



**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

4th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) 31st January 2021 (RACIAL JUSTICE DAY)

MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

Rejoice in the Lord always, Again I say Rejoice!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: "Christ's whole earthly life - his words and deeds, his silences and sufferings, indeed his manner of being and speaking - is Revelation of the Father. Jesus can say: "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father", and the Father can say: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" Because our Lord became man in order to do his Father's will, even the least characteristics of his mysteries manifest "God's love. . . among us". (CCC 516)

In the first Reading Moses tells the people, the Lord God will raise up a prophet like himself from among them and him they shall listen to. Prophets are raised to speak in God's name, interpret the signs of the times and make future predictions based on the faithfulness of the people to the covenant. This prophecy of Moses cautioned the people of God to look forward to a great prophet bearing the Word of God who will hold the key to salvation. It points to Christ and in a lesser way to all the Old Testament prophets who themselves point the way to the Messiah

My dear people of God, Christ Jesus is identified as the Prophet spoken of by Moses; not a merely human messenger of God who speaks or invokes the authority of another but the presence of God himself. He taught with His own authority and cast out Spirit in His own name as presented in today's Gospel to the amazement of all the people. The works and words of Jesus Christ manifest Him as the "the Holy One of God". Therefore, listening to the Word of God and pondering over it day in and day out will set us free from all evil and reconcile us to God our Father.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this challenging time in our world, with all the trials and hardships that surround us, let us strive to avoid anything that distract us spiritually, and concentrate all our efforts on the Word of God that has the power to free us from every evil and allow us to have a direct and exclusive encounter with Christ Jesus, the chosen Son of God, through whom we experience the fullness of God's salvation and are strengthened to participate in the Love of God and neighbour.

May God open our hearts to listen to His Word, grow in Grace and offer our lives daily to the praise and glory of His Holy Name. God love you.

United in Prayer!

MASS INTENTIONS: *I will continue to celebrate Mass (public with restrictions and private Mass). 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 Father Edmund, The Presbytery, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY; telephone the Parish 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)



**Psalter Week 4; Sunday Reading Cycle B)
4th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)**

Racial Justice Day

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)

Mike Davies RIP (MMcD)

4th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) 31st January 2021

Racial Justice Day

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

**9am: People of our Parishes, Those suffering from Coronavirus,
NHS/Care Home' Staff/frontline workers/volunteers**

11am: Raynor Lewis RIP (M&KL)

5 pm: Nellie, Thomas & Frank Davies RIP (CT)

Monday: 1st February 2021: Weekday in Ordinary Time Year 1, Week 4

Private Mass: Eileen, Mansel & Grady family RIP (M&L) Private Intention

Tuesday: 2nd February 2021: The Presentation of the Lord

10 am: (Restrictions apply): Wayne Tanner RIP (CT)

Wednesday: 3rd February 2021: Weekday in Ordinary Time Year 1, Week 4

ST. ROBERT'S ABERKENFIG (Restrictions apply)

10 am: F.R.E.(GR) Elaine Kelly RIP

OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S, MAESTEG (Family only)

1 pm: Funeral Service Elaine Kelly RIP

Thursday: 4th February 2021: Weekday in Ordinary Time Year 1, Week 4

10 am: (Restrictions apply): Jackie & Paul Waters RIP (SW)

Friday: 5th February 2021: St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Private Mass: Cristina Bisagni RIP (MD)

We pray for Archbishop George and all Clergy & Religious Men and Women

Saturday: 6th February 2021: St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Private Mass: Winifred Morgan RIP (M&L)

Aurora, Conversion of Federica & Souls in Purgatory (AA)

(Psalter Week 1; Sunday Reading Cycle B)

5th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)

**People of our Parishes, Those suffering from Coronavirus,
NHS/Care Home' Staff/frontline workers/volunteers**

5th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) 7th February 2021

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

9am: Mary Candish Wedding Anniversary RIP (TC)

11am: Maureen Montgomery RIP (SW)

5 pm: David Whelan RIP (KK)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION & SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Fr. Edmund will be available this Friday from 1pm - 6pm for Confessions and Spiritual Direction. Anyone who would like to see him should book an appointment directly with him on the mobile number 07964366710.

ETERNAL REST: Let us pray for the repose of the souls MAUREEN MARGARET JENKINS who passed on 9th January 2021 whose Funeral Services will take place on Tuesday 16th February 2021 at 1pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick; and TERRY MARONEY who passed on the 7th January 2021, and CHRISTINA JEAN PEARCE who passed on the 15th January 2021, their funeral services will take place on Monday 8th February at 1pm and Friday 19th February at 1pm respectfully at Our Lady & St. Patrick; and JANICE ANN OWEN who passed on the 10th January 2021, her funeral service will take place at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday 5th February at 2,45pm. Also, DAPHNE KATHLEEN ISAAC who passed on the 11th January. Her funeral Service will take place on Thursday 25th February 2021 at 1pm at St. Robert's Church, Aberkenfig. *May they rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to the bereaved families.*

ADORATION AND PRIVATE PRAYER (Need to book a time-details below)

The Church will be open between 1 pm and 6 pm this Friday for Adoration and Private Prayers. Those wishing to attend should contact Collette on 07702023565 to arrange a time slot.

