



**NEWSLETTER  
THE PARISHES OF  
OUR LADY AND ST PATRICK MAESTEG  
ST. ROBERT ABERKENFIG**

Telephone: 01656 733282 Parish Mobile 07964 366710  
Parish Website <https://maestegcatholicchurch.org.uk>

**HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS: PLEASE INFORM FR TIM McGRATH 01656 652034**

**Parish Secretaries: Maesteg:** Margaret Buckley Mobile Number 07712 625493

**Aberkenfig:** Bernadette Lewis 07854 699349

**Safeguarding Officer:** (Aberkenfig&Maesteg); Mrs. Catherine Devonshire

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019</b>  <i>Maesteg: Retiring Collection Flowers for Christmas</i>	Aberkenfig 9am	<b>Father Dewi Davies <i>RIP (BL)</i></b> <b>People of the Parishes</b>
	Maesteg 11 am School Mass	<b>Margaret &amp; Eddie Carroll <i>RIP (LT)</i></b> <b>Readers: Maria Cahalane &amp; Paul Donoghue BP Bernard Rawlings</b>
	Maesteg 4.45pm	<b>Hayden &amp; Nell Burns <i>RIP (MLD)</i></b> <b>Readers: Michael Lawler BP Michelle Bumford</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>ND</sup> December 2019</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	Maesteg 10 am	<b>Margaret &amp; Will Lambert <i>RIP (ML)</i></b> <b>Reader: Tess White</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019</b> St Francis Xavier	Aberkenfig 10 am Aberkenfig 10.30-11 am	<b>Special Intention Freida De Sousa</b> <b>Exposition and Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	Maesteg 11 am	<b>Requiem Mass</b> <b>John O'Connor (Jack) <i>RIP</i></b>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	Aberkenfig 9am	<b>Special Intention</b> <b>Hycinth &amp; Paul Cobb </b>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Advent	Maesteg 10 am  10.30 am to 6 pm  5.30 to 6.25 pm 6.30 pm Holy Mass	<b>Ann &amp; Jim Keane <i>RIP (CE&amp;f)</i></b> <b>Reader: Keith Lewis</b>  <b>Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>  <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>  <b>Nellie Thomas <i>RIP (CT)</i></b>
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> St Ambrose	Maesteg 9.30 am  10.30 am	<b>Ita Laydon (Co Sligo) <i>RIP (C,E&amp;f)</i></b> <b>Reader: Maria Cahalane</b>  <b>Blessing of the Crib outside Council Offices Talbot Street. Our pupils singing.</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 8th December 2019</b>  <b>Maesteg: SVP Christmas Appeal</b>   <b>Our Lady &amp; St Patrick Parish Blessed Sacrament Lamp: Special Intention Our Blessed Lady's Lamp: Sick of the Parish</b>	Aberkenfig 9 am	<b>Christopher Smith <i>RIP (CT)</i></b> <b>People of the Parishes</b>
	Maesteg 11 am	<b>Murphy &amp; Butler families <i>RIP (MB&amp;f)</i></b> <b>Kathleen &amp; Daniel Donnelly <i>RIP (ND)</i></b> <b>Readers: Keith Lewis &amp; Eirlys Furlong BP Maria Browne</b>
	Maesteg 4.45 pm	<b>Kathryn Richards <i>RIP (GBG)</i></b> <b>Readers: Angela Brennan BP Michael Lawler</b>

**ADVENT:** A period of Preparation for the coming of the Lord. During this Advent season we also begin “THE YEAR OF THE WORD 2020”. We would therefore focus on how to listen to the Word of God and Keep it, for “The Word of God is something is alive and active...” (Hebrews 4:12). There are WALK WITH ME-Advent Booklet to help with our meditation in preparation for the coming of the Lord at back of the Church for £1 each. The Gospel of Matthew and other resources would be available for those who would like to come together to study and share the Word of God.

