



**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 e-mail: maesteg@rcadc.org Registered Charity 1177272

**26th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 27th SEPTEMBER 2020
MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

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

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: "Before we make our own this first exclamation of the Lord's Prayer (Our Father...), we must humbly cleanse our hearts of certain false images drawn "from this world." **Humility** makes us recognize that "no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him," that is, "to little children." The **purification** of our hearts has to do with paternal or maternal images, stemming from our personal and cultural history, and influencing our relationship with God. God our Father transcends the categories of the created world. To impose our own ideas in this area "upon him" would be to fabricate idols to adore or pull down. To pray to the Father is to enter into his mystery as he is and as the Son has revealed him to us. The expression God the Father had never been revealed to anyone. When Moses himself asked God who he was, he heard another name. The Father's name has been revealed to us in the Son, for the name "Son" implies the new name "Father." (CCC 2779)

Beloved, God our Father glories in forgiving those who in humility acknowledge their sins and turn to him and He ardently desires to save all His children. His forgiveness is contingent on our willingness to accept His laws and to fulfill His will.

St. Paul in our second reading of today present Christ Jesus, the "perfect man" as an example of humility to us, so that in imitating Christ, we may remain united and show our love for each other through humility and service to God. Even though Christ was Divine, he emptied Himself and took our humanity in order to suffer and die for our salvation. This he did in total obedience to the Father's will.

The Parable of the Two Sons teaches us that it is not enough to give lip service to the importance of the will of God, rather we are to carry out the will of God in action. We must be obedient to God's will. For action, they say, speaks louder than words. The more virtuous of the two sons is not the one who merely said yes to his father bidding and did nothing, but the one who, although refused at first but later repented and actually fulfilled his father's will.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this parable applies to any of us who has the purpose of amendment of life and makes the effort to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. By turning from our sins to follow the way of the Lord we shall preserve our life for eternity.

Let us in humility accept our sinfulness and approach the Lord who is full of Compassion and Love, that He may forgive us our sins, show us His way, teach us his paths, and guide us in His truth, so that we may obtain eternal life through Christ our Lord.

God love you.

United in prayer!

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



'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' (Gospel Acclamation Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time')



Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 26th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)

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

Sunday 27th September: 26th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
HOLY MASS OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG (Restrictions apply)

9am: Ellen Teresa Hughes & Buckley family *RIP* (Family)

11am: People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers

5pm: Thanksgiving 50th Wedding Anniversary Gaynor & Anthony Lawler

Monday: 28th September: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 26

Private Mass: Mr Gwyn Jones *RIP*

12.30 pm Funeral Service of Mr Gwyn Jones *RIP*

Tuesday: 29th September: Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

10am: Holy Mass (*Restrictions apply*) Dermot Keane *RIP* (M&SK) Barbara Thomas *RIP*

1pm: Funeral Service of Barbara Thomas *RIP*

Wednesday: 30th September: St Jerome Priest and Doctor of the Church
St. Robert, Aberkenfig – NO MASS

MAESTEG: *Private Mass: Special Intention (Family & Friends)*

Thursday: 1st October: St Therese of the Child Jesus

10 am: Holy Mass (*Restrictions apply*)

Margaret Thomas *RIP* (MJ)

Friday: 2nd October: The Holy Guardian Angels

Private Mass: Thanksgiving Twins Arthur Joseph & Ivy Rae *We pray for the Clergy*

Saturday: 3rd October: Votive Memorial of Our Lady

Private Mass: Sick at home/hospital and housebound *Souls in Purgatory* (AA)

Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 27th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)

Maria Whitty & Angelo Rossetti *RIP* (KR)

Sunday 4th October: 27th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

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

11am: Nance & Terry Hayes *RIP* (PTS)

5pm: Douglas Woodhatch *RIP* (CW)

St Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church



St Therese, beloved friend, we come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs, and dreams I list below. Please present them to our Loving Father so that God may do what is best for us, for our loved ones, and for the fulfilment of God's Kingdom. We ask you, dear friend, with the bold confidence and loving surrender you taught us. We make these prayerful petitions in the name of Jesus and through the power of His Spirit. Amen.

