The Spirituality Committee is responsible for providing the ministry of a chaplain to the island over the summer months. Could you help for a week (April to September)?

Ynys Enlli has a long, Christian history and has witnessed many different expressions of Christian faith over the centuries including Celtic, Roman Catholic, Anglican, non-conformist, Franciscan, eremetical and Orthodox. These are all strands that have woven at various times into the island’s life. Many have come, like those early monks, to seek the place of their resurrection. The Spirituality Committee, as part of the Bardsey Island Trust, seeks to foster the best of ongoing ecumenical partnership. The committee works with the residents of the island in providing appropriate spiritual and pastoral care not only to those who live and work on the island but, in the summer months, particularly to the many visitors.
What is expected of a chaplain?

It is expected that the chaplain would offer a couple of services during the course of a week. The timing of these will be up to the chaplain to decide. However, it is worth bearing in mind that day visitors will usually be on the island by 11:30 am (depending on the number of crossings and the tides). Therefore a service at midday may be helpful to day visitors but not necessarily to the island’s residents. A Sunday service at mid-day is very much appreciated, and if you are authorised to celebrate Holy Communion that would be wonderful. An evening service at some point may be a better time for some of the residents to join in but it is probably advisable to have it finished by 9 pm eg Compline/Night Prayer at 8:30 pm. There is a Chapel bell that can be rung. The residents have mixed feelings about this being used so maybe ring it in moderation!

Pilgrim Prayers in Tŷ Betws (also known as The Oratory) are offered by Jo Porter (one of the Islanders) at 1930 hrs on Thursday, and 0900 hrs on Sunday. It would be great if the chaplain could support Jo by being there and encouraging others to enjoy a short, simple and reflective prayertime.

The Spirituality Committee would also like to encourage anyone offering chaplaincy to take time to just simply be available to people on the island, whether holidaymakers, day visitors, pilgrims or residents. Traditionally chaplains (such as those in the NHS or school for example) have testified to much of their best work being done simply by chatting and being available to listen to people’s stories; to help them discern some of the spiritual questions in their lives. If you could factor in some time just to be around where the visitors are, and take some time to chat, that would be helpful.

Increasingly people are visiting as Pilgrims, helped in part by the North Wales Pilgrim Way [http://www.pilgrims-way-north-wales.org](http://www.pilgrims-way-north-wales.org). Many recognise they are on a spiritual journey and will be walking with questions that are worth exploring. Many come to Enlli as in centuries gone by, to ‘seek the place of resurrection’.

The spiritual life of the island is not separate from the work of the scientific group; or from the rich wildlife present on the island; or from the challenges of farming; or political decision making; or from the preservation of ancient important sites; nor from the important work the education committee is doing with school children. The island also has a rich artistic heritage which continues to find fresh expressions today - through poetry, painting, silversmithing, wool spinning etc.

If the chaplain would like to find ways of engaging with any of these strands and help Christian spirituality to be more closely woven into island life, that would be great!

What about the content of services?

For services in chapel there are copies of the Church in Wales bilingual Holy Eucharist service available. Please see separate information leaflet regarding other practicalities.