

A former action man charity worker has taken over as team vicar in a Cardiff suburb.



Revd Peter Mortimer, who has been the curate in the Rectorial Benefice of Whitchurch for the past four years, has been licensed as Team Vicar.

He moves to Rhiwbina where he will have special responsibility for All Saints Church – taking over from Revd Andrew James who has moved to Dinas Powys after seven years.

The son of a priest, Peter, worked for the charity Care for the Family in Taffs Well, where he ran the outdoors pursuits programme for families and young people.

After being ordained at Llandaff Cathedral in 2010, he worked originally as a Non-Stipendiary Minister, carrying out his work for the Church alongside his paid work. He became a full-time priest 18 months ago.

“Growing up in the church and being the son of a priest meant that the idea of a calling was always there, but I had to make sure that it was my calling,” said Peter, 53, who is married to Lois, a midwife, and has two children aged 18 and 16.

“I spent 15 years working for a Christian charity which was a form of ministry focusing on families and young people. I continued this focus on families during my time as a curate as well as working ecumenically – I hope to continue this type of work in my new post. I see my ministry as very much mission based – going out into the community instead of waiting for the community to come into church to find me.”

He was licensed by the Assistant Bishop of Llandaff, David Wilbourne, in a special service at All Saints Church, Rhiwbina.

“Peter has already set an impressive track record in the Whitchurch Benefice, and will put himself at Rhiwbina’s disposal, following in the steps of Jesus, who came to serve rather than be served. Several people came up to me before he even began and told me how brilliant he was at putting himself into the midst, his concern genuine and heartfelt,” said Bishop David.

“Peter clearly drinks Christ’s cup of suffering by entering into suffering, by getting alongside every wounded soul and proclaiming, by his very presence, that they are not alone, that Christ weeps with them. Every time I have met with Peter I have been humbled by his priestly presence, and so rejoice that that presence will now benefit all the people of Rhiwbina.”

In his spare time, Peter who hails from North Wales, where his father Revd William Raymond Mortimer was Rector of Llanrwst, is a keen armchair sportsman who is particularly passionate about football and rugby.

“I used to play football in my younger days but finally retired from playing at 39! I just watch now and go hill walking instead now to keep fit.”

Peter also enjoys contemporary music and reading.