Please note that this event has been postponed until 23rd March - Women, Identity and Religion in Wales - A new book by Cathedral Canon and St Asaph's Director of Ministry, Manon Ceridwen James will be launched at St Asaph Cathedral on Friday 2 March at 7pm. The book offers significant and original insights into women, Welsh identity and religion. Come and find out more. All are welcome. Details on the attached invitation. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance to Manon: manoncjames@churchinwales.org.uk.

New to StAR this week

There will be a Cytûn event during Fair Trade Fortnight at St Paul’s Church, Colwyn Bay on Saturday 3rd March between 10am-12pm. There will be a cake stall, Fair Trade products will be available to purchase, and refreshments sourced from Fair Trade products. If anyone would like to make cakes using Fair Trade ingredients, these can be dropped off at St Paul’s at 9.30 am on Saturday 3rd and will be used to raise money for the Fair Trade Foundation. All are welcome to join us help make a difference to poor farmers across the world who produce the food we love.

“Forget me not Tea Party” 8th March, 2-4pm St Asaph Parish Church. Everyone welcome. Please see the attached for more information and future dates.


Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) Early intervention Forum – 22 March, 10am-12pm at Northgate Church, Chester. A special forum event where we will be sharing more about TLG’s Early Intervention Programme and providing opportunities to explore what you can do to meet a huge need in our local schools.
Pilgrimage to Pennant Melangell - A few people from Alyn MA are walking down to Pennant Melangell on **Wednesday March 28th (Wednesday of Holy Week)** from Llangynog. We will be leaving cars at Llangynog at 10am and joining the midday service at St Melangell. If you are unable to walk you may drive down. We can’t provide any transport. If you wish to join us at the New Inn, Llangynog first for breakfast please make your booking independently on 01691 860229. You don’t need to book unless want a cooked breakfast. Further details pampowell@microplusmail.co.uk

**Marketplace and information**

Please see the following message from Tim Feak Under 25s Officer “As you know we have our annual Youth Pilgrimage again this year. We have been really pleased with the amount of young people who want to take part. We need to find a marquee for the campsite, this will keep us warm and give us a place to socialise in the evenings. The quotes I am getting are expensive. This has led me to wonder if anyone may have a marquee we could borrow or rent?” If you can help please contact Tim on 01745 532595 or timfeak@churchinwales.org.uk

Volunteers needed for St Asaph Cathedral's New Tearooms. If you are interested please come to one of the information sessions on 7th March and 10th March in St Asaph Cathedral. Bilingual advert attached.

Your Dementia Friendly Church: Because the Diocese of St. Asaph has been certified “Working to Become Dementia Friendly” by the Alzheimer’s Society, it is now beginning to recognise individual churches in the same way. It requires four commitments, some effort, and some time, but it is not overly strenuous. Take the opportunity to talk with Revd Dr Bob Friedrich, the Dementia Support Officer. He can help you from start to finish. Bob Friedrich, bobfriedrich1@churchinwales.org.uk, 07475 117077. More information is also available at https://stasaph.churchinwales.org.uk/life/steering-groups/engaging/becoming-a-dementia-friendly-diocese/

Insurance Promotion: Ecclesiastical is celebrating its 130th Anniversary and as a gesture of its appreciation to churches in the Diocese of St Asaph, it has decided to donate £130 to a church where a new home insurance policy is taken out by a member of the clergy, church workers, volunteers or members of the congregations. More information is available to download from the StAR section of the Diocesan Website.

Training
Last Chance to book - “Digital Communications – Getting your church on social media” – 6th March, 7-9pm in St Andrew’s Community Hub, Wrexham. This hands-on session is designed for people new to social media who have never accessed Facebook but are keen to learn. Places are limited to 10, to book please contact siancharlesworth@cinw.org.uk or call 01745 532582. Open to anyone keen to engage in digital communications for their church of Mission Area. Please ensure you bring your own laptop or tablet as one will not be provided.

Church in Wales “Keeping People Safe” – A health and safety training session to help churches meet their obligations in this area. Suitable for Health and Safety Officers, Church Wardens, Archdeacons and Clergy. The first session will take place on 10th March, in St Peter’s Church, Holywell. If you would like to attend the course or see the other dates offered please see the poster and booking form circulated previously.

“Mission Area Governance Training” This session covers all you need to know about how the Mission Area Conference operates to ensure that the needs of the Mission Area, the Constitution and Charity Law are met. MAC Members are required to attend this training.
- 12th March, 2-5pm in St Mary’s Church Hall, Chirk
- 13th March, 6-9pm in the Diocesan office, St Asaph

To book please contact siancharlesworth@cinw.org.uk or call 01745 532582. Open to all but is especially useful for MAC members, Sub-Committee members and Church Committee Members.

Coming up this week

An introduction to Christian Meditation and the World Community for Christian Meditation 10am-1pm Saturday 3rd March at Efenechtyd (near Ruthin). This is an introduction suitable for anyone seeking to gain in understanding of Christian meditation and be guided in periods of silence. There will be two periods of silence, a shorter one of ten minutes long and a longer one of twenty minutes long. Participants are requested to bring their own lunch for a 12pm lunch break. Tea and coffee will be provided.

