

## GRIFFITH, EDMUND (1570-1637), bishop

**Name:** Edmund Griffith  
**Date of birth:** 1570  
**Date of death:** 1637  
**Spouse:** Gwen ferch Morris ap Gruffydd  
**Parent:** Griffith ap John Griffith  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** bishop  
**Area of activity:** Religion

Born in 1570, the fourth son of [Griffith ap John Griffith](#) of Cefn Amwlch, Llŷn. Educated at Brasenose, Oxford (B.A. 1589; M.A. 1592; B.D. 1599), he became rector of Llandwrog 1596-1637, canon of Bangor 1600, sinecure rector of Llanfor, Meironnydd 1601, rector of Llanbedrog 1604, archdeacon of Bangor 1606, dean of Bangor 1613-33, and bishop of Bangor 1633-7. By his wife Gwen, daughter of Morris ap Gruffydd of Methlan, Llŷn [[J. E. Griffith](#), *Pedigrees*, 271], he had fifteen children. He died 26 May 1637.

As dean, his relations with [bishop Lewis Bayly](#) were strained. They quarrelled over the administration of Friars School, Bangor, and their many differences brought them before the star chamber and the privy council. Their enmity probably formed part of the greater feud between [John Griffith](#) of Cefn Amwlch, the dean's nephew, and [Sir John Wynn](#) of Gwydir, supported by the bishop (see under [Sir John Wynn](#), and [Griffith family](#) of Cefn Amwlch). As bishop, he was accused by parishioners of Bangor in January 1637 of having appointed churchwardens who levied an illegal rate for the maintenance of the cathedral fabric and, in the same month, the parishioners of Beddgelert petitioned him against the appointment of a non-preaching and non-Welsh speaking curate. He held a synod of the clergy of his diocese in November 1636.

Bishop Edmund Griffith has been confused with [EDMUND GRIFFITH](#) (1559 - 1617) of Carreglwyd, Anglesey.

### Sources

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**Published date:** 1959

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