



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

**(AS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT OUR PARISHES WILL BE CLOSED
FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP UNTIL WEEK COMMENCING 9TH NOVEMBER)**

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

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER: ALL SAINTS

MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

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

The Feast of All Saints celebrates all the unknown Saints who are now in Heaven. Sanctity is within everyone's reach; through the Communion of Saints each part of the Mystical body of Christ helps every other to grow in holiness. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: "This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity - this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed - is called "heaven." Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness." (CCC 1024)

Think of the Love that the father has lavished upon us by letting us be called Children of God, and that is what we are. This Divine filiation refers to our adoption as children of God by virtue of our incorporation into the Body of Christ, the Church, in Baptism. At Baptism each one elected by God is sealed on the forehead with the sign of the Cross and with the Holy Spirit. The Blood of Christ forgives the sins of all those who accept Christ's Redemption, through the Cross, in faith. That is those who wash their cloths in the precious Blood of Christ through Baptism as well as those who suffer martyrdom for the sake of Christ.

Beloved, the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders bestow an indelible seal or character on the elect. We were made in God's image, but this image is corrupted by the sin of disobedience, the Original Sin. By our response to God's grace through Baptism, we can gradually begin to resemble the image of Christ until we become perfectly conformed to Him in everlasting life. The great multitude who could not be counted from every nation under the sun that converges to worship God, is the realization of God's promise to Abraham, our Father in Faith, that all will be united in Christ Jesus. Our growth in union with Christ Jesus, through the Holy Eucharist, the greatest Prayer of the Church, will ultimately be perfected in the Beatific Vision in Heaven where with All the Saints and the Heavenly Hosts we shall offer the Everlasting Worship to the Most Holy Trinity.

Brothers and Sister in Christ, in humility let us open ourselves to be directed by the Beatitudes wherein we shall experience complete happiness, grace, beauty and peace. The Beatitudes are at heart the portrait of the countenance of Jesus Christ. They also express each person's vocation in the actions and dispositions of characteristic of on who lives a Christian life.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother and All the Saints, may we be blessed and favoured with the right disposition to live as Children of God and true brothers and Sister of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

God love you all.

United in Prayer

MASS INTENTIONS: Father Edmund WILL CONTINUE to celebrate private Masses during this second week of lockdown period. If you wish to have Mass celebrated for your intentions (there are several days free in the forthcoming months), please either place in the Presbytery letter box, send by post to Father Edmund, The Presbytery, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY, telephone the Parish number 01656 733282/mobile number 07964 366710 OR e-mail to maesteg@rcadc.org



'.....Your Word is our path and your truth is our light. This day and every day.'
(taken from the Official prayer, the God Who Speaks)



SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER: ALL SAINTS

HOLY MASS (PRIVATE): OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG

We are encouraged to celebrate today by remembering those who have gone before us in faith and now share the glory of heaven.

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

Monday 2nd NOVEMBER: ALL SOULS

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

Today all priests may celebrate three Masses. There are different prayers and reading for each Mass. The Masses remind us of our paschal hope of eternal life, the reality and meaning of Purgatory and the need to pray to the dead as an act of faith, hope and charity.

Intentions Private Masses: Deceased on November Dead' Lists
All the Faithful Departed
His Holiness Pope Francis' Intentions

Tuesday: 3rd November: St Winefride

Private Mass: Joe Dwyer RIP (MD) Faithful departed and deceased listed in November Dead Lists

Wednesday: 4th November: St Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Private Mass: REQUIEM MASS FOR ALL WHO DIED THROUGHOUT THE PAST YEAR
FAITHFUL DEPARTED AND DECEASED LISTED IN NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS
May they rest in peace.

Thursday: 5th November: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Week 31

Private Mass: Nick & Hilda Whitty RIP (KK) Private Intention (F&F)
Faithful departed and deceased listed in November Dead Lists

Friday: 6th November: St Illtud, Abbot

Private Mass: Emily McNamara RIP (R&B) Faithful departed & deceased listed in November Dead Lists
We pray for Archbishop George and all Clergy & Religious Men and Women

Saturday: 7th November: Votive Memorial of Our Blessed Lady

Private Mass: Albert & Connie RIP (C&P) Conversion of Federica & Souls in Purgatory (AA)

**32ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 8TH NOVEMBER 2020
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

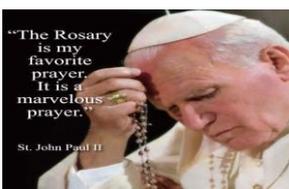
HOLY MASS (PRIVATE): OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG

INTENTION: People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers
For those who died in Wars and Conflicts – We remember them
Faithful departed and deceased listed in November Dead Lists

Some of you may already have heard that due to his ailing health Cannon William Isaac is likely to retire from active ministry in the next few months. We here in Maesteg join with Parishes of the Bridgend Deanery as we have much to thank him for. We give thanks to God for the gift of his ministry and wish him a long, happy and well-deserved rest. May God bless him and keep him safe. We pray also for Fr Ambrose Walsh and Fr. Michael Ronan who are unwell and undergoing treatment. Father Edmund.