“Singing Songs of Praise” at St Matthew’s Church, Buckley in celebration of St David’s Day. 4th March at 3.30pm. Poster circulated previously.

St Padarn’s Institute Vocations Roadshow – If you are going through the discernment process or exploring a call to ministry come and find out more
about formation for licensed ministry with St Padarn’s. 6th March in St Margaret’s Church, Wrexham, 6pm. See the posters circulated previously for details.

John: A Gospel for Insiders or Outsiders? Tuesday 6th March 2018, 7-9pm in Bangor Cathedral, Cathedral Close, Bangor, LL57 1LH. All welcome. Details circulated previously.

Reconciliation: Mending Broken Relationships with Acorn Christian Healing Foundation. Thursday 8th March. £27.50 – Includes lunch and refreshments. Led by the Revd Wes Sutton. http://www.foxhillchester.co.uk/whats-on/acorn-

Forthcoming dates

St Asaph Cathedral Choir Annual Sponsored Hymnathon - Saturday 10th March from 10am-4pm. All are welcome to come and hear the choir throughout the day. This year monies raised will go towards Cathedral Choir funds and to support a local chosen charity. To sponsor a hymn please sign the list at the back of the Cathedral, contact Director of Music Alan McGuinness at the Cathedral Song School – (01745 584053) or via email organist@stasaphcathedral.org.uk

The Evolving Voice of Women’s Ministry – An evening of storytelling and music to celebrate 21 years of women’s ministry. 16th March, 7-9pm in the Tea Rooms at St Asaph Cathedral. Entry is free. Flyer with more details circulated previously.

Save the Date: Course on Spiritual Direction - The College of Spiritual Directors are working with Bangor diocese in order to deliver training based in Betws y Coed for new spiritual directors. If you would like more information or to register your interest in the course please contact Janet Fletcher, Bangor Diocesan Spirituality Officer on 01654 711792 or revjfletcher@btinternet.com and put the following dates in your diaries. Deadline for course applications is 28th April 2018

The dates of the Course for 2018/19 : Betws y Coed
2018 - 15th September, 13th October, 10th November, 8th December.

2019 – 12th January, 16th February, 23rd March, 11th May, 1st June, 20th July, 14th September, 12th October.

The Introduction Course includes topics such as discernment, developing listening skills, images of God, images of the self, good practice, unhealthy practice, and what is spiritual direction. We’ll look briefly at Julian of Norwich, Ignatius of Loyola, John of the Cross and others. There is no charge, and it is of course open to all whether in lay or ordained ministry, all that’s needed at this stage is a sense that God is calling you to a ministry of spiritual direction. All the
dates have to be attended including the retreat. Once the group is together it may be that occasional dates are re-arranged with the agreement of the group.

In order to be admitted to the diocesan college of spiritual directors there will be further discernment as well as the completion of the course and two brief pieces of written work. For more information on the St Asaph College of Spiritual Directors please contact John Foxlee on johnfoxlee@outlook.com.

**Mold Parish Church’s annual Virgin Art exhibition 7th - 12th May.** The work of artists whose exhibits have been voted the most popular by visitors to Mold Parish Church’s annual Virgin Art exhibition since its launch in 2009 will be a centrepiece at this year’s event in May. **The closing date for entries is Monday, 16th April** and full details are on the Virgin Art website. Virgin Art has become one of the largest art events in the region.

All the exhibits are for sale to members of the public, with a percentage of the proceeds going to church funds. To date nearly £30,000 has been raised.

**Bettws Cedewain Celebrating 150 years since the Restoration 13 - 15 July 2018**

Choral Concert; Local History with a Talk on "The Nesfields, Father & Son" by Dr Shirley Rose Evans & Talk on "Mid-Victorian church restorations in Montgomeryshire" by local historian Edward Parry. Sunday afternoon Evensong in Victorian Costume. Bettws Cedewain is located two miles north west of Newtown, Powys. Come and celebrate with us! More information nearer the time. Contact: Rev Prebendary Norman Morris Team Vicar revnormmorris@gmail.com

**StAR** - If you want something including in the St Asaph Round up, please send it to siancharlesworth@cinw.org.uk. The next StAR will be on Thursday 8 March.

**Check back** on previous editions of StAR at http://stasaph.churchinwales.org.uk/news/star/(also linked from the home page)

**Nominate** people in your church to receive this information. It’s free and we want to share it! Ask your Church Secretary, Wardens or Mission Area Communications Officer to send an e-mail to siancharlesworth@cinw.org.uk with ‘Subscribe to StAR’ in the subject line and we’ll do the rest.

Keep up to date with what is going on across the Diocese. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter and visit our website:

www.facebook.com/stasaphdiocese
@StAsaphDiocese
http://stasaph.churchinwales.org.uk/