

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



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EASTER SUNDAY MESSAGE FROM FATHER EDMUND

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Today the Risen Lord Jesus Christ says to us "Peace be with you". Let our hearts be filled with peace and Joy, and sing Alleluia to His Holy Name.

He who is the Light of the world has overcome darkness; He who is "the Way, the Truth and the Life" has conquered Death. Christ Jesus Our Lord and 'Brother' is victorious and His Triumph, as our Head, is ours as the 'Body of Christ'.

Throughout this Coronavirus Pandemic, the Lord Jesus has been by our side in our many prayers and devotions and Holy Masses celebrated privately by myself and priests all over the world.

I trust that, with the Risen Lord, we will surely rise above this challenge and emerge victorious from our tombs (Lockdown) at the end, celebrating our blessings and giving thanks to God for His wondrous Love and Redemption through the Paschal Mystery and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us continue to pray for one another, especially for our Catechumen Michelle and candidates, William and Grace who, but for this lockdown, would have been Baptised and Received into the Church this Easter, that their faith may be strengthened with the hope of being in full communion in the Church and our Parish family at God's own time.

May our hearts be filled with the Light of Christ, that we may remain faithful followers of the Risen Lord, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Hopefully, please God, through the intercession of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ, our Brother and Saviour and Our Blessed Mother Mary, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may see each other soon to celebrate our oneness as a Parish Family. Stay forever blessed and remain in God's Love and care.

I wish you, your families and all your love ones, Peace, Love and Joy of Easter. God Love You All!

United in Prayers,
Fr. Edmund

MASS INTENTIONS: Father Edmund will continue to celebrate a private Mass each day during this period. On Sundays, Father will celebrate Mass for all the People of both Parishes. On other days in addition to Mass for the people he will pray for a specific intention. Due to the fact that we have now only one Mass on Sunday, Sunday intentions already received will be moved to weekdays. If you wish to submit an intention for a Mass, please do so via Parish Mobile (number above), clearly stating the intention for which the Mass is to be offered and your preferred date. Father agrees to celebrate these Masses on trust and the Mass Offering can be made when things return to normal.

Easter Vigil, 11th April: Jules & Renea Lagaule RIP (MM)

Easter Sunday 12th April: People of our Parishes.

Monday 13th: Maureen and Jack Jenkins RIP (C&TJ)

Tuesday: 14th April: Winnie Hollyman RIP & Mary Hale RIP

Wednesday: 15th April: NHS Staff and Frontline Workers/Volunteers (M&f)

Thursday: 16th April: Joan Thomas RIP (CT) & Margaret James RIP

Friday: 17th April: Kathleen Thomas RIP (CW)

Saturday: 18th Archbishop George Stack and Priests and Sisters of the Archdiocese (MB)

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) 19th April: People of our Parishes.

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS, THE SICK & DYING: Sadly because of the restrictions Priests are unable to visit the sick in hospital or at home at this time. If you have sick or dying family, please do continue to contact Father Edmund (07964366710) who will discuss the way forward.

FUNERALS: Please be advised that Priests and Deacons can only conduct a Funeral service in the Crematorium or at the graveside during this time. No Requiem Masses or services are allowed in Church. A Memorial Service for those deceased may be held later once all returns to normal.

ETERNAL REST: Please pray for the repose of the Souls of MARGARET CATHERINE JAMES (nee Carroll), whose funeral will take place on Thursday 16th April 2020 at 9am at Coychurch Crematorium; JOAN PATRICIA THOMAS, whose funeral will take place on Thursday 16th April 2020 at 11.30am at Sarn Cemetary; and WILLIAM NICHOLAS WHITTY whose funeral will take place on 24th April 2020 at 11am at Coychurch Crematorium. May they rest in peace and rise in Eternal Glory. May our sympathies and prayers be with their families. *We continue to pray for those who have anniversaries at this time.*

Divine Mercy Sunday: *Next Sunday is celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. St. Pope John Paul II declared Divine Mercy Sunday as a Feast of the Universal Church in 2000, on the occasion of the Canonisation of Sister Faustina Kowalska. St. Faustina was prompted by the Lord to promote the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.*

The Novena for the Divine Mercy begun on Good Friday. Be encouraged to join in if you have not started already, for 'It better late than never' as it is said.



