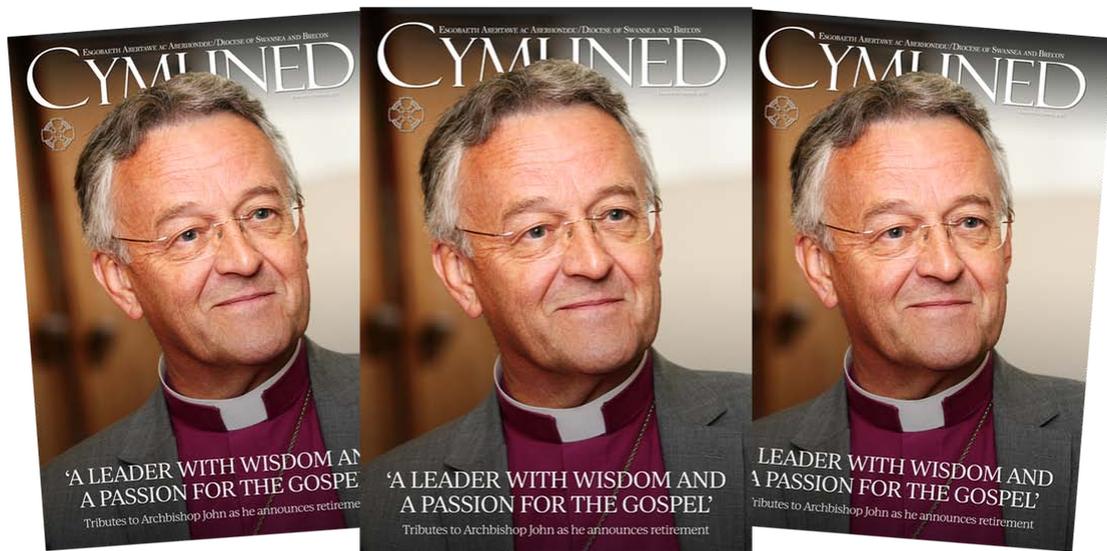
Diocesan Bulletin, February 26

Owing to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic we are producing a regular bulletin of guidance and resources. Please be sure to visit the [Church in Wales' regularly-updated advice section](#) for the latest guidelines. The diocese's information page, including contact details for diocesan staff, is available [here](#).

If you have any problems using any of the links in this newsletter, contact the Diocesan Centre who will email them to you directly. If you have an item you would like included in the bulletin email eryljones@churchinwales.org.uk Please include the word bulletin in your email header.



You can help Faith in Families when you shop at Amazon by using Amazon Smile. Go to smile.amazon.co.uk and use the same account name and details as you would for amazon.co.uk. Select Faith in Families - which is listed as Swansea And Brecon Diocesan Board For Social Responsibility - and it'll get a percentage of the purchase price of all eligible items.



The latest edition of Cymuned is available now

The Spring edition of Cymuned is available now, featuring a message from Archbishop John, how Faith in Families has been helping our communities during the Covid-19 pandemic and much more.

Click [here](#) to read it online or to download a copy.



Webinar explores love and hate between religions

International speakers from three world religions will come together in a webinar next month (March) to discuss how people of faith can live together in

peace and harmony.

Representing Christianity, Judaism and Islam, the speakers will share perspectives about what their traditions teach about hate being transformed by love.

The webinar, titled *Uprooting Hate, Seeding Love: What do the World Religions have to say?* is organized by the Church in Wales and the Archbishop of Wales will give the inaugural address.

The speakers are: Rabbi David Rosen, International Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee; Dr Clare Amos, Director of Discipleship of the Diocese in Europe; and Asif Iftikhar, Fellow at the al-Mawrid Foundation for Islamic Research (Lahore, Pakistan) and faculty member of the Department of Religious Studies at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS).

The Archbishop, John Davies, says the aim of the webinar is to encourage open and honest engagement between people of different faiths.

