

## MORGAN, JOHN (1743 - 1801), cleric

**Name:** John Morgan  
**Date of birth:** 1743  
**Date of death:** 1801  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** cleric  
**Area of activity:** Religion  
**Author:** Robert Thomas Jenkins

Born in Cardiganshire. A list of priests in the Bangor diocese (1778) notes Morgan, curate of Llanberis, as being aged 38. He may, therefore, have been born in 1740. NLW [Cwrtmawr MS. 56iiB](#) has the name 'John Morgan, Gorsvawr, Lledrod', perhaps indicating his birthplace.

He was educated at Ystrad Meurig, was curate of Gwnnws and Lledrod, Cardiganshire, for a period which ended in December 1771. In 1772 he succeeded [Evan Evans](#) (1731 - 1789) as curate of Llanberis (the rector of Llan-rug and Llanberis, [Peter Bailey Williams](#) resided at Llan-rug); his stipend was £24; he lived at T -isa, and kept a school at which [David Thomas](#), Dafydd Ddu Eryri (1759 - 1822) was a pupil in 1774.

Morgan became so celebrated as a preacher that people flocked to hear him from remote parts. When [David Mathias](#), the Moravian missionary, came to Nantlle, a friendship sprang up between him and Morgan, who was greatly influenced by his teachings; correspondence between the two men continued after [Mathias's](#) departure, and Morgan welcomed [Mathias's](#) return to Caernarvon in 1788. It is clear that Morgan (though perhaps not in a strictly official sense) was now a Moravian, for the monthly Moravian society met at his house once in every three months. In 1793, however, the two men fell out, and [Mathias](#) left North Wales for good. When the Moravian, Christian Ignatius La Trobe, visited Wales in 1795 he called on John Morgan, noted his dire poverty, and obtained an annuity of £16 for him from London.

Morgan died in 1801 - he was buried on 30 March, 'aged 58.' He was twice married.

He printed two of his sermons: [Udgorn dydd grâs](#), etc., published at Shrewsbury, 1773 (a sermon upon the earthquake of 22 April 1773), and [Y Testamentwr](#), published by [David Jones](#) at Trefriw, 1783.

### Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

### Sources

Henry Hughes, in *Cymru (O.M.E.)*, xii, 297-301

for Morgan's connections with Moravianism, see *Y Cymmrodor*, xlv

Information from G. T. Roberts

### Additional Links

VIAF: [41713597](#)

Wikidata: [Q20733561](#)

**Published date:** 1959

**Article Copyright:** <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/>

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).