To attend Masses please telephone the following Stewards:

MAESTEG PARISH:

TUESDAY 10.00am Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)
THURSDAY 10.00am Collette on 07702023565
SUNDAY: 9.00am Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)
11.00am Collette on 07702023565 5.00pm Michelle 07488322929

ABERKENFIG PARISH

WEDNESDAY 10 am & SATURDAY Vigil Mass 5 pm - Bill Ennis on 724855, after 6.30 pm.

Please Note: Only those who have received confirmation of bookings from the Stewards are able to attend.

Please do not attend if not booked as we do not want to turn people away at the door

By registering to attend Mass the published restrictions still apply.

- The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has confirmed that the obligation to attend Sunday and Holy Day Masses remains suspended. So please do not feel under any pressure to attend Church. *Please everyone take care and be safe.*
- 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.*

WE PRAY FOR:

- His holiness Pope Francis, Archbishop George, all clergy & men/women of Religious Orders
- an end to the Pandemic and for our parishioners and all who work in the hospitals/care homes and our frontline workers/volunteers, as great pressure is on them once again
- the faithful departed parishioners, family, friends and those who have died from the Pandemic; may they rest in peace
- the sick at home/hospital and housebound of our Parishes, those who are affected by and suffering with Coronavirus, the homeless, our friends, relatives, neighbours, fellow Parishioners, those suffering with loneliness, financial difficulties, job losses due to this Pandemic
- our young people & students, Headteachers, Teachers, Staff & Governors of our Schools

Act of Spiritual Communion St Alphonsus Liguori: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come 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.

Prayer in the midst of the Covid Pandemic:

“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.”

SAINT OF THE MONTH - February 1st - St. Brigid



St. Brigid was devoted to the poor and many miracles are attributed to her involving the multiplication of food such as butter. For this reason, she is often depicted in icons with a cow lying at her feet. Another miracle attributed to her involves the changing of bath water into beer. St. Brigid founded Kildare Abbey and several other Abbeys in Ireland. Next to St. Patrick, she is Ireland’s most beloved Saint. The miracle of food multiplication can be found in several places in the Bible. You may want to read the account of Jesus multiplying the 5 loaves and 2 fish in the Gospels (Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-14) or Elijah’s prophecy that the Widow at Zarephath’s flour and oil would not run out before the end of the drought (1 Kings 17:7-16).

She is the Patron Saint of (among others): Ireland, poets and dairymaids.

Saint Brigid, unknown author, illumination from the manuscript “Ruskin Hours”, c. 1300, ms. Ludwig IX 3, f. 106v, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles. Digital image courtesy of the Getty’s Open Content Program.

FOOD BANK MAESTEG: Will re-start from next Sunday, a box will be available at the back of the Church for any donations. *Thank you.*

FINANCE: MAESTEG: (Income received 24th January 2021)

Gift Aid £62; Planned Giving/Loose £180.20; Restoration £20; Brick £34.70,
Retiring (Maintenance/Restoration) £86.20; Standing Orders December £1009.

ABERKENFIG: Deember Income £932.

100 CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS will be taken during February and March 2021.

Cheques to be made payable to St. Robert’s Parish.

Please contact Bill Ennis 01656 724855 to arrange collection or payment of prize money due.

OUR LADY & ST PATRICK PARISH 300+ Club, 2021

Membership recruitment for the 300+ Club, 2021, progresses well; we expect to meet our target numbers this weekend. The team should like to extend their deep gratitude to each and every one of you, who despite the COVID restrictions on movement and contact, have moved heaven and earth to achieve the successful continuation of the 300+ Club. **THANK YOU.**

Recruitment for inclusion in the January draw shall continue for a further week, closing on Sunday, 7th February, with the draw taking place after Mass, on Tuesday, 9th February, once all membership payments are accounted for and recorded.

For those of you who have still not had the opportunity to renew your membership and would like to do so, please contact **Angela Brennan on 01656 732207 or 07572274646** to confirm your intentions. Angela will agree with you a means to achieve membership payment. If it is possible to pay the full £12 for the year, that would be great, but if you can only manage payment half yearly, quarterly or monthly, that too is fine; we are delighted to accept and work with which ever payment plan works for you. We look forward to hearing from you and to welcoming you to ***Our Lady & St Patrick’s 300+ Club Monthly Draw, 2021.***