He says, "Mistrust and hostility are frequently born out of ignorance rather than genuine interest in the beliefs of others. A variety of religions, as practised by the world's people, all of whom are members of the same human family, have their own spirituality and their own routes to a relationship with God as they understand him. Inquiry into both the beliefs and spirituality of others can be both informative and healthy. It does not require abandoning our own viewpoint, but it does, I believe, lead to greater respect and an absence of ill-informed prejudice. I welcome any opportunity which is afforded to improve the former and help us rid the world of the latter."

The Revd Rana Youab Khan, Church in Wales Advisor for Interreligious Affairs, who will moderate the webinar, says, "Hatred for others, their values and beliefs, can diminish and disfigure communities. It can be like an invasive weed which threatens and chokes good growth in the otherwise beautiful garden of human cooperation and mutual flourishing. Hatred can be the result of ignorance and resentment between creeds and worldviews considered to be incompatible. On the other hand, peace is a most precious plant which can blossom as we seed love to shape our lives and societies according to the purpose of God. Our speakers will explore this theme from the perspectives of three Abrahamic Faiths: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

"I am delighted to welcome such eminent speakers to this webinar, which I hope will be the first of a series on inter-religious dialogue."

Uprooting Hate, Seeding Love: What do the World Religions have to say? takes place on March 18 at 3pm. For more information or to book a place see <https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/faith/interfaith/>

Or register directly at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7ttq62dESiyffylwrV8uQ

Archbishop John will be offering a live reflection and national prayer for Sr David's Day from Brecon Cathedral on Monday at 1pm.

You can watch it on the [Church in Wales Facebook page](#) at 1pm.



Capel Coelbren celebrates Eco Church bronze award

Capel Coelbren has become the latest church in the diocese to achieve the bronze Eco Church award and is encouraging others to do the same.

Revd Jon Howard, Assistant Curate in the Tawe Uchaf Ministry Area, and a member of the Diocesan Eco Church Working Group, said: "While I am very pleased to have 'put our first step on the ladder' I have to admit that it wasn't that hard and I would urge other churches to join this inspirational initiative. We were already ticking most of the boxes in our ministry of preaching and prayers; and on the practical front we had energy-efficient lighting in church, and composting facilities in the graveyard; we also recycled as much as we could.

"The online survey is easy to complete but what it really does is focus us onto what we should all be doing anyway to care for God's creation and provides inspiration to do even more. We have several ideas for projects to work towards our silver award."

Fr Jon was formerly Head Verger at Bradford Cathedral where he was a

member of the eco team successful in installing solar PV panels on the cathedral – the first cathedral in the UK to have them - and is happy to talk to other churches interested in the Eco Church award scheme. He can be contacted on 07810 820593 or revjonhoward@gmail.com.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING SESSIONS

Online via Zoom

These sessions are for all who hold an ecclesiastical office, or who hold licence/PTO/commission from the Diocesan Bishop (whether lay or ordained), for those who run Sunday School or Youth clubs, Organists/Directors of Music for whom an enhanced DBS is required.

The training is presented in two parts, Part 1 & Part 2, to complete the course both parts must be attended. The course lasts for approximately 2-2.5 hours. There is no cost to attend the course.

PART 1

Monday 8th March	10:00
Wednesday 10th March	10:00
Thursday 11th March	14:00
Monday 15th March	14:00
Wednesday 17th March	10:00

PART 2

Friday 19th March	14:00
Monday 22nd March	14:00
Wednesday 24th March	10:00
Monday 29th March	14:00
Wednesday 31st March	10:00

To book a place, please contact **Helen** via email on safeguardingtraining@stpadarns.ac.uk

The Church in Wales has a responsibility to ensure that all church members are cared for and protected.



Safeguarding dates for March

A reminder that St Padarn's will be holding the above safeguarding training sessions in March.

To book any of these dates email Helen at safeguardingtraining@stpadarns.ac.uk



Wales Intergenerational Summit

The Wales Intergenerational Summit, being arranged by Age Cymru for Welsh Government and featuring both the Older People's Commissioner for Wales and the Children's Commissioner for Wales, will take place on March 8.

The summit will be held online from 2pm – 4pm and will discuss the recommendations contained in the review of key mechanisms in intergenerational practices, and their effectiveness at reducing loneliness and social isolation.

You can book your place [here](#)