



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

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

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*Registered Charity 242380*

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020**

**MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

May the grace and peace of Christ Jesus be with you all.

Christ Jesus, the Lord, is the same yesterday, today and forever. He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great Kindness towards all His works.

Our soul's entire holiness and perfection lies in our love for Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh who lives amongst us. He is our God, our highest good and our redeemer. In Him we live and move and have our being.

For all eternity God has love for us and His love for us has no end. Throughout eternal existence, in compassion and unfathomable mercy, God has demonstrated His love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

For His Love for us, God created all things so that all creatures will serve us and that in gratitude for so great a love we will respond with love for our creator God. When we have even been so ungrateful and gone astray after all He has graciously bestowed upon us, God gave Himself wholly to us without any reservation, through His only begotten Son, Christ Jesus, our Lord, to save us, so that we may not perish in dead in sin and deprivation of grace. By giving us his Son whom He did not spare for our salvation. He gave us everything, His all in all. This is true Love.

Beloved, like the multitude in today's gospel, let us find Christ in the deserts of our lives, for His endless love and compassion has no end. By His gracious word He will heal us of all our infirmities and by His Sacraments He will feed us, nourish us and Strengthen us on our journey here on earth till we enter into our eternal home with Him in heaven where we will live eternally in His Love and Mercy. For our God is Good all the time.

May we never allow anything whatsoever to separate us from the love of God. For our "Spiritual Progress tends toward ever more intimate union with Christ. This union is called 'mystical' because it participates in the mystery of Christ through the Sacraments - 'the holy mysteries' – and, in him, in the mystery of the Holy Trinity. God calls us all to this intimate union with him, even if the special graces or extraordinary signs of this mystical life are granted only to some for the sake of manifesting the gratuitous gift given to all."

Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Gifts without measure He graciously bestows upon all of us through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist to bring us peace. May the Lord continue to guide our lives journey with His eternal word and sacraments and make us one with Him and keep us strong in His Love.

God love you all.

United in prayer!

**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](mailto: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.*



Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.  
Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.'

(First Reading Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Isaiah 55:3)



**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August: 6 pm VIGIL MASS 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**  
*(Restrictions apply) Margaret Whitty RIP (AR&F)*

**2<sup>nd</sup> August: 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A.**

**HOLY MASS (Restrictions apply):**

**9am: People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers.**

**11am: Annie & Eddie Scourfield RIP (SF)**

**5pm: Steffan ap Dafydd RIP (EH)**

**Monday: 3<sup>rd</sup> August: St Germanus of Auxerre, Bishop**

*Private Mass: Tom Bolger & Deceased of Bolger family RIP (MB&F)*

**Tuesday: 4<sup>th</sup> August: St John Mary Vianney**

**10am: Holy Mass (Restrictions apply) Elizabeth & James Banks RIP (MB)**

**Wednesday: 5<sup>th</sup> August: The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major**

**10am: Holy Mass at St. Robert (Restrictions apply): Billy O'Rourke RIP (LD)**

**Thursday: 6<sup>th</sup> August: The Transfiguration of the Lord**

**10am: Holy Mass (Restrictions apply) Joe Dwyer & Deceased of Dwyer /Crowley families RIP (MD)**

**Friday: 7<sup>th</sup> August: St Sixtus II, Pope, & Companions, Martyrs**

*Private Mass: Amelia Hughes 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday (KR)*

**Saturday: 8<sup>th</sup> August: St Dominic**

*Private Mass: Our Sick/housebound Parishioners and their carers  
Souls in Purgatory*

**Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

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

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

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August: 19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**HOLY MASS (Restrictions apply):**

**9am: Thanksgiving 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Amelia Hughes (Family)**

**11am: Mick Cleary RIP (LD)**

**5pm: Tess Barry RIP (A&JB)**

***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 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 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND EVERY BLESSING TO AMELIA HUGHES ON CELEBRATING HER 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY. HER FAMILY, FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS SEND THEIR BEST WISHES AND PRAYERS.**

**FINANCE MAESTEG PARISH: INCOME RECEIVED FROM 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL TO 26<sup>TH</sup> 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.

**300 PLUS CLUB JULY DRAW 2020 DRAW**

1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Tomkins 314 £50.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tess White 74 £30.00 ; 3<sup>rd</sup> Carol Woodhatch 230 £20.00; 4<sup>th</sup> Deanne Evans 11 £10.00. Cheques have been sent to the winners. **Thanks to Michael Banks for arranging the Draw, with his colleagues at work as witnesses.**

**OUR LADY & ST PATRICK PARISH CHURCH & ST ROBERT CHURCH**

The celebration of Holy Mass has gradually resumed; thanks to our volunteers.

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**

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

**THURSDAY 10.00am Telephone: Collette on 07702023565**

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

**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**

- 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

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 private prayer/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 church opening 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.

**ST ROBERT'S CHURCH, ABERKENFIG: GOOD NEWS:** Thanks to the tremendous amount of work which has taken place by our volunteers, the Archdiocese has certified that Saint Robert's is Covid-safe for gradual resumption of public worship/private prayer. There will be Holy Mass at St. Robert Church at 10am on Wednesdays and Vigil Mass on Saturdays at 5pm, beginning this Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2020. Due to the restrictions on numbers you may please contact Sarah on 07940267623 to book a place for Mass. Thank you

**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**

**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.***