ETERNAL REST: Let us pray for the Repose of the souls of **GWYN JONES** who died on Wednesday, 2nd September, and **BARBARA THOMAS** who died on Sunday 13th September. Their funeral services will take place on Monday 28th September at 12.30pm and Tuesday 29th September at 1pm, respectively at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church. Also, we pray for the repose of the soul of **BERNARD BOLGER** who died on Thursday 24th September. 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:

- the faithful departed parishioners, family, friends and those who have died from the pandemic; may they rest in peace. Amen.
- 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.
- our pupils, teachers and staff of our Schools, during this continued difficult time of the pandemic. Also, our young people who are now entering a new stage of their life at University; several having to isolate in new "lock down rules".

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE:

"A great prayer for Life is urgently needed. (Pope St. John Paul II)"

Tomorrow, Monday 28th September, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Last year this country saw the largest number of abortions ever. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed.

For information on the day of Prayer and Fasting contact The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740 or www.goodcounselnetwork.com

ST. ROBERT, ABERKENFIG: Due to on-going maintenance and repair works at St. Robert's Church, there will be no week day Mass at the Church. Any inconvenience caused is regretted. Thank you.

APPRECIATION FOR THE BISHOP'S GARDEN PARTY: Our Sincere appreciation to Archbishop George Stack for his support, encouragement and sponsorship for the "Bishop's Garden Party for the over 70 years old of our Parish" last weekend. To Michael Banks and the team of organisers we say a **VERY BIG THANK YOU** for arranging such a delightful day for our guests. May the good Lord continue to bless you and unite us in His Love and Mission for His greater glory and the good of His Church. God love you all.

CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY - FRIDAY, 9th OCTOBER:

Please stand together with families facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We have all felt the impact of this terrible disease - let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected and donate as much as you are able in one of the following ways: Online at CAFOD.org.uk/give; Text CAFOD to 70085 (to donate £10); using the CAFOD envelopes available today; retiring collection for CAFOD Sunday, 11th October. Our Parishes have been so very generous to CAFOD in the past and if we have proven anything in the lockdown it is that even when we are forced apart, we are together. *'Only together we can do this.'* Pope Francis. Thank you.

UNIVERSE NEWSPAPER & CATHOLIC DIRECTORY and YEAR BOOK 2021: Please if you would like to purchase weekly copies of the Universe Newspaper or the Catholic Directory and Year Book 2021, can you give your name and contact to any to the Stewards or Father Edmund so that we can request for the numbers needed. Thank you.

FINANCE MAESTEG PARISH: (Income received 20th September)

Gift Aid £339.50; Planned Giving/Loose £246.00; (Retiring Maintenance/Restoration) £531.80.

Standing Orders August £839.00; Bricks £6.20.

Restoration/Weekly Maintenance collections (Retiring Collections) – if you gift aid, could you please place in an envelope stating your gift aid number. Envelopes will be available shortly. *Sincere thanks.*

FINANCE ABERKENFIG PARISH: Collections - June £295, July £780, August £895. *Sincere thanks*

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

Book in advance for Mass by telephoning the following Stewards. **Please do not attend if not booked and please advise Stewards if you are unable to attend.**

MAESTEG PARISH:

TUESDAY 10.00am Telephone: Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)

THURSDAY 10.00am Telephone: Collette on 07702023565

SUNDAY: 9.00am Telephone: Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)

11.00am Telephone: Collette on 07702023565

5.00pm Telephone: Michelle 07488322929

ABERKENFIG PARISH

SATURDAY 5.00pm (Vigil Mass at St. Robert's Church)

Telephone: Bill Ennis on 724855, after 6.30 pm.

- Face masks are now required as advised by the Welsh Government
- Please 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 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.

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.