



Esgobaeth  
Bangor  
The Diocese  
of Bangor



*Ministry Area Profile*  
**Bro Padrig**

# *Croeso / 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    +David Enlli

# *Vicar and Ministry Area Leader*

We are looking for a priest to lead and serve in the Ministry Area of Bro Padrig in the Diocese of Bangor. Bro Padrig covers much of the north and north-western corner of Anglesey and serves the villages of Cemaes and Llanfechell, Llanfaethlu and Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy, and surrounding hamlets (population approximately 3600, 2021 census).

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:

- 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, willing to delegate and to share responsibility for the development of mission and ministry, encouraging individual and collective vocation.
- Able, with imagination and creativity, to explore further with us the flexible use we've introduced of our buildings for mission and ministry and explore new forms of worship alongside the cherished forms of traditional worship.
- Enthusiastic in developing our social and community involvement and 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 able to provide support for clergy in learning and developing their Welsh language skills.

# 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.

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.



Diocese of Bangor | BBC Pilgrimage 2024



# *Introducing Bro Padrig*

Bro Padrig Ministry Area is located in the stunning coastal scenery and rolling green countryside of North Anglesey.

It encompasses one of the most dramatic parts of the Anglesey Coast Path, as well as prehistoric standing stones, an Iron Age hillfort, popular holiday beaches and remote coves. Inland, the area is crisscrossed with quiet lanes and even two (small) mountains, offering superb running and cycling.

The centres of population are the villages of Cemaes (the most northerly village in Wales) and Llanfechell, followed by Llanfaethlu and Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy, with a number of hamlets and many scattered farms. Despite their relatively small size, the communities enjoy a wide range of regular clubs and groups, from coffee mornings and local history talks to pub music sessions, a state-of-the-art gym (in Cemaes) and an outdoor swimming group.

There are four well-stocked village shops, with supermarkets in Amlwch (to the east) and Holyhead (to the south-west), and numerous choices for a pub meal or restaurant dining.

There are currently four primary schools with children travelling to Amlwch, Holyhead or Bodedern for secondary school. The former Wylfa power station used to employ many local people but now most commute or work at least partly from home. Cemaes still has an active fishing industry and at Church Bay/Porth Swtan there is a global shellfish supplier.

Public transport links are typical for a rural area but Holyhead has a direct train service to London. Cemaes also offers a doctor's surgery and dentist.

While an established holiday destination, the Bro Padrig area is more peaceful in summer than Anglesey's west coast (Trearddur Bay, Rhosneigr). Long-standing local families mingle happily with newcomers, while maintaining pride in Welsh language and heritage.

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It's just a lovely  
community. I always  
leave church feeling  
elated.



# Church Life

The seven churches of Bro Padrig have been operating a sustainable pattern of services, with two weekly congregations (St Mechell, Llanfechell, 9.30 a.m.; St Patrick's, Cemaes 11a.m.), two monthly congregations (St Maethlu's, Llanfaethlu, 2.30 p.m.; St Mary's, Llanfair yng-Nghornwy 11 a.m.).

All services are bilingual; most are the Holy Eucharist although the monthly Llanfairynghornwy gathering is currently lay-led Morning Prayer). Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy is Grade I listed, Llanfechell and Llanfaethlu Grade II\*.

There is also a shorter Wednesday Eucharist service in Cemaes, which includes the prayers left in the 'betws' churches (see below). Refreshments are often served after services in Cemaes, using the parish room, which has a toilet and small kitchen. This is also where discussion and study groups take place, with the opportunity to grow in faith through learning and discussing together. The church itself has recently been reordered, giving flexibility, with pews replaced by stackable chairs.

Each of the three smallest churches (Llanbadrig, Llanrhwydrys, Llanfflewin) is designated as a 'betws' or 'house of prayer'. They are open 24/7 for visitors and pilgrims to come and pray,

leave prayer requests or simply enjoy the quiet. There is a half-hour of silent prayer at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesdays in Llanbadrig (Betws y môr), which also holds two well-attended carol services and occasional special events (St Patrick's day, Sea Sunday etc).

The other two churches have six services a year, between Easter and Harvest (Llanrhwydrys (Betws y maes): Wednesdays 4 p.m.: Llanfflewin (Betws y mynydd): Sundays 5 p.m.). They are Grade II\* or Grade II listed buildings, each with their own fascinating history and connections.



There is a growing team of commissioned worship leaders and a rota for Bible reading and intercessions. Organists are available for Festival services but otherwise musical accompaniment has been by CD or Spotify!



Services and events are publicised locally and also via the Bro Padrig Facebook page which has nearly 700 followers. A website ([bropadrig.com](http://bropadrig.com)) provides general information about the churches and ministry team.

