



**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>

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Registered Charity 242380

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 9th August 2020

MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you.

The Word of the Lord is living and active, it always speaks to humanity, in a personalized way, every moment of our lives. Contemplating the word of God and integrating it into our daily lives will lead us to holiness and eternal life. Through the Word of God, He touches the spiritual component of every human person in the intimacy of the heart. The WORD of GOD is JESUS.

In the daily storms of life, in moments of anguish, pain, loss, grief, tragedies or catastrophe, like the prophet Elijah, let us patiently wait for the 'still small voice' of the Lord that speaks to our hearts with love. God's Word and inspirations comes to us through Jesus Christ who in meekness and humility of heart, takes flesh and dwells among us. Jesus does not abandon us but rather walks through the storms of life with us to give us courage, take away our fears and bring us peace. His Word is truth and he who focuses on the Word without doubts will be saved.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: "The sum of your {God's} word is truth; and every one of your righteous ordinances endures forever." "And now, O LORD God, you are God, and your words are true"; this is why God's promises always come true. God is Truth itself, whose words cannot deceive. This is why one can abandon oneself in full trust to the truth and faithfulness of his word in all things. The beginning of sin and of man's fall was due to a lie of the tempter who induced doubt of God's word, kindness and faithfulness." (CCC,215)

Brothers and Sisters, let us always listen to the Word of God. To listen is not just hearing the Word of God proclaimed at Mass. Listening means obeying and submitting to the Word of God. We must contemplate and in humility apply the word of God to every area of our lives, and fall down in worship to God through His Word, Jesus Christ, and stop questing and resisting God's plans for our salvation.

For the occasions when we have doubted, questioned, confused about, or lost focus on, the Word of God, like Peter, Let us cry out 'save me Lord!' and He [Jesus] who walks with us in the storms of life will immediately reach out and hold us safely in His gentle hands and bring us His peace. For His great love and mercy has no end.

May the blessings and favour of God rest upon you and your families in the storms of life. Stay blessed, stay focused and patiently wait on the 'Still small voice' [The Word] of God. God Love you all.

United in prayer!

PLEASE NOTE: Following all health and safety protocols, anyone who desires to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), the Sacrament of the Sick or Baptism, or any other pastoral care/visit, should not hesitate to contact me on 07964366710 for private arrangement. Thank you

MASS INTENTIONS: Father Edmund continues to celebrate Mass (public with restrictions and private Mass). If attending Church, give your Mass Intention to Stewards; or telephone the Parish number 01656 733282/mobile number 07964 366710, clearly stating the intention for which the Mass is to be offered and your preferred date OR e-mail to maesteg@rcadc.org

Father agrees to celebrate these Masses on trust and the Mass Offering can be made when things return to normal or if you prefer, drop through the Presbytery letter box or send cheque made payable to Father Edmund Neizer.

'I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him.' (Responsorial Psalm 19th Week in Ordinary Time)



**Saturday 8TH August: 5pm VIGIL MASS 19th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A
HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S ABERKENFIG (*Restrictions apply*)
People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers**

HOLY MASS OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*):

9am: Thanksgiving 90th Birthday Amelia Hughes (Family)

11am: Anne & Mick Cleary RIP (LD)

5pm: Tess Barry RIP (A&JB)

Monday: 10th August: St Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

Private Mass: Lately dead, Maura nee Connolly, Ireland RIP (M&SK)

Tuesday: 11th August: St Clare, Virgin

10am: Holy Mass (*Restrictions apply*) Victims of the devastating Beirut explosion

Wednesday: 12th August: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 19

10am: Holy Mass at St. Robert's (*Restrictions apply*):

Our Sick/housebound Parishioners and their carers, For the Clergy (AA)

Thursday: 13th August: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 19

10am: Holy Mass (*Restrictions apply*) Margaret Lonergan RIP (UCM) Special Intention (L&AM)

Friday: 14th August: St Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

Private Mass: Private Intention, Brian Maddock & Maddock family (A&R)

Saturday: 15th August: Votive Memorial of Our Lady

Private Mass: Margaret Whitty RIP (TW), Souls in Purgatory (AA)

Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S (*Restrictions apply*)

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

Sunday 16th August: THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

HOLY MASS OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*):

9am: Margaret Whitty RIP (TW)

11am: Bernard Bolger Thanksgiving 90th birthday (KK)

5pm: William Heath RIP (GBG)

WE PRAY FOR:

- the people of Beirut, victims of the devastating explosion, those who have died tragically, the thousands wounded and the hundreds still missing; and for the families who have lost their loved ones.
- 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 in hospital
- 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 faithful departed Parishioners who have recently died and who have anniversaries at this time.*
THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea; among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Vigil of the Assumption, Pro-Life Day of Prayer and Fasting

Please join in praying and fasting for the end of abortion in this Country on Friday 14th August, the Vigil of the Feast of the Assumption. Normally thousands of people would hear about the National Days of Prayer and Fasting for Life through their Parishes and leaflets; please refer to the News Tab for further information.

