

Rectorial Benefice of Llandudno/Bywoliaeth Reithorol **Llandudno**

Welsh Language Policy

This Welsh Policy is the Parish of Llandudno's response to the Church in Wales' *Welsh Language Scheme* of 2007 and takes into account the guidelines issued to parishes by the Language Officer to help them implement this scheme.

Background to the Policy

The linguistic background

English is the main language in Llandudno and a large majority of our regular congregation, and most of the many visitors who attend our services, are not Welsh speakers. There are however, a significant number of Welsh speaking people in our congregation.

Both of the present stipendiary clergy of the parish have only a very limited knowledge of Welsh. They can lead worship in Welsh but not preach and are not able to converse in the language to any degree. We do, however, have several retired bilingual clergy who are part of our parish family. Of the eight Churchwardens and Sub-wardens only two are fluent in Welsh and of the other 13 members of the P.C.C. only one is Welsh speaking.

What we do at present

Almost all of our services are held in English though we do try to use a small amount of Welsh at most celebrations of the Eucharist (e.g. *'Yn enw'r Tad a'r Mab, a'r Ysbryd Glân*; the words of the Peace; and the Blessing). There is one Welsh service each week – *Yr Offeren* on Saturdays. Anyone who wishes may be given communion in Welsh at any celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharistic service books normally used are bilingual, but those used for Morning and Evening Prayer and most other services are English only. On request the occasional offices (baptisms, marriages and funerals) can be conducted partly or wholly in Welsh, though this very seldom happens.

Our work with children and young people and all parochial meetings and events are held exclusively in English. The weekly Parish Bulletin is wholly in English and the Parish Magazine is also almost completely English though Welsh articles are always welcome. Other parish literature/posters etc. are normally exclusively in English.

The Parochial Church Council has debated the matter of the use of Welsh in our parish depth and has consulted the Welsh speaking members of our church community. The Policy (printed overleaf) is the result of this deliberation.

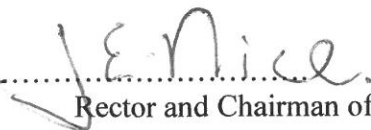
The Policy

As members of the Church in Wales we are proud to belong to a bilingual Church and wish to do all that we can in a mainly English speaking parish to further the use of the Welsh Language. We note that the new Church in Wales Language Scheme requires parishes to do what is appropriate and reasonable in their own particular circumstances. With all this in mind we make the following commitments:

- We will normally hold at least one service in Welsh each week.
- We will incorporate a small amount of Welsh at most celebrations of the Eucharist (at the discretion of the celebrant).
- Whenever practicable, Communion will be given in Welsh to those who request this.
- When requested, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be conducted partly or wholly in Welsh.
- When renewed, external notice boards in the parish will include the name of the Church in Wales, the parish and if practicable, the name of the church concerned, bilingually.
- Although we do not consider it a practical proposition to publish the Parish Magazine and the Sunday Bulletin in a fully bilingual form we will include Welsh at the head/on the cover of each of these publications and will encourage Welsh contributions to the Magazine.
- When practicable posters advertising events etc. will be produced bilingually or will include some Welsh.
- We will look at extending the use of Welsh on our parish website and will include information on the Site as to the use of the Welsh language in the parish.
- Parish headed notepaper will include both the name of the Church in Wales and the parish bilingually.
- Welsh Correspondence sent to the Rectory will be answered in Welsh.
- The normal language of parish organizations, meetings and events will continue to be English. However if in the future there is significant demand from parishioners for Bible study or discussion groups etc. to be held through the medium of Welsh we would consider providing these perhaps in co-operation with other local parishes or on an ecumenical basis.
- Parochial administration will continue to be conducted in English. We do not consider that at the present time it would be either practical or a good use of our resources to provide P.C.C. minutes, the Annual Report etc. bilingually. However if in the future there is a significant demand for these we will reconsider the matter.

This policy was agreed by the Parochial Church Council at its meeting held on

Signed.....



Rector and Chairman of the P.C.C.