This week

**Noah’s Ark Fun Day at St John’s Church, Old Colwyn, 12th August.** A family fun day with a variety of activities including crafts, face painting, ark building and more. Bring a stuffed toy animal to parachute off the church tower!

**Summer Fayre in the grounds of St Thomas' Church, Rhyl** on Saturday 12th August, 10am-2pm. Free entry, variety of community stalls - cakes and crafts, bouncy castle, hot dogs, music, refreshments all welcome. Poster circulated previously.

**St James Church, Nantglyn** is open to visitors every Saturday afternoon in August, 2.30-4.30pm. There will be an **Exhibition of the History of the church** in Church House (opposite the Church). Entry to Exhibition including Refreshments is £3. All proceeds to the upkeep of Nantglyn Church. A warm welcome to all.

**Flower Festival to be held at St. Mary The Virgin Church, Mold** 16 - 20 August 2017. The theme will be "Mold in Flowers/Yr Wyddgrug Trwy Flodau". All denominations within Mold and other organisations will be displaying flower arrangements depicting the life of Mold. Admission £3. Further information may be obtained from Ann Jones 01352 755796 caenogmold222@btinternet.com

**Joseph and his Dreamcoat Stay and Play session at** Bryn Cadno Community Centre, Bryn-y-Maen. 18th August. This is an event for children taking place from 9.30am – 12pm. There will be costume making, face painting, drama and lots of messy fun, all linking to our theme of 'Joseph and his technicolour dreamcoat'.

**Friends of the Cathedral Summer Lecture** - Friday 18th August The Revd Canon Martin Snellgrove “Welsh Place Names with an emphasis on exonyms” 7.30pm in the Cathedral. Admission £5 includes refreshments at the end of the lecture.

**Services and Installations**

**A Service of Welcome for the Rev Gill Stanning the new Pioneer Priest in Borderlands Mission Area** at 7pm in Emmanuel Church in Bistre on Thursday 31st August.
**Coming up**

**Summer Fayre at St Mary’s Church, Towyn**, Wednesday 23rd August. Admission free, lots of stalls and games, open from 11.30am. Come and join the fun. For details ring 01745 355449.

**Llysfaen Horticultural Show** held at the Village Hall Llysfaen on Saturday 19th August, 2-4pm. St Cynfran’s Church (across the road to the Village Hall) will also be open with an exhibition of photographs. Refreshments available at the Village Hall.

**Mold Mission Area Youth C.R.E.W.** invite you to Afternoon Tea in aid of SHARE (Supporting Homeless Assisting Refugees Everywhere) in Christ Church, Pontblyddyn on Saturday 9th September. They will be serving Afternoon Tea 12-3 p.m. Adults £4, Children £2. Do come and join us. For more information phone Mrs Mel Morgan 01978 762709. Poster attached.

**Training**

**Become a Dementia Friend** – 22nd August, 2-3pm in Daniel Owen Centre, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1AP. Dementia Friends gives people an understanding of dementia and the small things you can do that make a difference – please join us. Please contact jo.lane@alzheimers.org.uk / 01352 700486 to book your place. Poster attached.

“**Parentalk**” - 16th September, 10am-12.30pm in St Margaret’s Church hall, Chester Road, Wrexham, LL11 2SH. Are you serving parents in your community? Are you involved with Messy church, Parent and Toddler group, working with teenagers or Kids clubs? Or are you just enthusiastic to build friendships with parents, encourage and support families and show Gods love in a practical way? Then this training is for you! Care for the Family warmly invite you join us for training this Autumn to deliver Parentalk- a DVD based parenting course. The training session will equip you with everything you need to deliver a course for parents in your community. You’ll get free resources and ongoing support to make a difference in the lives of local families. To book your place please contact sianconnelly@churchiwaless.org.uk

**Mission Area Governance information sessions** will be held to help the members of Mission Area Conferences (MACs) understand the legal framework of the MAC and the roles and responsibilities within the MAC. Anyone is welcome to attend one of these sessions if you would find it useful.

- **12th September**, 6-9pm in Christ Church, Ffrydan Road, Bala, LL23 7RU
- **2nd October**, 6.30-9.30pm in The Old School Room (next to St Garmon’s Church), Llanarmon yn Ial, Mold, CH7 4QE
If you would like to attend one of these sessions, please book your place by contacting sianconnelly@churchinwales.org.uk.

