



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

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Edmund Neizer

Telephone: 01656 733282 Parish Mobile 07964 366710

Parish Website <https://maestegcatholicchurch.org.uk>

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

**Aberkenfig:** Bernadette Lewis 07854 699349

*Registered Charity 1177272*

**PENTECOST SUNDAY - MESSAGE FROM FATHER EDMUND**

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

May the peace and joy of the Lord be with you all.

The Feast of Pentecost brings to completion the season of Easter, and the birth of the Church, newly endowed with the power of the Holy Spirit, to begin her mission of evangelization mandated by Christ Jesus Our Lord.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us: "The mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church, which is the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit. This joint mission henceforth brings Christ's faithful to share in his communion with the Father in the Holy Spirit. The Spirit prepares men and goes out to them with his grace, in order to draw them to Christ. The Spirit manifests the risen Lord to them, recalls his word to them and opens their minds to the understanding of his Death and Resurrection. He makes present the mystery of Christ, supremely in the Eucharist, in order to reconcile them, to bring them into communion with God, that they may "bear much fruit."

The fruits of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory. The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: "charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity."

Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? (Acts 19:2) Beloved, we are known by our fruit. Can we identify the fruit of the spirit in our life?

Let us pray and ask the Lord for the gift of the Holy Spirit or for the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our life, for "The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. They belong in their fullness to Christ, Son of David. They complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them. They make the faithful docile in readily obeying divine inspirations."

Let pray and ask the Lord to let the Holy Spirit lead us on a level path. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons/daughters of God . . . If children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the Saints, We pray that the blessings and favour of God will rest upon each one of us, that united with the Word of God and empowered the Holy Spirit, we may be strengthened to faithfully fulfil the mission of the Church in our communities.

God love you all. United in prayer!

**A PENTECOST PRAYER**  
**A PRAYER FOR THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES**

+

**HELP US, LORD GOD, TO PRODUCE IN OUR LIVES**  
**THE FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

**GIVE US LOVE – LOVE FOR OUR FAMILIES, LOVE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES, LOVE FOR OTHERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE FAITH, LOVE FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS AND LOVE EVEN FOR THOSE WE DO NOT LIKE.**

**GIVE US JOY- JOY THAT GOES DEEPER THAN FUN AND EVEN DEEPER THAN HAPPINESS; JOY THAT ENDURES EVEN IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF.**

**GIVE US PEACE – PEACE, WHICH ENABLES US TO SLEEP WITH A CLEAR CONSCIENCE, AND PEACE, WHICH GIVES US ABSOLUTE CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.**

**GIVE US PATIENCE – PATIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY, PATIENCE AT OUR WORK, PATIENCE IN CHURCH.**

**GIVE US KINDNESS – KINDNESS EVEN WHEN WE ARE TIRED AND OUT OF SORTS AND KINDNESS TO ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL.**

**GIVE US GOODNESS – GOODNESS WHICH IS NOT SUPERFICIAL BUT WHICH SPRINGS FROM THE DEEPEST RECESSES OF CHARACTER.**

**GIVE US FAITHFULNESS – FAITHFULNESS TO GOD, TO OUR VOCATION TO THE CONSECRATED LIFE, FAITHFULNESS TO OUR FRIENDS.**

**GIVE US GENTLENESS – GENTLENESS DESPITE THE PRESSURES OF OUR WORLD TO COMPETE, TO WIN AND TO SUCCEED AT ALL COSTS.**

**GIVE US SELF-CONTROL – SELF-CONTROL EVEN WHEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE IRRITATING, FRIGHTENING OR TEMPTING.**

**WITH EVERY BLESSING FOR PENTECOST - AND BEYOND.**

+ George Stack

**NATIONAL ROSARY RALLY - ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY, 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 9 AM TO 9 PM**

The Pope still encourages simple Rosaries, and joining online Rosary initiatives to pray to Our Lady for deliverance from Covid-19 and has composed two prayers for this intention; available on “NEWS” tab on our Website..

Today, following on from His Holiness Pope Francis’ request, we are invited to join in this initiative - the Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally, from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm across Scotland England and Wales.

*Our Diocese has been asked to pray a Rosary Hour at 12.00 noon and you are warmly invited to take part. It does not matter what time during the specified hour that the Rosary is prayed. At 9 pm the Rosary Rally will end with a Rosary being led by Bishop John Keenan from St. Mirin’s Cathedral in Paisley.*

*I will continue to pray each day, in spiritual union with you all, the Rosary and the special prayers provided by His Holiness Pope Francis for the circumstances we all find ourselves in at this difficult time. Take care. God Bless. Father Edmund.*

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Father Edmund continues to celebrate a private Mass each day during this difficult period. On Sundays, Father celebrates Mass for all the People of both our Parishes, for the NHS, Care Home Staff and Frontline Workers/Volunteers. On other days in addition to Mass for the people he will pray for a specific intention. If you wish to submit an intention for a Mass, please do so via Parish Mobile (number above) or ring Parish Secretaries, 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.*

'..... after the example of the Apostles and disciples who with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, persevered in prayer, awaiting the Spirit promised by the Lord; like them, let us, too, listen with quiet hearts to the Word of God. Let us meditate on how many great deeds God in times past did for His people and let us pray that the Holy Spirit, whom the Father sent as the first fruits for those who believe, may bring to perfection his work in the world.'