Bro Padrig's finances are modest but sound. The Bishop's Ministry Fund contribution is paid in full each year through a mix of giving, fundraising and an annual Gift Day in Lent. Posters with QR codes for donations are displayed in every church; Llanfechell and Llanbadrig have card reader machines. While some of the church buildings have access to historic investments held by the Church in Wales, others need grant funding for any major works.



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*I'm a committed Christian. My faith is everything. We would love to welcome a Ministry Area Leader to our friendly and welcoming community.*

## *Possibilities and Opportunities*



The congregations of Bro Padrig seek ongoing nurture to continue growing in faith and inviting others to 'come and see'. Many members are active in various community roles and a good number are glad to share about their faith and church-going where appropriate. Meeting for informal fellowship (besides gathering for worship and fundraising) is a priority, expressed most recently in coffee times after Wednesday and Sunday services in Cemaes.

Exploring more informal styles of worship and opportunities for creative forms of prayer are expressed wishes; currently they can be expressed through the use of the new Morning Prayer booklet, and have an outlet in the Wednesday morning intercessions in Cemaes.

With the identity of Llanbadrig as a 'betws' firmly established, Llanfflewin and Llanrhwydrys present opportunities for further work to develop a welcoming environment for visitors, including offering specific 'prayer stations' for quiet reflection.

The hospitality ministry of the other church buildings are ripe for further development, especially in terms of increased opening hours where possible.

There is scope to develop interest in pilgrimage, using the rich history of the area, including sacred wells.



Bro Padrig's only Grade I listed building, St Mary's Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy, would benefit from a major renovation project involving grant funding. It has important local history associations and is open 24/7 for visitors, resulting in growing interest and footfall. Although popular for 'life events' and festival services, the regular congregation is small and would be encouraged by more clergy input, although this would require a change in service times.

The congregation at Llanfaethlu Church has fluctuated since worship recommenced post-pandemic. Services are advertised at the weekly community coffee morning (and the church building opened weekly for visiting and prayer). The building has been rewired so that there is now lighting but no new heating system.



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*I'm new to the area and I have been made so welcome by so many people. It's a fabulous area.*



There has been some interest in 'Eco Church' in Bro Padrig, though progress is in its early stages. The nine churchyards (featured in a new Bro Padrig visitor leaflet) could be more actively managed for biodiversity, an initiative which could potentially draw in other people to help.

More attention could be given to supporting Christian work and witness around the world; having received some profile, Open Doors and A Rocha are two possible links.

Schools Work: there is regular contact between Ysgol Gymuned Llanfechell and the local church but links with Ysgol Gynradd Cemaes are more tentative and there is little connection with Ysgol Rhyd y Llan (Llanfaethlu). The smallest school, Carreglefn, has welcomed occasional clergy visits but is due to close in 2023.

There is a Sunday School account still held by Llanfechell Church, which has been used to buy Scripture Union booklets for Year 6 leavers at all four schools and also Advent candles for all pupils in 2020.

In terms of finance, continued focus is needed on realistic and tax efficient giving, as well as fundraising, so that financial reserves are built up, as well as the bills and BMF paid. A 'Treasures of Bro Padrig' exhibition in Cemaes Church over the August bank holiday 2023 drew much local and visitor interest and could be a basis for similar events.



## *The Vicarage*

Situated down a lane past the village school, a short walk from Cemaes High Street, the vicarage was built as an 'eco-house' about 15 years ago with solar panels and recently installed air source heat pump.

There is a spacious kitchen/dining room, with doors opening onto the back lawn, plus three bathrooms (one en-suite) and four bedrooms. Two smaller downstairs rooms have been used as studies but there is also the option of using a bedroom. The first-floor lounge offers panoramic views over the countryside, with sight of one of Anglesey's newest industries: a wind farm.

The garden, which has been partly managed on 'rewilding' principles, has a small orchard with a couple of raised beds (including strawberries), and a large lawn bordered by a number of indigenous tree saplings and meadow grass. There is also a medium-sized shed and parking for at least three cars.

Footpaths run past the house to Cemaes and Llanfechell, while the local football ground stands opposite.

# *Interested?*

The Ministry Area of Bro Padrig offers new and exciting opportunities for the future. This is an outstanding area in which to live and work and minister. The Ministry Area is committed to developing its life in a way that is energizing and purposeful. There are ready opportunities to engage with families and schools across the Ministry Area. Community-based groups and societies and church activities offer occasions for pastoral and strategic encounters to a priest who is a good mixer. As an area of small rural and coastal communities, some of them 20 minutes' drive away from the A55 dual-carriageway, this is an excellent area for someone who wants to settle into community life. That person may have years of ministerial experience, or be rather more recent to the ordained life.

The dynamic changes brought with social and economic developments and the evolution of tourism across the area invite imaginative forms of worship and engagement.



# Appointment Process

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