'Yes as the rain and the snow came down from the Night) heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.' Isaiah 55:11(The Easter Vigil



To maintain and develop our faith and spiritual life, we will like to encourage all Parishioners to join in prayers and devotions in the comfort of their homes:

Please create a sacred space in your home.

Pray the Holy Rosary daily individually or as a family

Read and reflect on the daily readings of the Mass

Join the live Streaming Mass online or EWTN if you have SKY TV at Channel 588

Pray the Act of Spiritual Communion

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least Spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP GEORGE STACK:

Please continue to pray for those suffering with Coronavirus, those who have died from the virus and most importantly plead for the end of the pandemic

A Plenary Indulgence is available to all who pray for these intentions under the usual conditions of making Sacramental Confession, Holy Communion (both as soon as possible after the lockdown) and prayers for the intentions of Pope Francis (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be). Acts to be performed for the indulgence include read the Holy Scriptures for at least half an hour, or recite the Rosary or the Way of the Cross. As is evident to all, the recitation of prayers and the reading of the Bible can be done without leaving home, and therefore in full compliance with the rules to counter the spread of the virus.

PRAYER FOR THIS TIME OF TRIAL: God Our Father, each person is precious to You. You are the Giver of life. Have mercy on us and protect us at this time, as the Coronavirus threatens health and life. You are an ever-present Helper in time of trouble. Watch over those who are suffering, Give strength to those who are aiding the Sick and give courage to all in this time of anxiety. Amen.

PRAYER FOR US IN THIS TIME OF NEED:

Heavenly Father, who sent the ten plagues to free his children, and protected them by the blood of the Lamb, bless all those affected by the Coronavirus. Encourage and strengthen those who seek a cure. Protect all who care or work in the NHS. Send your Holy Angels to guard us and bring us safely through this time of trial. May your Holy Mother care for us as she did for the sick child Jesus. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Follow this with one Our Father, three Hail Marys) Our Lady of Lourdes. Pray for us. St. Raphael Archangel. Pray for us. St Luke, the Physician. Pray for us. St. Bernadette. Pray for us.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

‘O Mary You shine continuously along our journey as a sign of salvation and hope “We entrust ourselves to you. Health of the Sick, who at the Cross were near to the pain of Jesus Keeping your faith firm. “You, Salvation of the Roman people, Know what we need, and we trust that you will provide for those needs so that, as at Cana of Galilee joy and celebration may return after this moment of trial “Help us. Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the father and to do what Jesus tells us, He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and took up our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas. We who are put to the test And deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Online Resources which can support our prayer life during this time when we will be unable to worship publicly.

- **Daily Mass Readings can be found at: <https://universalis.com/mass.htm>**
- **Magnificat - a spiritual guide to help you develop your prayer life is offering its resources free during the current crises – <https://us.magnificat.net/free>**
- **Daily Mass is broadcast in English on: EWTN at 12noon**
(<https://www.ewtn.co.uk/live/tv>) o **Shalom World TV at 10am – repeated at 10pm**
(Follow this with one Our Father, three Hail Marys) **Our Lady of Lourdes. Pray for us. St. Raphael Archangel. Pray for us. St Luke, the Physician. Pray for us. St. Bernadette. Pray for us.**

(<https://shalomworld.org/watchlive>)

Both EWTN and Shalom World produce Mass of broadcast quality. If however you are happy to watch less polished events via webcams you can access many from the UK and elsewhere at: <https://www.churchservices.tv/> - you can search by Church or Mass time. In addition – a full list of the churches can be found here: > <https://rcadc.org/staying-connected/>

Resources to – aid to your prayer of the Rosary can be found here:

<https://www.rosarycentre.org/homepage-2/rosary/how-to-pray-the-rosary>

Aids to praying the Chaplet of Mercy can be found here:

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>

CARDIFF PEOPLE: Many of you will be used to picking up a copy of the Catholic People – the Official Newspaper of the Archdiocese each month. Due to the closure of the churches, the April Edition of the Catholic People is online. This month’s paper includes a tribute to the late Archbishop Smith along with other articles of interest to people across the Archdiocese.

