



PRAYING FOR MINISTRY ADVENT 2023

"The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."
Matthew 9:37,38

Wendy Gardner was ordained as Diaconate at All Saints Church, Newtown on 26 November 2023.



EMBER DAYS are set aside for prayer for vocations, and for those who serve the church in different ministries. Traditionally they are observed on the Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays in the weeks before the Third Sunday of Advent, the Second Sunday of Lent, and the nearest Sunday to 29 June and 29 September.

Please use this sheet for reflection and prayer during the **EMBER DAYS** themselves, around times of inductions and ordinations and licensing's, alone and with others in your church or Mission Area.



*Holy Spirit,
gift of God to the world,
reveal your presence in our
lives by the blessing of your
grace and the comfort of
your tender love.
Enable us to see
where you are at work,
and minister in mercy to
those for whom
our prayers are needed.
Amen.*

‘Advent’ simply means ‘coming’ as in Christ’s coming both at his birth and his second coming in power and glory to bring His Kingdom into fruition. It is a period of expectation, anticipation and preparation.

Below are some quotations we will hear once again this Advent:

“Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion” (Isaiah 40:9)
Do you think God might be inviting you to be his messenger?

“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.” (John 1: 6-8) God still calls witnesses to speak for the light which is Christ. Do you think God might be inviting you to bear witness to Christ?

Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ (Luke 1:38) It takes courage and grace to give a “Yes” to God’s call.

*Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen*



The Diocese will be welcoming **Matthew Thompson**, who will be licensed as Pastoral Chaplain in the Elwy Mission Area on the 6 December at 7pm in the St Asaph Parish Church.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

- Those who are currently exploring their vocation and our team of Vocations Advisors.
- For vocations to the ordained ministry from younger candidates, and for those who will exercise leadership in the church of the future as we face the coming retirement of a large proportion of our clergy.
- For vocations to the newer licensed lay ministries – evangelist, pastoral chaplain, youth and children's chaplain.
- For an increase in commitment to discipleship and Christian maturity.
- For all the people of God in churches across our diocese as we seek to serve God in a variety of contexts – work, home, community, church.
- For those who are exploring and exercising a commissioned ministry.

THOSE PREPARING TO BE ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD IN 2024

Emma Dale (Priest, Stipendiary)
Annalise Davies (Priest, Stipendiary)
Gwen Dixon (Priest, Non-Stipendiary Local)
Wendy Gardner (Priest, Non-Stipendiary)
Kathryn Hall (Priest, Stipendiary)
Cass Meurig-Thomas (Priest, Stipendiary)
Hugh Richardson (Priest, Stipendiary)

THOSE PREPARING TO BE ORDAINED AS DIACONATE IN 2024

Stuart Dean (Priest, Stipendiary)
Rebecca Ratcliffe (Deacon, Non-Stipendiary)

THOSE PREPARING TO BE LICENSED AS PASTORAL CHAPLAINS IN 2024

Maria Morante
Joshua Schoch

THOSE STARTED TRAINING THIS YEAR

Mark Cooke (Pastoral Chaplain)
David Dobbs (Priest, Non-Stipendiary)
Lucy Farrar (Pastoral Chaplain)
Cheryl Hesketh (Priest, Stipendiary)
Elin Jones (Priest, Stipendiary)
Jampa King (Priest, Stipendiary)
Sharon Morgan (Priest, Stipendiary)
Ian Williams (Deacon, Non-Stipendiary)

Lord, as you called your disciples, call us now. Open our ears to listen to you calling; Open our eyes to see you; Open our hearts to your love. Help us to hear you, to experience your presence with us and to love you. And loving you, let us serve you, our servant King. Amen