“2017 Welcome to Wales Course” - A residential training course for Ministers of Religion who are transferring into Wales from other parts of the UK or further afield. Wednesday 4th - Friday 6th October 2017 at St Michael’s Centre, Llandaff in Cardiff. The registration form and more details can be located at: http://www.cytun.org.uk/croesoigymru_17.pdf Please contact ministry.stasaph@churchinwales.org.uk if you would like to book onto the course, as the diocese may be able to assist with payment.

The Iona Community has announced a short programme for Autumn 2017 to be run in conjunction with the St Columba Hotel on Iona whilst their own centers are closed for refurbishment and maintenance work. There are 3 weeks on offer:

- ‘Walking into Winter’ – a gentle week of conversation, readings, and writing with Wild Goose authors and poets Jan Sutch Picard, Joy Mead, and Ruth Burgess (21st-28th October)
- **Stillness, Silence and Song** – an unhurried week of meditation and song with Alison Adam (formerly of Wild Goose resource Group) and Cara Riley (28th October- 4th November)
- ‘Cycles of Grace: Exploring the Ten Beatitudes’ – a week reflecting on how to live well, with activist and author Alastair McIntosh (4th-11th November)


**Church administration training for clergy and administrators** - Training for curates will be taking place on 16th November 2017 at Gladstone’s Library 10am – 1pm on church administration with Archdeacon Peter Pike and Mr Llyr Williams, the diocesan registrar. If clergy (or parish administrators) would like to brush up on any aspect of administration, especially weddings, you are very welcome to come along as there will be spaces for around 15 people allocated on a first come first served basis. If you would like to book a place please contact Jackie Feak on ministry.stasaph@churchinwales.org.uk or 01745 582245. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

2018 Dates for Leading your Church into Growth Announced. The Diocese will once again be providing 55 places on a Diocesan Leading your Church into Growth course from 16 – 19 April 2018. It will take place at The Hayes Christian Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire and the costs of the course, and en-suite single rooms will be paid for – all you need to do is cover the cost of transport. Here’s what people
said after the last course – “Inspirational”; “Full of information”; “It’s given me a lot of ideas and confidence”; “The booklet will be really useful”; “A positive experience and atmosphere”. To register your interest in attending the course, please email sianconnelly@churchinwales.org.uk

For more training events coming up this year please follow this link to the 2017 Training Prospectus or email sianconnelly@churchinwales.org.uk to request a hard copy.

Information and Marketplace

Five churches in the Diocese of St Asaph have been nominated as one of Wales’ favourite places of worship in the ‘Sacred Wales’ competition. They are:

- St Michael, Efenechtyd,
- St Asaph Cathedral,
- St Melangell Church, Pennant Melangell (previously listed as St Melangell, Llangynog)
- St Dyfnog, Llanrhaeadr
- St John the Baptist, Penymynydd.

Please vote for your favourite at the Sacred Wales website: http://www.sacredwales.org.uk/?contest=gallery

The Berse Trust awards up to 20 small grants each year to girls/women aged 25 years and under who reside in the diocese. Applications are now being received for the 2017 round of grant awards (closing date 10 November). An application form can be downloaded from the diocesan website; http://stasaph.churchinwales.org.uk/life/funding-finance/bersefund/

Knitters wanted to help knit sheep for “the Lost Sheep Project” to help promote Organ donation for NHS. Please contact Shirley Salisbury on 07905 144541.

Shirley Sailsbury is looking to produce a book of Recipes and Poems to raise funds for Cursillo. If you would like to contribute a recipe or poem please contact Shirley on 07905 144541.

Reminders

Open Air Service accompanied by the BEULAH BRASS BAND followed by B-B-Q at St David’s Church, Glan y Mor Road, Penrhyn Bay. Sunday 27th August at 11am. All welcome.
Open Day at St Mary's Church, Ruabon - 2nd September, 10am to 4pm with a Teddy Bears' picnic from 2pm and a teddy zip wire from the tower. Registers dating back to the 16th century will be on display. All welcome.

‘An evening with the Harp & David Watkins’ – 8th September at 7pm in the Shrine Church of St Melangell, Pennant Melangell. Tickets £12. Early booking essential in view of limited seating. Poster circulated previously.

