



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

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

MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND



Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "The Church encourages us to prepare ourselves for the hour of our death. In the ancient litany of the saints, for instance, she has us pray: "From a sudden and unforeseen death, deliver us, O Lord"; to ask the Mother of God to intercede for us "at the hour of our death" in the Hail Mary; and to entrust ourselves to St. Joseph, the patron of a happy death.

Every action of yours, every thought, should be those of one who expects to die before the day is out. Death would have no great terrors if you had a quiet conscience. . . Then why not keep clear of sin instead of running away from death? If you aren't fit to face death today, it's very unlikely you will be tomorrow. . .

St. Francis of Assisi in his canticle of creatures says: "Praised are you, my Lord, for our sister bodily Death, from whom no living man can escape. Woe on those who will die in mortal sin! Blessed are they who will be found in your most holy will, for the second death will not harm them."

Beloved, Last Wednesday's celebration of Mass for our deceased brothers and sisters, friends and relatives and loved ones "who have fallen asleep in Christ" in the past year reminds us of the frailty and precariousness of our life. Our time is limited and our days numbered here on earth. This world is not our eternal home. We are pilgrims here on earth and we are heading to our final destination. As November is the final path towards the end of our liturgical year, we turn ourselves towards our eternal and everlasting home in heaven.

The Apostle Paul using the words: "those who have fallen asleep", in our second reading reassures us that our loved ones who have preceded us in death are not lost but will indeed be raised again on the last day. To mourn the death of a loved one is natural, but for us Christians such mourning must always be joined to hope in the resurrection, a hope that is guaranteed by the resurrection of Christ. This sense of hope in the midst of death is a consolation that is found in the Church's funeral liturgy and Rite of Christian Burial.

The resurrection of the dead is key to our hope of Eternal life. Therefore, in this month of November, let us continue to pray for our loved ones who have gone before us marked with the sign of the Cross. Let us light candles in their memory and where possible visit their graves. Be assured that Holy Masses will be celebrated throughout the Month for those whose names are given on our November dead list.

Blessing of Graves: It is a tradition in our Parishes to visit the Cemeteries in November to bless the graves. However, with restrictions in numbers brought about by the Pandemic, I will be available by appointment and upon request by any Parishioner who wishes me to accompany them to Bless the graves of their loved ones.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. God Love them.

United in prayer

MASS INTENTIONS: *I will continue 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 the Stewards when you come to Church; post through the Presbytery letter box; send by post to the Presbytery, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY; telephone the Parish number 01656 733282/mobile number 07964 366710 OR e-mail to maesteg@rcadc.org*



'All Scripture is inspired by God and useful for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be upright. This is how someone dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.' (2Timothy 3:16)

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

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

**INTENTIONS: People of our Parishes, NHS, Care Home' Staff and frontline workers/volunteers
For all those who have died in Wars and Conflicts**

(Take a moment at 11 am today to observe the 2 minutes silence to remember them)

Faithful departed and deceased relatives and friends listed in November Dead Lists

Monday: 9th November: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Private Mass: Ted Treleaven *RIP* (A&R) Johanna Evans *RIP* (TW)
Deceased on the November Dead' Lists

Tuesday: 10th November: St Leo the Great Pope and Doctor of the Church

(Restrictions apply): Roger Maddock *RIP* (A&R) Deceased on the November Dead Lists

Wednesday: 11th November: St Martin of Tours, Bishop

Private Mass: Special Intention. Deceased on the November Dead Lists

Thursday: 12th November: St Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

(Restrictions apply): Mary & Ron Browne *RIP* (MTB) Deceased on the November Dead Lists

Friday: 13th November: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year II, Wk 32

Private Mass: Margaret Lonergan *RIP* (R&BJ) Deceased on the November Dead Lists
We pray for Archbishop George and all Clergy & Religious Men and Women

Saturday: 14th November: Votive Memorial of Our Blessed Lady

Private Mass: Deceased on the November Dead Lists
Conversion of Federica & *Souls in Purgatory* (AA)

**Saturday 5pm VIGIL MASS 33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
HOLY MASS AT ST. ROBERT'S *(Restrictions apply)*
Monica & Elwyn Enos *RIP* (JE)**

**33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 15TH NOVEMBER 2020
World Day of the Poor**

HOLY MASS: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S MAESTEG *(Restrictions apply)*

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

11am: Bernard Bolger *RIP* (KK)

5 pm: Margaret Heath *RIP* (GBG)

**At all Masses we pray for the Faithful departed
and deceased relatives and friends listed in November Dead Lists**

ETERNAL REST: Let us pray for the repose of the soul of FATHER MICHAEL RONAN (Father Mike) who died suddenly last week. His Requiem will take place on Wednesday 25th November at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg. Fr. Mike was born and lived in Maesteg until his Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood. May he rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to his bereaved family; to our Parishioners and many friends in Maesteg, to all the Parishes he served throughout his 35 years of Ministry; and to all who fondly know him and are deeply saddened by his death.

Let us also 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.

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; family and friends on the November Departed list; may they rest in peace.
- 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.

NOVEMBER INDULGENCE – It is the usual custom of the Church that during 1st – 8th November we may gain Plenary Indulgences for the faithful departed. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and the need to avoid large groups from forming where prohibited, the Apostolic Penitentiary has announced that the Plenary Indulgence applicable to the deceased by those who visit a cemetery, even if mentally, is available on any day in November and devoutly prays for the faithful departed. The same principle applies for visiting the church devoutly and praying the Our Father and the Creed. For anyone who cannot leave their home for various reasons, including anti-Covid restrictions, the Plenary Indulgence can be obtained by uniting oneself spiritually to other members of the faithful.

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), available at our Churches or please write your own list. Please return to the Stewards, 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.

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.

Prayer in the midst of the Covid Pandemic: This week's prayer reminds us of the importance of faith in the Lord Jesus during these times, which are challenging and difficult for many people.

"Lord Jesus, Just as You journeyed alongside the disciples on the road to Emmaus, be alongside us as we journey through these dark times. Help us to reflect and find comfort from the comforting words of the Bible where divine love, mercy and justice are ever present. We remember all those whose lives have been touched by the Covid virus. May Your loving kindness keep them close to You. Inspire us with Your message of hope in the Resurrection, as we seek to keep ourselves and those who are close to us safe and well in these challenging times. We ask this prayer in your name's sake. Amen."

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.

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

HOLY MASS: As lockdown ends on Monday, I welcome, those who are able, to attend Mass during the week and weekend; restrictions still apply and you will need to telephone to book; details below.

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.

Conditions of attending Holy Mass:

- You currently show no symptoms of Coronavirus (should you develop symptoms prior to attending Mass, please do not attend and stay at home)
- Face masks are now required as advised by the Welsh Government
- Use Hand-sanitiser before entry
- 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
- Please refrain from talking to friends who are not part of your household
- 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.