



**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

2nd Sunday of Advent 8th December 2019 <i>Maesteg Retiring Collection SVP Christmas Appeal</i>	Aberkenfig 9am	Christopher Smith <i>RIP (CT)</i> People of the Parishes
	Maesteg 11 am School Mass	Murphy & Butler families <i>RIP (MB&f)</i> Kathleen & Daniel Donnelly <i>RIP (ND)</i> Readers: Keith Lewis & Eirlys Furlong BP Maria Browne
	Maesteg 4.45pm	Kathryn Richards <i>RIP (GBG)</i> Readers: Angela Brennan BP Michael Lawler
Monday 9th December 2019 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Maesteg 10 am Aberkenfig 7 pm	Pope's Intentions (SVP) Special Intention (L,A & F) Reader: Maria Browne Advent Reflections
Tuesday 10th December 2019 Second Week of Advent St John Roberts Priest & Martyr of Wales	Aberkenfig 10 am Aberkenfig 10.30-11 am Maesteg 7 pm – 8 pm LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU	Peter Reynolds Exposition and Sacrament of Reconciliation Deanery Reconciliation/Confessions with visiting priests
Wednesday 11th December 2019 2nd Week of Advent	Maesteg 10.30 am	Ona Worrell <i>RIP (F&VK)</i> Reader: Michelle Bumford
Thursday 12th December 2019 2nd Week of Advent Our Lady of Guadalupe	Aberkenfig 9.30 am St Roberts School 10.30 am – 11.30 am	Special Intention (Morgan family) (M&M) Deanery Reconciliation for Schools
Friday 13th December 2019 St Lucy 6.30 pm Holy Mass (Open Forum on the Word of God) Reader: Keith Lewis	Maesteg 10 am 10.30 am – 11.30 am 10.30 am to 6 pm 5.30 pm to 6.25 pm 6.30 pm Holy Mass	Thanksgiving 60th Birthday (Maria Browne) Reader: Tess White Deanery Reconciliation for Schools Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Kathleen Donnelly <i>RIP (P&CD)</i>
Saturday 14th December 2019 St John of the Cross	Maesteg 10 am – 1 pm Joint Advent Retreat	Holy Mass - Sheila Allan <i>RIP (MD)</i> Reader: Eirlys Furlong
3rd Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday 15th December 2019 Our Lady & St Patrick Parish Blessed Sacrament Lamp: <i>Special Intention</i> Our Blessed Lady's Lamp: <i>Sick of the Parish</i>	Aberkenfig 9 am	Margaret Williams/Ron Richards/ Valerie Collins <i>RIP</i> People of the Parishes
	Maesteg 11 am	Matthew Morgan, Martin & Catherine Burns <i>RIP (MLD)</i> Readers: Paul Donoghue & Eileen Davies BP Bernard Rawlings.
	Maesteg 4.45 pm	Nancy & Terry Hayes <i>RIP (TP&S)</i> Readers: Michelle Bumford BP Grandchildren



ADVENT: A period of Preparation for the coming of the Lord. There will be other Priests from the Deanery to hear confessions on Tuesday, 10th December from 7pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick, Thursday, 12th December from 10.30 am at St. Robert School and Friday, 13th December from 10.30 am at Our Lady & St. Patrick.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to be reconciled with the Lord for the coming of Christ Jesus Our Lord.

JOINT ADVENT RETREAT: On Saturday, 14th December 2019, from 10am -1pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick. There will be “Bring and Share Lunch”. *All are cordially invited.*

ETERNAL REST: Please pray for the Repose of the Souls of **Mr. Neal Brian Cambell**, who Passed away on 18th November 2019. His Funeral Service is on Wednesday 11th December 2019 at 1.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium. And **Mrs. Mary Paget**, who Passed on 22nd November 2019. Her Requiem Mass is on Monday 16th 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 22nd – 29th 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, 20th 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: 2nd December: Gift Aid £370.50 , Planned/Loose £163.44, Flowers £219.74.

RETIRING COLLECTION next Sunday 15th December – Restoration Fund.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Thank you for your support. Draw takes place on Wednesday. 300 Plus Club for November and Special December will also be drawn on Wednesday at Coffee Morning.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Arranged by the Llynfi Valley Council of Churches, by the Crib outside the Council Offices, Talbot Street, this Saturday, 14th December at 10.30 am.

PARISH OF ST ROBERT'S ABERKENFIG

COLLECTIONS 1st December: Gift Aid £130, Loose £84, Church Maintenance £20.

ADVENT REFLECTION: Monday, 9th 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 15th 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 and enjoy a great afternoon with friends.**

FOODBANK: as we prepare for Christmas let us remember those less fortunate than ourselves – Christmas foodstuffs would be much appreciated.

2020 LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: Monday 7 – Friday 11th September 2020. Full Board Cost Approx. £550 - £600, Please contact the notice board or Deacons Robert Coyne/Anthony Martin of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Porthcawl for more details.