



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

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

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### 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

May the peace and joy of Christ Jesus be with you.

Today's liturgy invites us to be forgiving as we ourselves have benefitted tremendously from the forgiveness of Our Heavenly Father, through the sacrifice of His Son Christ Jesus Our Lord. For us who are Christians, forgiveness of sin is very paramount to our redemption in Christ Jesus. Since God Our Heavenly Father is merciful, we must also be merciful and forgive those who wrong us in anyway.

Christ teaches that we will receive mercy in proportion to the mercy we show to those who wrong us. At Mass when we pray the Lord's Prayer we say "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". Lack of forgiveness, bearing grudges and being revengeful are not compatible with the Spirit of a Christian and must therefore be replaced with Charity and kindness.

The catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that, "The practice of all the virtues is animated and inspired by charity, which "binds everything together in perfect harmony"; it is the form of the virtues; it articulates and orders them among themselves; it is the source and the goal of their Christian practice. Charity upholds and purifies our human ability to love, and raises it to the supernatural perfection of divine love." (CCC 1827)

Beloved, forgiveness is always available to anyone who has contrition for his or her sins along with the purpose of amendment and the intention not to commit sin again with the help of God's grace and mercy. The forgiveness of our personal sins is a condition on our willingness to forgive those who sin against us.

Charity demands that we forgive those who are indebted to us as the Heavenly Father through the example of Christ pardons all our iniquities and heals all our ills. He redeems our life from destruction, and crowns us with kindness and compassion. In sacred scripture, the number seven represent totality and completeness, therefore seventy-seven means we must be willing to forgive without any limit as the Father does not only forgive but also blesses and strengthens us with His grace and mercy, and reconciles us to Himself.

Although it is sometimes very difficult to forget our injury incurred by the wrong done us, our forgiveness and prayers for the sinner open the way for the show of graciousness. Let us be mindful that in the end we will be the losers if we chose unforgiveness, for if we remember the covenant of love for neighbour, which led Christ Jesus to offer His blood for the forgiveness of all our sins, then we will be strengthened to overlook the fault of others and be compassionate as the Father is compassionate.

May Christ Jesus help us to let go of wrath and anger which damages our body and soul, and grant us a compassionate and merciful heart that we may forgive those who sin against us as we ourselves have had the privilege of God's unfathomable mercy and forgiveness.

God love you.

United in prayer!

**SACRAMENTS:** *Congratulations to MICHELLE LUCAS who yesterday received the full Sacrament of Christian Initiation, and her grandchildren IESTYN GARETH ALBERT JARRETT, LILLIE ROSE JARRETT AND RHYS ROBERT JARRETT, who were Baptised and received First Holy Communion, at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg. May we continue to pray, support and accompany them in their faith journey with Love.*

*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 call Fr. Edmund on 07964366710 for private arrangement. Thank you.*

**MASS INTENTIONS:** *Father Edmund continues to celebrate Mass (public with restrictions and private Mass).*  
The highest form of prayer for us is the Mass which is a noble and ancient tradition. Thank you throughout lockdown for your submission of Mass Intentions; there are several days free in the forthcoming months. If you wish to have Mass celebrated for someone who has died, for a particular intention or thanksgiving, either give to Stewards when you attend Church, post through the Presbytery letter box, send by post, telephone the Parish number 01656 733282/mobile number 07964 366710, OR e-mail to [maesteg@rcadc.org](mailto:maesteg@rcadc.org) Please make cheque out to Father Edmund Neizer.



'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.' (Gospel Acclamation)



**Saturday 5pm VIGIL 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A *Education Day***  
**HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)**  
Molly Jean Kearle (CT)

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September: 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A *Education Day***  
**HOLY MASS OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG (Restrictions apply):**

**9am:** People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers  
**11am:** Maurice & Glenys Fitzgibbon *RIP (LR)* Lynn Daniel *RIP (M&JB)*  
**5pm:** Brian & Doris (Jarvis) *RIP (CW)*

**Monday: 14<sup>th</sup> September: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**  
*Private Mass:* Pat Brennan & Canon John Rohan *RIP (VB)*

**Tuesday: 15<sup>th</sup> September: Our Lady of Sorrows**  
**10am: Holy Mass (Restrictions apply)**  
Alex and Bethan *RIP (RM&Family)*

**Wednesday: 16<sup>th</sup> September: Ss Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop**  
**10am: Holy Mass at St. Robert's (Restrictions apply):**  
Sick at home, in hospital and Care homes and the housebound.

