



Archdeacon of Wrexham Recruitment Pack

April 2026



Dear Friend in Christ

Croeso! Welcome!

I'd like to begin by offering my thanks to you for taking the time and trouble to discover more about the archdeaconry vacancy in the Diocese of St Asaph.

Whether you decide to apply as part of our process of discernment or not, please do hold us as a diocese in your prayers, as we enter upon this process to discern whom God is calling to this vital role.

Over my time as bishop here, we have been blessed with a number of excellent archdeacons, who have brought a unique range of gifts and calling to the post. The archdeacons and I share a warm collegiality, joined by the Dean, the Diocesan Secretary, the Director of Transforming Ministry, and my chaplain, who make up the Bishop's Staff team. A strong sense has developed that archdeacons are not so much officials of the Church, but colleagues who share with the bishop in the oversight and pastoral care offered to all clergy and to our shared ministry teams.

As we recruit a new Archdeacon of Wrexham, we hope to enhance the mutual faith, collegiality and fun that sustains our common life.

When you look at the Job Description, you will see that we have crafted a vision for the ministry of archdeacon in a way that will focus their ministry to equip and mentor the ordained and lay Shared Ministry Teams within our Mission Areas. Archdeacons will need to be ready to contribute to the transformation of our common life with an emphasis on confident faith, new life and an outward-looking orientation. With Andy Grimwood and Gerwyn Capon, our present archdeacons, those discerned for this ministry will be expected to enable our Mission Areas to be effective in proclaiming God's Kingdom, and bold in the common life and mission they embrace, while navigating challenge and change.

I hope that you will consider seriously the opportunity to explore whether God is calling you to participate in this work. I believe it is by entering into the possibility that God is calling us to something new that we can discover his will for us, and I am genuinely excited to discover those with whom the diocese will be doing this work of discernment. May God guide your thinking and your application, if you decide to take that next step.

Of course, if it would help you to be in contact with me or one of the current archdeacons, do email: bishop.stasaph@cinw.org.uk
or Archdeacon Andy (archdeacon.stasaph@cinw.org.uk)
or Archdeacon Gerwyn (archdeacon.montgomery@cinw.org.uk)

As a fellow servant in the work of the Gospel, Yours in Christ,

The Rt Revd Gregory K Cameron
Bishop of St Asaph



The Application Process

Key Dates

Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 13 May 2026

Shortlisting date: Thursday 14 May 2026

Discernment Centre: 2 and 3 June 2026 in Wrexham and St Asaph

Application Process

Please submit your CV and a covering letter. Your letter should indicate clearly how you believe that you meet the essential criteria for this role:

- a pastoral and empathetic leader
- a strategic thinker
- a critical friend
- an encourager
- a team player
- a change facilitator
- a good communicator.

On your CV, please give the names of three people to whom reference can be made. Do not include the bishop of your diocese as they will be consulted separately.

Applications should be sent by email to the Bishop's Office: bishop.stasaph@cinw.org.uk

All applications will be acknowledged.



Job Description

The Archdeacon of Wrexham will support the bishop in all aspects of his ministry of episcopate as a critical friend, in implementing the Diocesan Vision and Strategy, overseeing growth and mission, and complementing the Bishop's gifts. They will also work closely with the Diocesan Office team in offering support to enable people, churches and Mission Areas to flourish.

The Archdeacon will work with the Mission Areas in their archdeaconry to orient Mission Area life, witness, mission and ministry towards the proclamation of the Gospel and the promotion of growth in line with the diocesan focus: **Growing Faith, Bringing Hope, Demonstrating Love**. They will work with the Mission Areas and their Shared Ministry Teams to ensure Mission Area effectiveness as a family of congregations who offer inspiring and dignified worship, intentional discipleship, and effective proclamation of the Gospel by deed and word.

The archdeacon will bring the experience of positive church growth and have the ability to engage with people of all ages and traditions and will be able to represent these views, culture, aspirations and attitudes as we plan for the future.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

The new Archdeacon of Wrexham will:

- work with the bishop and other senior colleagues to build the life of the churches of the diocese
- complement the existing skills, profile and experience of the Bishop's Staff Team
- assist the diocese in developing a culture of positive engagement with those outside the Church
- energise Mission Areas to fulfil their potential by developing and exploring new ideas and good practice that nurture growth at all levels
- encourage, support and mentor Mission Area Leaders
- ensure that Mission Area Leaders and Mission Area Conferences are aware of new developments within the diocese and archdeaconry and support them in implementation
- work closely with the Mission Area Leaders and Mission Area Executives in training, supporting and maintaining pastoral care of the whole people of God in the Mission Area
- work with the ordained and lay ministers in their archdeaconry to energise and enable ministry, and with Mission Area Leaders in conducting Ministerial Development Reviews.