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**PENTECOST SUNDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> May:**

**People of the Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers.**

**Monday: 1<sup>st</sup> June: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church  
Maureen Dawkin-Jones and Douglas Woodhatch RIP (CW)**

**Tuesday: 2<sup>nd</sup> June: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 9.  
Tom and Nell Caulfield RIP (M&RD)**

**Wednesday: 3<sup>rd</sup> June: St Charles Lwanga and Companions  
Eddie Buckley and Buckley family RIP (M&F)**

**Thursday: 4<sup>th</sup> June: Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest  
Terry Isaac RIP (BL)**

**Friday: 5<sup>th</sup> June: St Boniface  
David Treharne RIP (MB)**

**Saturday: 6<sup>th</sup> June: Votive Memorial of Our Lady  
Rosa (Jean) Seldon RIP (KR)**

**THE MOST HOLY TRINITY: SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> June:**

**People of our Parishes. NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers.**

**ETERNAL REST:** Let us pray for the Repose of the souls of EDDIE DOYLE (father of Father Michael Doyle) who died unexpectedly at his home in Cymmer on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May and DANTE ASCARI (Alina Thomas' father). May they rest in Perfect Peace and Rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to the bereaved families at this sad and difficult time.

**WE PRAY FOR**

- those suffering with Coronavirus and to the many who have died from the virus (*we plead for the end to the pandemic*)
- those who are working/volunteering in the NHS, Care Homes, on the frontline, in the fight against Coronavirus; WHICH INCLUDE SEVERAL OF OUR PARISHIONERS. (*Thank you for your care, love, commitment and compassion*)
- our Parishioners who are sick and housebound and for those who care for them
- our Parishioners undergoing tests and treatments
- our relatives, friends, neighbours and fellow parishioners during this difficult time of isolation (*let us be kind, keep safe, look after each other*)
- our Parishioners who have died recently. (*May they rest in peace and rise in Eternal Glory; our sympathies and prayers be with their families*).
- *our faithful departed Parishioners who have anniversaries at this time.*

**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.

**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 and FRONT LINE. 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.*

**PASTORAL CARE:** Sadly because of the restrictions Priests are unable to visit the sick in hospital or at home at this time. If you need Pastoral Care of any kind, please do not hesitate to contact Father Edmund (07964366710) who will discuss the way forward. Thanks

**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.

**All funerals will take place privately in line with current advice  
from the Welsh Assembly Government.**

**SUNDAY AND DAILY MASS:**

Father Tim You Tube, St Mary's Bridgend, 10 am onwards  
St Mary & All Saints, Stowhill, Newport (Father Michael Doyle)

- Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 6 pm - Weekday 10 am

St Teilo's, Whitchurch, Cardiff, 10 am (Canon William Isaac)

If you have no access to the internet and livestream Mass, a local telephone number has been set up which will lead you in a 10-15minute period of prayer and reflection relating to the Sunday readings.

Telephone: 01633 982483

Thanks for visiting "You Tube" and participating in the live streams within the Archdiocese, although we may be physically separated, we are spiritually united.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP GEORGE STACK  
"WHEN WILL OUR CHURCHES BE OPEN?"  
REFER TO ADDENDUM TO NEWSLETTER FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**THANKS:**

**STANDING ORDER PAYMENTS & BANK TRANSFERS FOR APRIL 2020**

**St Robert Parish: £155; Our Lady & St Patrick Parish £704.00.**

*Sincere thanks to all those who have responded giving via standing order to our Parishes.*

**Your contributions are a very important part of our parish income and are very much appreciated and it would be most helpful if you could consider giving your donations by setting up a Standing Order. You can do this through your own bank by telephone, mobile or Internet banking. The details you need are contained below.**

**(However, if this is something you feel you are unable to do by all means hold onto your offerings until you are next able to attend Church.)**

**It is understandable that in these difficult and uncertain times it may not be possible for people to give. Whatever your circumstances thank you for your prayers and support.**

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

**Bank Name: BARCLAYS BANK PLC  
CITY OF CARDIFF, BRANCH CARDIFF, CF1 1SG**

**Account Name: ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF  
PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PATRICK CHURCH, MAESTEG**

**Sort Code: 20-18-23**

**Account Number: 43706869**

**OR**

**Account Name: ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF  
PARISH OF ST. ROBERT CHURCH, ABERKENFIG**

**Sort Code: 20-18-23**

**Account Number: 73394867**

**(If you would prefer to complete the form below and are unable to have access to printer, contact the Parish Secretaries who will send you a copy to be completed, signed and send to your Bank.)**

**STANDING ORDER MANDATE**

**To .....** Bank / Building Society \*

**Address .....**

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

**Please set up a new standing order to:**

**Barclays Bank PLC,  
City of Cardiff Branch,  
Cardiff CF1 1SG**

**Sort Code: 20-18-23**

**Account Name: ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF  
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,**

**City of Cardiff Branch,**

**Cardiff, CF1 1SG**

**Sort Code: 20-18-23**

**Account Name: ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF**

**PARISH OF ST ROBERT ABERKENFIG**

**Account No.: 73394867**

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**Account Name: .....**

**Account No.: .....**

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**the sum of £..... (amount in words) .....**

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