**Thursday: 17<sup>th</sup> September: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 24**  
**10 am: Holy Mass (Restrictions apply)**  
Joe Dwyer & family *RIP (MD)*

**Friday: 18<sup>th</sup> September: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 24**  
*Private Mass:* Margaret & Eddie Carroll *RIP (LT)* *We pray for the Clergy*

**Saturday: 19<sup>th</sup> September: Votive Memorial of Our Lady**  
*Private Mass:* Private Intention (Family) *Souls in Purgatory (AA)*

**Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A *Home Mission Day***  
**HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)**  
People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September: 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A *Home Mission Day***  
We pray today for the spread of the Gospel

**9am:** Mary Agnes, Cyril & Griffiths family *RIP (Family)*  
**11am:** Patrick, Janet & Michael Butler *RIP (MB&f)*  
**5pm:** People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers

**ETERNAL REST:** Let us pray for the Repose of the souls of GWYN JONES who died on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, and MRS. FRANCIS THOMAS who died on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Their funeral service will take place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 12.30pm and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 12noon respectively at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to the bereaved families at this sad and difficult time.

**WE PRAY FOR** the faithful departed parishioners, family, friends and those who have died from the pandemic; may they rest in peace. Amen.

**WE PRAY FOR** the sick at home/hospital and housebound of our Parishes, our friends, relatives, neighbours, fellow Parishioners and those who are suffering with Coronavirus; for the NHS/Care Home' staff and frontline workers/volunteers.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS** our schools, as staff and pupils have returned. Also our students who will be entering a new stage of their life at University.

**GRATEFUL THANKS from MARY, LINDA and FAMILY** - To Father Edmund for his support and celebrating the Funeral Service and to Parishioners for prayers, condolences and Mass Cards in memory of Lynn Daniel.

### **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. We need to know how many people to expect in order to protect your health and safety. **Please do not attend if not booked and please advise Stewards if you are unable to attend, so that another Parishioner can take your place.**

#### ***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 2.00pm)**

**11.00am Telephone: Collette on 07702023565**

**5.00pm Telephone: Michelle 07488322929**

#### ***ABERKENFIG PARISH***

**SATURDAY 5.00pm (Vigil Mass at St. Robert's Church) & WEDNESDAY 10 .00am**

**Telephone: Bill Ennis on 724855, after 6.30p.m.**

- Please note face mask will be required from next week as advised by the Welsh Government.
- 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 and follow the instructions and support of the Stewards
- 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
- If you have any COVID-19 symptoms 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 NEEDED FOR OUR PARISHES:**

In order for Mass provision to continue it is absolutely necessary that more volunteers come forward to help the existing teams who have generously volunteered as stewards/cleaners to ensure our Churches continue to be open for restricted public worship. We still have to abide by the strict Covid-19 risk assessments. This new way of doing things is going to be ongoing long term; if you can help out please contact: **for Maesteg:** Derek/Dennis (after 2pm 731767) or Colette (07702023565);

**for Aberkenfig:** Bill Ennis on 724855 (after 6.30 pm) or **telephone Father Edmund (07964366710)**. 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. *Thank you.*

**OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S, MAESTEG**  
**ARCHBISHOP GEORGE'S GARDEN PARTY FOR THE OVER 70S**

Thank you to everyone who has registered their intentions to attend 'The Archbishop's Garden Party' on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September; the response has been rewarding. Plans are well under way to make our '*socially distancing party*' a memorable, if not an unusual event, which shall include your individual picnic box, a welcome drink, tea and coffee, with the added enjoyment of 'Prize Bingo' and a raffle. Over the next few days each of you who have registered to attend the party shall receive a short letter to inform you of how we shall co-ordinate the event in line with Government Guidelines, to ensure you safety, wellbeing and enjoyment.

There are just a few spaces available for anyone who may be interested in attending the garden party. Please contact any of the following

- Michael Banks: 07584177456
- Denis & Derek Horton, any day after 2pm: 01656 731767
- Maria Davies: 07779532212
- Maria Kelly Harris: 07964965152

We ask you all to pray for good weather for the day and for the safe keeping of all in our parish in these troublesome times.

**FINANCE MAESTEG PARISH: INCOME RECEIVED 6<sup>th</sup> September:**

Gift Aid £573.50; Planned Giving/Loose £116.00; Standing orders August £839.00; Retiring £310.10; Red Bricks £22.79.

**300 PLUS CLUB JULY DRAW 2020 DRAW**

1st Mrs Agnes Jones 86 £50.00; 2nd Cath Treharne 241 £30.00; 3rd Mr C Williams 344 £20.00; 4th Josh/Luke/Leah 122 £10.00. Cheques have been sent to the winners. Thanks to Michael Banks for arranging the Draw, with his colleagues at work as witnesses

**ABERKENFIG PARISH: MISSIO (APF RED BOXES):** Promoters will contact box holders to make arrangements for collection. Thank you for your support.

**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)  
- check their Website for times of Masses.

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.