There are also the core functions of the role of the archdeacon, although the focus of the post should be resolutely oriented towards the goals set out above.

There is strong collaboration between the diocesan team and the archdeacon in the delivery of many of the duties traditionally assigned to the office of archdeacon and as set out in the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

Person Specification

The new Archdeacon of Wrexham will be:

Essential

- a person of deep Christian faith, committed to prayer, worship and the proclamation of the Gospel, with a deep experience of church life that will enable them to guide and support clergy in their development and ministry
- a proven Church leader, with a strong track record of being able to reach all ages and those outside the normal profile of the Church
- a collaborative team player as well as leader
- an inspirational preacher and speaker, with a track record of inspiring and supporting those in ministry
- able to balance strategic thinking with strong organisational and administrative ability, and attention to detail
- a deep engagement with spirituality, discipleship and sacramental worship.

Desirable

It will be a strength if the new Archdeacon of Wrexham can demonstrate:

- evidence of a strong engagement with a broad range of theological outlooks and traditions
- evidence of effective missional outreach and church growth
- an appreciation of Welsh language, heritage and culture.

The Constitution of the Church in Wales requires an archdeacon to have completed at least six years of ordained ministry as a priest.



Profile of the Archdeaconry of Wrexham

The Archdeaconry of Wrexham is home to a significant proportion of the population of the Diocese of St Asaph.

The large urban conurbations of Wrexham and Deeside are located here, along with the major industrial, commercial and retail centres in the diocese. North east Wales is an industrial powerhouse of the Welsh economy. The largest employer is Airbus in Broughton and other major companies such as Tata Steel, JCB, Sharp and Redrow Homes have significant bases here. It is also home to several towns and communities that have seen their industrial heritage decline and close, creating a distinctive post-industrial setting in which urban ministry is shaped by economic transition, social change and the need to rebuild community identity and hope. Within its boundary is HM Prison Berwyn, the largest prison in the UK which houses category "C" prisoners. Broughton Retail Park is the largest retail and leisure development in the diocese and continues to expand rapidly. In many parts of the archdeaconry there is extensive house building and communities are expanding at a rapid rate.

The population is younger than the diocesan average and its education offer reflects this: the archdeaconry is home to Wrexham University, Coleg Cambria, Deeside Sixth and eleven secondary schools. Two of the secondary schools are Welsh medium. fifteen of the diocese's forty-nine Church Schools (Aided and Controlled) are within the archdeaconry, including St Joseph's Shared Catholic and Anglican High School in Wrexham, of which the archdeacon is a Governor. The diocese has a growing chaplaincy presence in the archdeaconry: there is an inter-faith chaplaincy team at Wrexham University and the Chaplaincy Team at Coleg Cambria is led by an Anglican. HMP Berwyn also has an interfaith chaplaincy team led by the Anglican Chaplain.

The archdeaconry is also home to the Gladstone's Library in Hawarden. This is a unique institution and is the UK's finest residential library, boasting 26 bedrooms and an on-site restaurant.



The archdeaconry is made up of six Mission Areas, covering the north east part of the Diocese of St Asaph. This part of Wales is predominantly urban with a small proportion of rural communities. The sixty-one churches within the six Mission Areas are currently rising to the challenge of becoming the church that God is calling to be. They are aware of the challenges as they try to bring the Good News of the Gospel to the communities they serve. All churches were reviewed in detail as part of the Mission Area Review programme completed in 2020–2021. The Mission Area remains actively engaged in progressing the recommendations from those reviews and the resulting Mission Area Action Plans.

Within the City of Wrexham is Hope Street, the diocese's first Resource Church that was developed in partnership with the Church Revitalisation Trust. Hope Street is now a flourishing church and is getting ready to plant out to Coedpoeth, close to Wrexham. There is a well-established Church Army Centre of Mission where the Diocese and Church Army are working in partnership. In addition, there are numerous social engagement projects, often in partnership with other local agencies.