CONGRATULATIONS AND VERY BLESSING TO BERNARD BOLGER ON CELEBRATING HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY. HIS FAMILY, FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS SEND THEIR BEST WISHES AND PRAYERS.

PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST PATRICK & PARISH OF ST ROBERT

Due to restrictions on numbers able to attend at each Mass, **you will need to book in advance** by telephoning the following Stewards which Mass you wish to attend (*please only book one Mass on weekend*). We need to know how many people to expect in order to protect your health and safety; please do not attend if not booked.

TIMES OF HOLY MASS

MAESTEG PARISH:

TUESDAY 10.00am Telephone: Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2.00pm)

THURSDAY 10.00am Telephone: Collette on 07702023565

SUNDAY:

9.00am Telephone: Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (any afternoon after 2 pm)
11.00am Telephone: Collette on 07702023565
5.00pm Telephone: Michelle 07488322929

ABERKENFIG PARISH

SATURDAY 5.00pm (Vigil Mass at St. Robert's Church) Telephone: Sarah on 07940267623

WEDNESDAY 10.00am Telephone: Sarah on 07940267623

- You should arrive between 20 and no later than 5 minutes before the start time of Mass
- Please adhere to the strict social distancing guidelines
- Please use the hand sanitiser provided
- The Church is laid out with a one-way system
- Please allow a Steward to show you to your seat
- Please wait to be invited up to Holy Communion and receive in your hand
- Please note the toilet has to remain closed
- Offertory collection will be taken as you enter the Church and retiring collection will be taken as you leave the church
- Planned Giving boxes available for collection (Maesteg Parish)

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms (sore throat, cough, fatigue, lack of senses of taste and smell) or shielding please stay home.

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has confirmed that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. So please do not feel under any pressure to attend the Church. Online or phone Mass are valid alternatives and remain available; details below.

*Let us give thanks to God for this great mercy.
 May God richly bless you. Stay safe and remain in God's love and care.*

VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR PARISHES: Thanks to the parishioners who have generously volunteered as stewards /cleaners to allow us to open our churches again for restricted public worship. For us to continue to be open for public worship and celebration of Mass it is absolutely necessary to have as many volunteers as possible. Volunteers need to be willing to steward and then clean the church after Mass. If you are willing to help as a volunteer for our churches then please contact: for Maesteg: Derek/Dennis (after 2pm 731767) or Collette (07702023565); for Aberkenfig: Sarah Lewis on 07940 267623. *God love you all.*

The more volunteers we have, the less the work for each person. Please note that to volunteer you must be below the age of 70 and with no underlying health issues.

FINANCE – ST ROBERT PARISH:

Standing orders have increased to £290 per month; thank you. Please consider giving this way; details below. **If you would like to have your collection monies collected please contact either Bill Ennis on 724855 or Bernadette Lewis on 07854 699349**

FINANCE MAESTEG PARISH: INCOME RECEIVED FROM 6TH APRIL TO 26TH JULY

Gift Aid £4983.50; Planned Giving/Loose £1221.30; (July standing orders information to be confirmed); Donations £412; Maintenance/Restoration £767; Red Brick £157.26; Lenten Alms £43.52; Easter Raffle donations £144.50.

SUNDAY AND DAILY MASS:

**St Mary's Bridgend, (Father Tim McGrath) now LIVE STREAM –
click on home page of their Website for timetable of Masses.**

**St Mary & All Saints, Stowhill, Newport (Father Michael Doyle)
Change of times, check their Website.**

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

**A service for those of our parishioners and others, who are without access to the Internet
“DIAL FOR MASS” service - 029 2267 0999
2 PM on Sunday and available during the week.**

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

PRAY THE 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.

STANDING ORDER PAYMENTS & BANK TRANSFERS FOR JUNE 2020

St Robert Parish: £290. Our Lady & St Patrick Parish £989.

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.

FOR FULL DETAILS REFER TO OUR WEBSITE AND USE “STANDING ORDER TAB”

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 or send a cheque, made payable to Our Lady & St Patrick's Parish OR St Robert's Parish and send to Father Edmund, The Presbytery, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY.

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.