

Yr Archesgob John Williams | Archbishop John Williams 1582 – 1650

Y bachgen a gafodd ei fedyddio yn yr eglwys hon a wnaeth lyfrgelloedd, gerddi, cerddoriaeth a hanes.
The boy baptized in this Church who made libraries, gardens, music and history happen.



Ganwyd John Williams yng Nghonwy yn 1582. Cafodd fywyd anghyffredin iawn, gan godi i'r uchelfannau a chwympo am yn ail. Roedd ei gartref teuluol ym Mharlwr Mawr, a safodd ar Chapel Street tan iddo gael ei ddymchwel yn 1948.

John Williams was born in Conwy in 1582. He lived an extraordinary life, alternating between meteoric rises and spectacular downfalls through a turbulent period of history. His family home was Parlwr Mawr which stood on Chapel Street until it was demolished in 1948.

◀ Parlwr Mawr: Caniatâd: Gwasanaeth Archifau Conwy, CCBC
 Parlwr Mawr: Permission: Conwy Archive Service CCBC



▶ Archesgob John Williams
 Archbishop John Williams



Cyn y Rhyfel Cartref cafodd ei gloi am dair blynedd yn Nhŵr Llundain ac fe gollodd lawer o'i eiddo. Ar ôl cael ei ryddhau cafodd ei wneud yn Archesgob Efrog, cyn cael ei anfon yn ôl i'r tŵr am gyfnod byr. Pan ddechreuodd y Rhyfel Cartref yn 1642 roedd John, a oedd yn dal yn cefnogi Brenin Siarl, yn dymuno dychwelyd i Gonwy. Atgyweiriodd y castell a gadawodd i bobl y dref gadw eu heiddo gwerthfawr ynddo.

Before the Civil War, he was locked up for 3 years in the Tower of London and lost much of his property. On his release, he was made Archbishop of York, before being sent briefly back to the Tower. When the Civil War began in 1642, Williams, still strongly supportive of King Charles, requested that he might return to Conwy. He made repairs to the castle, and allowed the townsfolk to store their valuables inside.

Yn 1644 anfonwyd Syr John Owen, cyd-frenhinwr, i reoli'r castell a'i gynnwys. Gwnaeth hyn John Williams yn flin iawn, ac ymwahanodd o'r Brenin.



▶ Syr John Owen / Sir John Owen

In 1644, Sir John Owen, a fellow Royalist, was sent to take control of the castle along with its contents. This move greatly angered Williams and set him apart from the King.



▶ Llyfrgell Coleg Sant Iwan, Caergrawnt / St John's College Cambridge Library



▶ Llyfrgell Abaty San Steffan: Caniatâd Casgliad Abaty San Steffan Westminster Abbey Library: Permission Westminster Abbey Collection

Roedd yn ysgolhaig arbennig a ddechreuodd ei yrfa yn yr eglwys. Esgynnodd yn gyflym a dan deyrnasiad Iago'r Cyntaf cafodd ei wneud yn Ddeon San Steffan, Esgob Lincoln ac yna'n Arglwydd Geidwad y Sêl – cyfuniad o Uwch Farnwr a Changhellor. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, sefydlodd John lyfrgelloedd Coleg Sant Iwan, Caergrawnt ac Abaty San Steffan. Fo hefyd a ariannodd waith adeiladu capel Coleg Lincoln yn Rhydychen. Roedd yn gymwynaswr pwysig i sawl achos.

He was a brilliant scholar who began his career in the Church. He rose quickly and King James I made him Dean of Westminster, Bishop of Lincoln and then Lord Keeper of the Great Seal: a combination of Senior Judge and Chancellor. During this period, Williams founded the libraries of St John's College, Cambridge and of Westminster Abbey. He also funded the construction of the chapel of Lincoln College, Oxford. He was an outstanding benefactor to many causes.

Ond pan fu farw'r Brenin Iago yn 1625, collodd ei fri dan Siarl y Cyntaf a chafodd ei alltudio i Buckden ger Caergrawnt, lle cododd lyfrgell arall a gardd hardd. Yn ystod cyfnod a oedd yn un gweddol dawel, roedd yn dal yn cael ei erlyn gan ei wrthwynebwyr.

When James I died in 1625, Williams fell from favour under Charles I, and was banished to Buckden near Cambridge, where he built another library and a beautiful garden. During what was a fairly idyllic time, he was still pursued by his opponents.



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The most Reverend Father in God John Williams, Sometime Lth Keeper of the Great Seal of England, Bishop of Lincoln, And Lth Archbishop of York London printed for Sth Iwano



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Gwelodd John fod achos y brenhinwyr wedi'i gollu yng ngogledd Cymru a dyma fo'n cwrdd ac yn ymuno â'r seneddwr, y Cadfridog Mytton. Ar 9 Awst 1646, gyda chymorth John Williams, ymosododd Mytton ar furiau'r castell a chipio Conwy. Syrthiodd y castell, gyda Syr John Owen yn dal tu mewn, dair mis yn ddiweddarach. Yn ystod y gwarchae rhoddodd John Williams bregeth danbaid ewog yn yr eglwys sydd y tu ôl i chi. Ni chafodd faddeuant gan rai am newid ochr ond bu i'w bragmatiaeth achub Conwy rhag y dinistr a welwyd mewn cadarnleoedd eraill.

Williams saw that the Royalist cause was lost in N. Wales and met and joined the Parliamentarian, General Mytton. On August 9th 1646, with Williams's help, Mytton attacked the walls and took Conwy. The castle, with Sir John Owen still there, fell 3 months later. During the siege Williams preached a famous rousing sermon in the Church behind you. Some never forgave him for changing sides but his pragmatism saved Conwy from the destruction wreaked on other fortress towns.

▶ Castell Conwy: Morgan Ditchburn
 Conwy Castle: Morgan Ditchburn

Bu farw Archesgob John Williams yn 1650 ym Mhlas Gloddaeth ger Llandudno. Cafodd ei gladdu, gyda'r holl anrhydeddau, yn Eglwys Sant Tegai ym Mangor.

Archbishop John Williams died in 1650 at Gloddaeth Hall near Llandudno. He was buried, with full honours in St Tegai's Church, Bangor.

◀ Cefeb yn Eglwys Sant Tegai, Bangor / Memorial at St Tegai's Church, Bangor



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