The Archdeacon of Wrexham also acts as a trustee of two significant Educational Trusts:

- The Strobe and Jeffreys Charity supports schools within Gresford, Llay and Gwersyllt
- The Wrexham Parochial Education Trust (WPEF) supports educational work in the Church and Community Schools within the Wrexham County Borough and in the churches of the town of Wrexham. This Trust could grow further and would give the Trustees new opportunities working alongside the St Giles RE Centre in Wrexham, Coleg Cambria (NE Wales further education institute) and in partnership with Wrexham County Borough Council.



The Vicarage

A four-bedroom detached parsonage, The Vicarage is located within a small and attractive residential development that sits within the Rossett conservation area.

Constructed in the 1990s, The Vicarage sits within a large corner plot with generous parking and turning area to the frontage and is discreetly hidden by way of the grounds being well screened and bounded by mature trees. A pedestrian gate offers access directly to the Christ Church car park. The property is constructed with a composite slate pitched roof with an imposing bay window and dormer to the front elevation over facing brickwork external walls. A single storey double garage is attached, with external storage and outhouses provided to the rear. Doors and windows are currently hardwood, double glazed with timber cladding detailing to the dormer and bay.

The property is currently assessed as having an EPC (Energy Performance Rating) of C/70, with the potential to upgrade to C/79.

Accommodation includes:

Ground Floor:

Entrance Lobby, Cloakroom, Office/Study, Inner Hallway, Dining Room, Living Room, Kitchen, Utility, Rear Entrance Lobby with access to Double Garage.

First Floor:

Landing, Airing Cupboard, Family Bathroom (separate shower and bath), 4 no. (four) bedrooms with Master Bedroom benefiting from an en-suite.



The Diocese of St Asaph

In the Diocese of St Asaph, we're Growing Faith, Bringing Hope and Demonstrating Love. These are the values which underpin and inform our response to God's mission, offering inspiration to our 5,000 regular worshippers, 90+ clergy and 500+ lay leaders, based in 200+ churches and 49 church schools. As the Teulu Asaph, the family of Asaph, we trace our history to the days of our namesake, St Asaph, and his mentor, St Kentigern, who it's believed built a monastery in St Asaph in AD 560. Many of the churches across the diocese were founded by the earliest saints in Wales who witnessed to Christian faith in Wales and have flourished through centuries of war, upheaval, reformation and reorganisation.

Today, the Diocese of St Asaph carries forward that same God-given mission to share His love with all in northeast and mid-Wales. Growing Faith, Bringing Hope and Demonstrating Love is about connecting with 21st-century Wales, while remaining faithful to the life-giving message of Jesus. It's about challenging, inspiring and equipping the whole people of God to grow in their faith, to bring hope to others by demonstrating love. We're honoured to be an inclusive Christian presence in every community, to walk with people on the journey of life and to offer prayers to mark together the milestones of life.

