

Kenneth Padley, Vicar of St Michaels with St Marys

Born in 1978, Kenneth attended Grange Primary (1982-90) and Bishop Gore Comprehensive Schools (1990-97) in Swansea. Among other childhood activities he spent many happy years as a Scout. He was baptised and confirmed in the parish of Llwynderw where he was Sacristan for four years.



Kenneth read Modern History at Exeter College Oxford (1997-2000) before working as Lay Assistant (general dogsbody) at St Barnabas Dulwich (2000-01). He trained for ordination at Cuddesdon near Oxford (2001-04) during which time he completed a BA in Theology and a Master of Studies (MSt) in Ecclesiastical History.

He was Assistant Curate of Central Swansea between 2004 and 2007. During this time he particularly enjoyed establishing a bilingual Schools Programme for primary and secondary aged students, looking after St Mary's church during a six-month interregnum, and serving as Chaplain to Swansea Sea Cadets.

Between 2007 and 2012 Kenneth worked in the Diocese of Bangor. As Anglican Chaplain to Bangor University he was involved in the pastoral care of students and staff. He coordinated the ecumenical Chaplaincy Team and took part in early conversations about the construction of a purpose-built chaplaincy centre on campus. As Warden of Church Hostel, Kenneth oversaw a residential student community, and (by necessity!) learned much about building and business management. As Diocesan Director of Ordinands (2011-12), Kenneth supported those in the diocese who were offering for Anglican ordination.

Kenneth and Anna Willerton met in Swansea St Marys in 2006 and were married there two years later. Anna is a trained teacher. She is currently working as a Teaching Assistant in a secondary school in St Albans. They have a son.

Kenneth's hope in ministry is to be a sign and agent of God's Kingdom. When not haring around the parish on his bike he loves spending time with his family, cinema, food & wine, reading, and music (jazz and heavy metal excepted!) He will happily watch and – unsuccessfully - play most sports. Days of student travel around Europe and South America seem a distant memory. Kenneth has a research interest in Reformation doctrine and exegesis, having completed a doctorate on the Reception History of Hebrews in England 1547-1685. He has done a small amount of writing and lecturing in this field.