

Benefice Update

At present my role as having “pastoral oversight” at St Barnabas enables me to support your present zoom worship and preside at any necessary occasional offices (baptisms, weddings and funerals). The amalgamation of our two churches necessitates a “Deed of Title” from the Archbishop and Diocesan Registrar, this has been applied for in writing by myself requesting ratification of our new benefice to be called ‘Pont Gors Fawr’, and my new role would then be of Incumbent of this new venture alongside that of Ministry Area Leader of LLwchr, which has already been confirmed. **When** we receive affirmation of this request we can then move forward and begin building our new future together.

This will mean that our new joint PCC will have to meet regularly to plan our worship patterns and discuss our administration and finance. I have been asked, on a number of occasions, from people of both parishes, ‘What’s the plan? What’s the vision?’ Any of these cannot hope for success unless they are compiled by all who are involved, for what it’s worth, my hopes and prayers and vision, is that our new benefice will express itself through diverse worship based firmly on the Sacrament and the Word as laid down by the Church in Wales, and also that everyone will be encouraged to express their faith using their God given talents. Some may say that this is a utopian and unattainable ideal, I would reply that it is a

surmountable challenge that should be at the goal of all Christian worshipping communities and benefices as well as Ministry Areas.

We are about to enter the important season of Lent, my colleague, Rev Sue Rumbelow, and I will be producing material for Ash Wednesday, which will be posted on both websites and also communicated by e-mail. Already in place are 2 Lent courses, one on zoom led by Rev Dr Adrian Morgan and the other by e-mail compiled by Sue. All details are available on our websites.

I look forward to leading ministry and mission with you all.

Alex