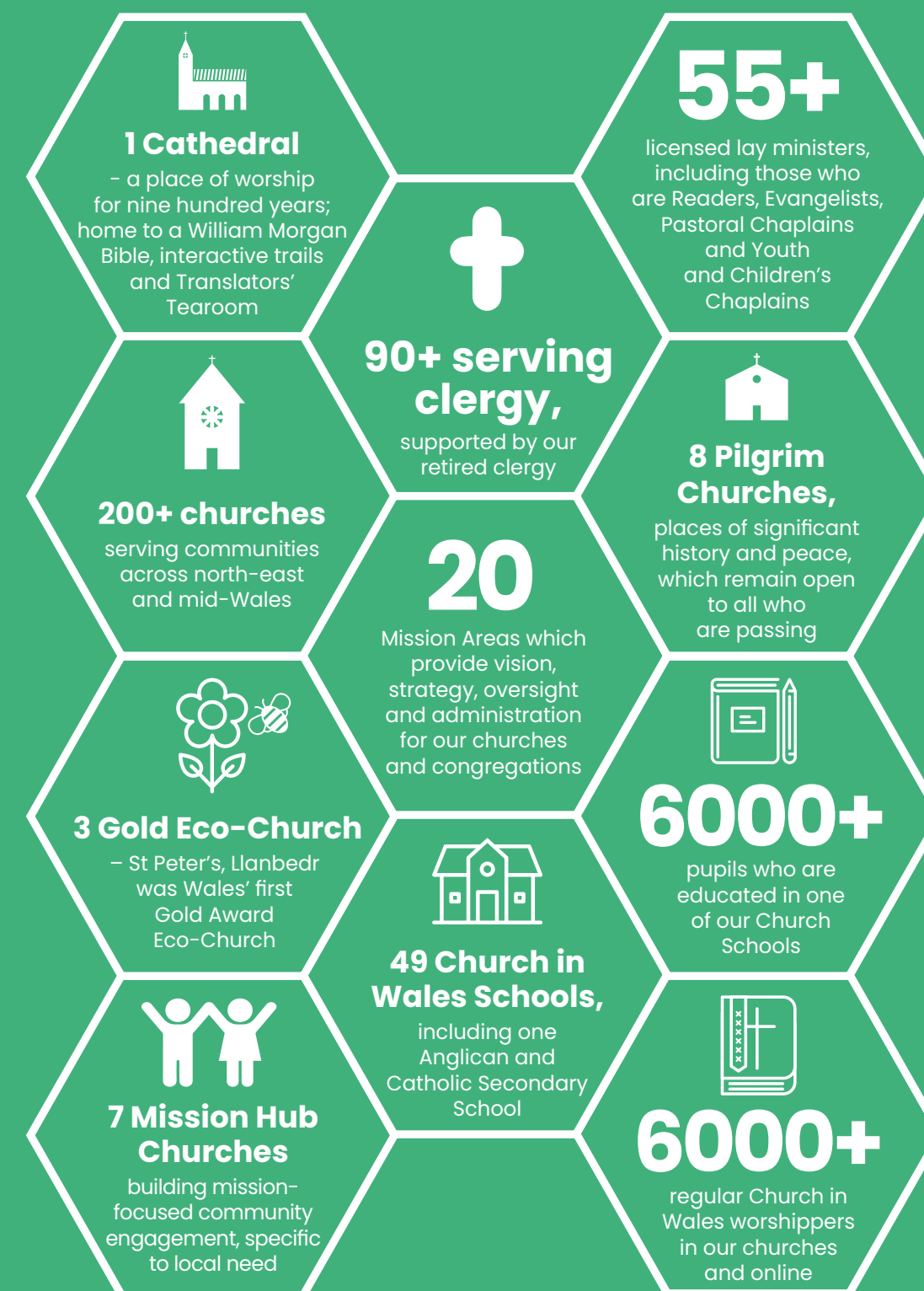
Geographically, the diocese follows the English/Welsh border in the east, whilst the western edge is delineated by the Conwy Valley. The northern boundary runs along the North Wales coast as far as Llandudno, but only takes in part of that town.

The southern boundary runs from the lower end of Llyn Tegid (Lake Bala) across to Dolfor, just south of Newtown in Powys. Ecclesiastically it is bordered by the dioceses of Chester, Lichfield and Hereford on the northern and eastern sides. To the south we border Swansea and Brecon diocese, and to the west, Bangor.

Large parts of the diocese are rural, but there are important and continually developing industrial and commercial areas around Deeside (one of the largest industrial parks in Europe) and Wrexham, home to an increasing popular and successful football club, and significant developments along the two main arterial roads (A55 and A483). The coastal strip is home to traditional holiday resorts and tourism is an important industry in many parts of the diocese.

In recent years, we've grouped our churches into Mission Areas and have been prayerfully exploring new forms of ministry. These include the opening of a Resource Church, Hope Street, in Wrexham in 2021, the development of Mission Hub Churches to resource best-practice in mission and ministry, and rural pioneer ministers to support rural communities. Covid and the cost-of-living crisis have left many in our communities struggling, and churches in a variety of settings are offering practical demonstrations of love to meet local need.

St Asaph offers a warm, friendly and inclusive welcome to all and we look forward to showing you more of God's work in this part of Wales.



Thank you

for considering joining our team

For full details, visit: dioceseofstasaph.org.uk/jobs

For an informal discussion about the role, contact:

Bishop Gregory: bishop.stasaph@cinw.org.uk

Archdeacon Andy: archdeacon.stasaph@cinw.org.uk or

Archdeacon Gerwyn: archdeacon.montgomery@cinw.org.uk



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TYFU FFYDD • DOD Â GOBAITH • DANGOS CARIAD
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