



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

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Edmund Neizer

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28th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 11th October 2020

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their dependents

MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: "At the end of time, the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness. After the universal judgment, the righteous will reign for ever with Christ, glorified in body and soul. The universe itself will be renewed: The Church . . . will receive her perfection only in the glory of heaven, when will come the time of the renewal of all things. At that time, together with the human race, the universe itself, which is so closely related to man and which attains its destiny through him, will be perfectly re-established in Christ." (CCC,1042)

Beloved, the parable of the marriage feast in today's liturgy is an awesome illustration of the heavenly joy experienced by those fully united to Christ. The image of the wedding feast brings up thoughts of joyful celebration. Christ, the Son, is the bridegroom engaged to the Church, which is the Body of Christ. The parable relates how with the decline of the original guests and the destruction of sin and evil, and even death itself, now all are invited to the wedding feast. In the Book of Revelation 19:9, it is said "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb".

All of heaven rejoices at the defeat of sin and death. The time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb [Christ] and His Bride [the Church]. The Holy Mass which commemorates the Last Supper and makes present the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, is the manifestation and extension of the Heavenly Liturgy of the Marriage feast of the Lamb with His Church. Thus, this scene represents both the reality of the Church, through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, as well as our future hope, which will reach its fulfilment in Heaven.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, joined to Christ Jesus by our Baptism, the Church as the Bride of Christ, participates in the life of Christ through the celebration of the sacraments, till she reaches her perfection in Heaven, when Christ will be all in all.

Let us be mindful that the wedding guest who was not properly attired perhaps represents those who have not totally committed themselves to the call to Holiness by means of the Sacraments and therefore are not prepared to participate in the wedding feast of the Lamb. In the Sacraments, the Good Lord supplies all our needs in accord with His glorious riches in Christ Jesus, Our Lord.

May the Good Lord remain your portion and joy.

United in prayer!

SACRAMENTS

Let us pray with GRACE PHILLIPS who will be received into full Communion with the Catholic Church and admitted to the Sacrament of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist on Thursday 22nd October 2020.

Let us also pray with PHILIP MARTYN BERNSDEN and GRACE PHILLIPS who are preparing to received the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Saturday 24th October 2020 at Our Lady and St. Patrick's Church.

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). there are several days free in the forthcoming months.* If you wish to have Mass celebrated, give your intention 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



The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept Him he gave power to become children of God.' (Gospel Acclamation)



Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 28th 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, 11th October: 28th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their dependents
HOLY MASS: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG (Restrictions apply)

9am: Prisoners and their dependents
11am: Patrick, Janet & Michael Butler RIP (MB&f)
5pm: Sean Patrick Hayes RIP (EH)

Monday: 12th October: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 28
Private Mass: Bernard Bolger RIP
12.30 pm Funeral Service for the repose of the Soul of Bernard Bolger RIP

Tuesday: 13th October: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 28
10am: Holy Mass (Restrictions apply) Special Intention (MFF)

Wednesday: 14th October: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 28
Private Mass: William Henry Fraser RIP
1.45pm Funeral Service for the repose of the Soul of William Henry Fraser RIP

Thursday: 15th October: St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
10 am: Holy Mass (Restrictions apply) Derick & Roche family RIP (LR&f)

Friday: 16th October: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 28
Private Mass: Archbishop George and Clergy of the Archdiocese We pray for the Clergy

Saturday: 17th October: St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
Private Mass: Sick at home/hospital and housebound Souls in Purgatory (AA)

Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 29th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)
Geoffrey Phiri RIP (BL)

Sunday 18th October: 29th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
World Mission Sunday
9am: Ellen Hughes, Brian, Peter & Eddie RIP (M&KJ)
11am: People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers
5pm: Bernard Bolger RIP (MB&f)



October, the month of the Holy Rosary: *During this month, we join with Catholics all over the world and most especially Catholics across England, Wales, Scotland and the Isles to take our Rosaries for an intensive Rosary Whirlwind Mission as we pray together as a Mystical Body of Christ, for Faith, Life and Peace during these difficult and uncertain times.*



NINE DAYS ROSARY OF DEVOTION TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA
4TH TO 13TH OCTOBER 2020. JOIN AS ONE FAMILY IN WALES

as we pray the Rosary each day and bring to Our Lady and her beloved Son our prayers and needs. Live streaming throughout the Diocese; poster with details available on "NEWS" tab on Website.