RSCM North Wales Area Come and Sing Event— “Music for the Christmas Season” - Saturday 23rd September at 2pm in St. David’s RC. Primary School, Mold, CH7 1LH. Mervyn Cousins, Deputy Chief Examiner ABRSM and Former Director of Music at Liverpool Metropolitan R.C. Cathedral will lead a choral workshop exploring repertoire choices for Christmas, with technical advice for both singers and choir trainers. Music copies will be available at the workshop. To register your place or for further information please contact: Alan McGuinness, RSCM North Wales Area Chair, Cathedral Organist and Director of Music, Cathedral Song School, St. Asaph Cathedral, High Street, St. Asaph, LL17 0RD. Tel: (01745) 584053 - email: organist@stasaphcathedral.org.uk or RSCM North Wales Secretary, Irene Lewis - Tel: (07975) 818106 - email: lewirene@gmail.com flyer and booking form circulated previously.

Information session on Church and Community Night Shelters from Housing for Justice. 27th September, 1.30-3.30pm in St Margaret’s Church and Community Hall, Chester Road, Wrexham LL11 2SH. Church and Community night shelters seek to meet the needs of those who are homeless on the coldest months of the year. By working in partnership churches can provide hospitality to those who are homeless, providing support and understanding to help people to rebuild their lives and move away from homelessness. For more information or to book on this free session contact Sarah Wheat – Engagement Officer. sarahwheat@churchinwales.org.uk 01745 532596. Poster circulated previously.

Llanasa Parish Church is holding a Flower Festival 28 September to 1 October 2017 with the theme of Harvest Festival in aid of Church funds. Please see poster (circulated previously) for all details. Opening times will be 11am to 7pm and 1pm to 4pm on the Sunday. The admission charge will be £3 and refreshments available for £2.

The Leavers Coulson Trust exists to help financially support 7 – 17 years olds so that they can attend residential Christian camps and holidays. The focus is on young people in areas of social deprivation so please pass the details to any churches which might have youngsters who could benefit from this. All the details are on their website Leavers Coulson Trust.
Modern Slavery Awareness event 28th October 2017, 12-5pm in St Asaph Cathedral. Open to all. Please come along if you want to be informed about the efforts to fight modern slavery and human trafficking in North Wales. To book follow this link to the Eventbrite website: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/modern-slavery-awareness-event-tickets-35385078723](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/modern-slavery-awareness-event-tickets-35385078723) or contact sianconnelly@churchinwales.org.uk / 01745 532582.

What’s on

St Silin’s Church, Llansilin Church Open Weekend - 26th, 27th and 28th August Visitors welcome each day - Exhibitions "Llansilin Past and Present" Refreshments. Fully accessible. The historic Grade 1 church lies behind the trees on the main village street. SY10 7QB

A Charity Fundraiser evening in aid of Nightingale House Hospice, Wrexham at St. John the Baptist Church, Penymynydd - Friday 1st September 7.30pm. Duets and trios from Haydn, Bruch, Mozart and Bizet featuring a group of very talented young music scholars playing violin, viola, clarinet, flute and piano. Tickets £5 to include a drink and nibbles available in advance by contacting: trigzd@gmail.com or tel. 01244 544409.

Ensemble 1677 & St. Asaph Choral Society will present a semi-staged production of Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas", the first British opera to be written! Saturday 2nd September at 7.30pm in St Mary’s Church, Denbigh - We are still in need of chorus members and rehearse weekly on Mondays at St Asaph parish church from 7.30-9.30pm. If you would like to sing, please come along on a Monday night or e-mail ensemble1677@gmail.com for further details.

Sunday, 03 September, 2017 – Commemoration of the sacrifice of Merchant Mariners in WWII. Merchants understood the dangers of war-time shipping and displayed bravery and great commitment to duty, while knowing that they were prime enemy targets. Sunday 3 September is being kept as a special day of prayer to commemorate the men and women who lost their lives in the service of their countries in the Allied Merchant Navies during the Second World War. Bishop Gregory commends this prayer intention to the churches of the diocese.

Porthmyn Male Voice Choir in concert at St Peter’s Church, Ruthin on Saturday 9th September at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 to include a glass of wine, available from Ruthin Bookshop, 3 Upper Clwyd Street, or from Chris Simons on 01745 550555 or csimons55@btinternet.com All profits for repairs to the church roof.
Prayer Spaces in Schools Day Conference 2017: 23rd September, St Mark’s Battersea, London or 30th September in St John University, York. Both events 10.30am-5pm. Tickets £20. For more information and to buy tickets please follow the link:  http://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/dayconf17

StAR - If you want something including in the St Asaph Round up, please send it to sianconnelly@churchinwales.org.uk. The next StAR will be on Thursday 17th August.

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 PCC Secretary, Wardens or Mission Area Communications Officer to send an e-mail to sianconnelly@churchinwales.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/