Websites for Catholic newspapers are:

catholicherald.co.uk

thecatholicuniverse.com

NEWS AND UPDATES CAN BE FOUND BY CLICKING ON THE NEWS TAB AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN ON THE WEBSITE WHERE YOU WILL SEE A “DROP DOWN MENU” WITH THE RELEVANT ARTICLES.

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FUNDRAISING NEWS OUR LADY & ST PATRICK PARISH:

- **300 PLUS CLUB DRAW - MARCH AND APRIL 2020**
March: 1st (£50) Amira/Lola/Nancy & Lilah, C/o Mrs J Barry (56)
2nd (£30) Marilyn James (293) 3rd (£20) Norma Donoghue (195)
4th (£10) Kieron Petty (30)
April: 1st (£50) Mrs Kerry Thomas (244) 2nd (£30) Petrer Nessman (318)
3rd (£20) Ann Brennan (198) 4th (£10) Mr J Tompkins (334)
Cheques are being sent to home addresses.
- **The 2020 Easter Raffle** is cancelled on account of the current UK Lock-down regulations on self isolation and social distancing, which is expected to continue throughout April. Please retain and return any unused raffle tickets to church for when we open our doors once more for Holy Mass and congregation. Hold onto your ticket money for a **Grand Summer Raffle** to be launched on our return to Our Lady & St Patrick's in the early summer, where our theme will be beach, picnic and holidays!!!!!! We look forward to seeing you than at our opening Mass of thanksgiving. Further details to be announced in line with national developments and relaxing of social distancing regulations. ***Thank you for your continued support.***

STANDING ORDERS:

Thanks to Parishioners who have recently set up Standing Orders.

Donating to the Parish via Standing Order During this difficult time, the parishes still have expenses that will continue to mount even though there are no public acts of worship or regular collections. Your contributions are a very important part of our parish income and any parishioner who is able, and does not already donate in this way, is encouraged to set-up a standing order. You can do this through your own bank by phone, mobile or Internet banking. The details you need are contained in the form below. If you wish to complete a standing order on paper, please request a copy by contacting Parish Secretary; on receiving it please complete and send it to your own bank. One- off donations for example for 'Easter Offering' may also be made direct to the Parish Account using the appropriate sort code and account number from the forms below. I realise that these are uncertain times and that some of you may not be in a position to give as generously as you normally do. Thank you for your generous giving. Father Edmund.

To set up a standing order or Bank Transfer the details are as follows:

Bank Name: BARCLAYS BANK PLC

Account Name: OUR LADY AND ST PATRICK CHURCH, MAESTEG

Sort Code: 20-18-23

Account Number: 43706869

OR

Account Name: ST. ROBERT CHURCH, ABERKENFIG

Sort Code: 20-18-23

Account Number: 73394867

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To **Bank / Building Society ***

Address

..... **Post Code**.....

Please set up a new standing order to:

Barclays Bank PLC,

Sort Code: 20-18-23

Account Name:

PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PATRICK MAESTEG

Account No.: 43706869

Please debit my/our bank account as follows:

Account Name:

Account No.:

Sort Code:

the sum of £..... (amount in words)

starting on the..... day of (month)(year)

and on the same day every month until further notice.

Signature(s)

.....

Address

.....

..... **Post Code**

Please cancel any previous standing order in favour of the same beneficiary. This standing order supersedes all former arrangements.

Please send this form to your bank

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To **Bank / Building Society ***

Address

..... **Post Code**.....

Please set up a new standing order to:

Barclays Bank PLC,

Sort Code: 20-18-23

Account Name:

PARISH OF ST ROBERT ABERKENFIG

Account No.: 73394867

Please debit my/our bank account as follows:

Account Name:

Account No.:

Sort Code:

the sum of £..... (amount in words)

starting on the..... day of (month)(year)

and on the same day every month until further notice.

Signature(s)

.....

Address

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..... **Post Code**

Please cancel any previous standing order in favour of the same beneficiary. This standing order supersedes all former arrangements.

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