ETERNAL REST: Let us pray for the Repose of the souls of **Bernard Bolger** who died on Thursday 24th September; funeral service will take place on Monday 12th October at 12.30 pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick, followed by interment at 1.30 pm Maesteg Cemetery and **William Henry Fraser** who died on 30th September, his funeral service will take place on Wednesday 14th October at 1.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to their bereaved families at this sad and difficult time.

We continue to pray for an end to the pandemic. Pray also for our parishioners and all who work in the hospitals/care homes, as pressure begins to grow on them once again.

Jesus, I trust in you.

WE PRAY FOR:

- His holiness Pope Francis, Archbishop George, all clergy & men/women of Religious Orders
- 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 have entered a new stage of their life at University; several having to isolate in new "lock down rules".



Ignatius of Loyola was a Spanish priest and theologian who founded the Jesuit order in 1534 and was one of the most influential figures in the Counter-Reformation. Known for its missionary, educational, and charitable works, the Jesuit order was a leading force in the modernising of the Roman Catholic Church.

"Take, Lord, receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, my whole will, all that I have and all that I possess. You gave it all to me, Lord; I give it all back to you. Do with it as you will, according to your good pleasure."

SAINT TERESA OF JESUS, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

St. Teresa of Avila wrote a beautiful poem during her lifetime that has been used as a prayer throughout the centuries. It is simple in its format, which is why many turn to it in times of distress. If you are feeling afraid or anxious right now, consider praying this prayer, opening your heart to God and adding your own words, invoking God's help in your hour of need.



"Let nothing disturb you, Let nothing frighten you, All things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices."

CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY: Retiring collection today for your donations. Thank you.

'Only together we can do this.' Pope Francis.

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS (Maesteg/Aberkenfig Parishes): Traditionally, during the month of November, we remember those who have died and gone before us. It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for our dead. As we are in very strange times and to give everyone an opportunity to submit their Holy Souls lists, the form is available online (News tab) and in our Churches. Please return to the Stewards, post through the Presbytery door or send by post to Father Edmund, The Presbytery, OL&SP, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY. Your lists will be compiled in a special book and placed on the Altar at Our Lady & St Patrick's Church. A Mass each day throughout November will be offered for your departed family and friends.

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.

MISSIO (APF RED BOXES): Promoter needed for Caerau area; at present only delivering magazines. For more information please give Paula Davies a ring on 733605. Thank you.

FINANCE MAESTEG PARISH: (Income received 4th October)

Gift Aid £211.60; Planned Giving/Loose £224.00; (Retiring Maintenance/Restoration) £179.20, Funeral Donations £300, Garden Party Raffle & Bingo £148.00, Standing Orders September £1199. **GIFT AID RECLAIMED FOR 2019-2020 £8250; thanks to Parishioners for gift aiding contributions.** **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: September Collections - £830.

GIFT AID/STANDING ORDER INFORMATION FOR MAESTEG & ABERKENFIG

PARISHES available on website and at both Churches. Please consider:

- gift aiding your donations if you pay tax.
- paying your offerings by standing order. *Thank you.*

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; refer to previous Newsletter

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.

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.

Governors of St Joseph's Junior School, Port Talbot are seeking to appoint a Temporary Class Teacher (Covering Maternity Leave). CES Application Forms can be downloaded from www.cesew.org.uk or www.eteach.com and should be returned by post to the Chair of Governors c/o St Joseph's Junior School, Nobel Avenue, Port Talbot, SA12 6YN or email stjosephsjunior@npt.school by 2nd November 2020.