**ETERNAL REST:** Please pray for the Repose of the Souls of :

Mr John O’Connor who passed away on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019. His Requiem Mass is on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 11am at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg.

Mr. Neal Brian Campbell, who Passed away on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019. His Funeral Service is on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 1.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium.

Mrs. Mary Paget, who Passed on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019. Her Requiem Mass is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 10.30am at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Eternal Glory. May our sympathies go to the bereaved families.

**FAITH & BIBLE SHARING:** There will be Faith and Bible Sharing this Thursday at 6 pm at the Presbytery Hall, Maesteg. Tea & Coffee will be served. All interested persons are welcome. **RCIA:** People seeking to be received into communion with the Catholic Church are invited to this and every Thursday to the Bible and Faith sharing at 6pm in the Presbytery Hall.

**WELSH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2020:** Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Return flight from Bristol, Hotel Grace, 23kg Luggage Allowance, Breakfast and Dinner, Local Guide, Full Religious Programme & 100% Financial Protection at £569. Full details on Parish Notice Board. Interested persons should please contact Jenifer at Maesteg and AnneRaynolds at Aberkenfig or Fr. Edmund.

**PARISHES AND SCHOOLS OF OUR LADY & ST PATRICK & ST ROBERT CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 6 pm, at Maesteg. Afterwards in the School Hall for refreshments; bring a plate to share. A night to wear your Christmas Jumpers!

**PROVISION OF SCHOOL TRANSPORT BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH** The Local Authority are again looking at the provision of transport to schools. Details of the consultation process can be found using this link: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/equalities-and-engagement/consultations/current-consultations/>

The main changes in the proposal are to withdraw transport for all nursery aged pupils, siblings will no longer be protected to travel under the old guidelines (as they were previously) and the distance of transport allowed will be increased to greater than 2 miles (previously 1.5 miles). This is a negative impact on our Catholic Schools. We are urged to complete the response online using the above link.

### **PARISH OF OUR LADY & SAINT PATRICK, MAESTEG**

**FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION** : Thursday at 4pm at the Presbytery Hall. Let us pray for the children and their families.

**PARISH COLLECTIONS: 17<sup>TH</sup>/24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER:** Gift Aid £904.90 , Planned/Loose £ 387.65, Restoration £268.83, Maintenance £188.36, Maintenance White Box £143.30.

**RETIRING COLLECTION next Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Annual Appeal by the SVP.**

**WINCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET DAY TRIP** - Next Saturday, 7<sup>TH</sup> December 2019, leaving Commercial Street entrance of Church at 7.45 am prompt, calling at Aberkenfig.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** Thank you for your support. Draw takes Wednesday, 11th December.

**BLESSING OF THE CRIB OUTSIDE COUNCIL OFFICES SATURDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019 AT 10.30 AM. OUR PUPILS SINGING.**

### **PARISH OF ST ROBERT’S ABERKENFIG**

**CHRISTMAS MEAL:** meet 12.30 pm for 1pm. Please remember a wrapped gift. Thanks.

**COLLECTIONS 24<sup>th</sup> November:** Gift Aid £185, Loose £83.90.

**ADVENT PRAYER & BREAKFAST:** This Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30 am in the Church, followed by breakfast in the Sacristy **PLEASE COME ALONG.**

**ADVENT REFLECTION:** Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7 pm. Come along and enjoy a quiet time of preparation for the Nativity of the Lord.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TO SUPPORT PARISH FUNDS:** Tickets available, draw Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at the Christmas Afternoon Tea, Coytrahen, 3 to 5 pm. If you can support by providing suitable raffle prizes we would be very grateful. MANY THANKS. **Afternoon tea tickets available, £5 adult, £2.50 child. Hope you can come along!**

**2020 LOURDES PILGRIMAGE**: Monday 7 – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Full Board Cost Approx. £550 - £600, Details on the notice board or contact Deacons Robert Coyne (783540) Anthony Martin (772270) of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Porthcawl, for more details.