October, the month of the Holy Rosary:

The culmination of the Rosary Mission is today, the Solemnity of All Saints, with Bishop John Keenan of Paisley who will lead a thanksgiving Rosary at 8 pm from his Cathedral.



We continue to pray for an end to the pandemic. Pray also for our parishioners and all who work in the hospitals/care homes and our frontline workers, 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 and our students who are at Universities, during this continued difficult time of the pandemic.

ETERNAL REST: Let us pray for the Repose of the soul of **ERNIE PRATT** (husband of Terry) who has died recently. May he rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to the bereaved family at this sad and difficult time.

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) or write your own list. Due to the lockdown until 9th November, please return to the Presbytery or send by post to Father Edmund, The Presbytery, OL&SP, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY. Your lists will be compiled in a Remembrance Book and each day throughout November Mass will be offered for your departed family and friends.

ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS FOR OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST NOVEMBER (Maesteg/Aberkenfig Parishes): Due to the current circumstances it is not possible to invite families to an Annual Requiem Mass. Father Edmund will be celebrating a Requiem Mass (private) for those who died during the past year on Wednesday, 4th November. Father Edmund has sent a message and prayer leaflet to the families. The Prayer Leaflet has been placed in the Remembrance Books and is available on our Website "News tab".

Grand Christmas Raffle

Dear Parishioners

We are very pleased to announce that Our Lady & St Patrick's '**Grand Christmas Raffle**' has ARRIVED, launching week commencing 19th October, with tickets available at all Masses from that date. Tickets are priced at £1.00, in books of 5 tickets. Prizes are:-

- **First prize:** £100 cash prize.
- **Second prize:** Festive Food Hamper
- **Third prize:** Celebration Wine Collection with Christmas Crackers.
- Plus many more exciting prizes.
- The draw shall take place, Tuesday, 8th December.



With the '**COVID Firebreak Lockdown**' now in place until the 9th November, for those of you who would like to participate in the Grand Christmas Raffle' by taking the opportunity to support our only fundraising event for 2020, you may access tickets by contacting the following people, where we can drop off tickets securely and safely to your home, or rather like '**Children in Need**' you might like to ring us and make a '**PLEDGE**' to buy a number of tickets, where nominated stewards shall fill out ticket stubs on your behalf; once your payment is made, the completed tickets shall be allocated to the draw.

Contacts:

Michael Banks: 07584177456 Denis & Derek Horton, any day after 2pm: 01656 731767
Maria Davies: 07779532212 Maria Kelly Harris: 07964965152 Collette: 07702023565

We look forward to hearing from you and to helping us to make our Christmas Grand Raffle one of the best ever.

ADMISSIONS 2021 - ST MARY & ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MAESTEG &

ST ROBERT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL ABERKENFIG: The school admissions process for September 2021

intake is now open; for further information and application form please ring

St Mary & St Patrick's on 01656 815585 and St Robert's on 01656 815515.

300 PLUS CLUB OCTOBER 2020 DRAW: 1st Leah Partridge 329 £50.00; 2nd David J James 142 £30.00; 3rd Maureen Gentle 47 £20.00; 4th Stephanie Davies 268 £10.00. Cheques have been sent to the winners. Thanks to Michael Banks for arranging the Draw, with his colleagues at work as witnesses.

Belmont Abbey – Prayer and Reflection for All Souls During the Pandemic, our friends at Belmont Abbey continue to run retreats but these are more accessible than their normal retreats, as they happen online. Their next event is on Monday for All Souls. Full details on the Events/Resources Tab on our Website if you would like to join them.

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: The Year of the Word 2020” – In partnership with the Bible Society the Catholic Church in Wales and England celebrates God's word. It is our prayer that during this Special Year we may all be enriched and renewed by the living Word of God.

Prayer for the Year of the God Who Speaks: O God, who gave the priest St. Jerome a living and tender love for Sacred Scripture, grant that Your people, may be ever more fruitfully nourished by Your Word and find in it the fount of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

CORONAVIRUS FIREBREAK LOCKDOWN: As Wales continues to be in a Coronavirus firebreak lockdown until Monday, November 9th, **OUR PARISH CHURCHES** will not be open for parishioners this week.

- Father Edmund will continue to celebrate Holy Mass privately for intentions received.
- The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has confirmed that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.
- Our first Mass for parishioners after lockdown will be on Tuesday, November 10th; please contact:

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.
- Online or phone Mass are valid alternatives and remain available; refer to previous Newsletter

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.