

**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>

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B) 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

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

The Catechism of the Catholic Church Teaches that: “The desire to embrace his Father's plan of redeeming love inspired Jesus' whole life, for his redemptive passion was the very reason for his Incarnation. And so he asked, "And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour." And again, "Shall I not drink the cup which the Father has given me?" From the cross, just before "It is finished", he said, "I thirst." (CCC 607)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, out of Love for the world, the Lord Jesus Christ, handed Himself over to death, that He may save us and bring us to share with Him eternal life with the Heavenly Father. Out of Love for Him, who laid down His precious life for us, may we also give up all our sins and selfishness, by confessing our sins and embrace the works of Charity, through faith, that we may participate worthily in the Paschal Mystery of Christ for the glory of God and for our good and the good of His Holy Church.

Beloved, Jesus thirsted to drink the cup of suffering for our salvation. May we thirst for the Eucharist, the cup of His Blood, ‘The New and Eternal Covenant which is poured out for you and for many’, that our sins may be forgiven and remembered no more. The New Covenant promised by God would not be written on tablets of stone but on human hearts, For, the desire of the Lord is to place His law (Love) within our heart, that He may be our God and we His people, thus being at one with Him in Spirit and in Truth.

My dear People of God: To know the Lord, to love the Lord and to serve the Lord, who has totally sacrificed His life for us, is our calling as Christians. Jesus says, “whoever serves me will follow me and where I am will my servants be, and the Father will honour the one who serves me”, that His glory may be revealed in us, with the glory for which we were created, called and chosen to be the People of God.

Let us pray to the Lord to thoroughly wash us clean from all our sins and create a new heart in us that, we may lift Jesus up for all men to see, for the glory of God and for our good and the good of all His Holy Church.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all as we approach the celebrations of the Paschal festivities that, we may participate fully in the Passion of Christ and come to the glory of the Resurrection.

God love you all.

United in prayer!

**MASS INTENTIONS:** *I will continue to celebrate 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](mailto:maesteg@rcadc.org)

**'It is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts.  
Then I shall be their God and they shall be my people.'** Jeremiah 31:33



### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**Father Edmund will be away from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and return on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Father will continue to celebrate the Mass intentions each day whilst he is away.**

**(Psalter Week 1; Sunday Reading Cycle B)**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B) 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

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

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

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

**9am: Priscilla Asamoah Neizer RIP (M&F)      11am: Annie Scourfield RIP (Family)**

**5pm: Lynn Daniel RIP (L&AM)      Mal Hughes, Margaret & Thomas Maloney RIP (PH)**

**Retiring collection today for the "Restoration Fund"**

**Monday: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021: 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent**

**(PRIVATE MASS): Connie & Albert Williams RIP (P&C)      Special Intention (F&F)**

**Tuesday: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021: 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent**

**(PRIVATE MASS): Souls of Unborn Babies (AA)**

**10.30am – 12noon MAESTEG: The Church will be open for Private Prayer & Reflections in memory  
of the first Lockdown when Churches were closed from Public Worship.**

**Wednesday: 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021: Vigil "The Annunciation of the Lord"**

**Today we pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. On this Day of  
Prayer and Fasting for Life, we especially fast and pray for the end of DIY abortions at home.**

**Please join in and invite others to join as well. <https://www.facebook.com/events/725021905067267>**

**Thursday: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021: The Annunciation of the Lord**

**(PRIVATE MASS): Deceased members & benefactors SVP RIP (SVP)      Dante Ascari RIP (AA)**

***We pray for those embarking on the Genesis Mission Programme that the  
Holy Spirit may enlighten them as they are called to the New Evangelisation***

**Friday: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021: 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent**

**(PRIVATE MASS): We pray for Archbishop George and all Clergy & Religious Men and Women  
Aurora, Conversion of Federica & Souls in Purgatory**

**Saturday: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021: 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent**

**(PRIVATE MASS): PRISCILLA ASAMOAH NEIZER RIP**

**10am to 11.30am MAESTEG: The Church will be open for PRIVATE PRAYER to pray for the  
repose of the soul of PRISCILLA ASAMOAH NEIZER and for her family.  
Her funeral takes place in Ghana today.**

**(Psalter Week 2; Sunday Reading Cycle B)**

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**Vigil Mass Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 5pm, ST. ROBERT'S (Restrictions apply)**

**Thanksgiving Ann Reynolds, Management & Staff of Windoor**

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

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

***Palms will be blessed and distributed after Holy Communion***

**9am: Sheila Allan RIP (MD)      11am: Mary & Patrick Kehoe RIP (KK)**

**5pm: People of our Parishes, Those suffering from Coronavirus,  
NHS/Care Home' Staff/frontline workers/volunteers**

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN ON FRIDAY FOR:**

**ADORATION AND PRIVATE PRAYER** between 1pm and 6pm (*Restrictions apply*)

Contact Collette on 07702023565

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** 6pm (*Restrictions apply*)

(To book telephone Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm))

**CHURCH OPEN: ON TUESDAY**, from 10.30am to 11.30am for PRIVATE PRAYER & REFLECTIONS to Mark the First Lockdown/Closing of Churches; And **ON SATURDAY** 10am - 11.30am to pray for the repose of the soul of PRISCILLA ASAMOAH NEIZER and for her family.

**TO ATTEND MASSES** on 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> March please telephone the following Stewards:

**ABERKENFIG PARISH: 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.

**MAESTEG PARISH: SUNDAY: 9 am** Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)

11 am Collette on 077020235655. 5 pm Michelle 07488322929

**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.
- 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, take care and remain in God's love and care.*

## HOLY WEEK

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION & SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:**

Father Edmund will be available Monday to Wednesday of Holy Week for Confessions and Spiritual Direction. Anyone who would like to see him should book an appointment directly with him on mobile number 07964366710.

Monday of Holy Week 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021: *Private Mass:*

Tuesday of Holy Week 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021: 10 am MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*):  
(Telephone Derek or Denis 01656 731767 after 2 pm)

Wednesday of Holy Week 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021:  
10am, ABERKENFIG (*Restrictions apply*):  
(Telephone Bill Ennis on 724855, after 6.30 pm)



### **THE SACRED TRIDUUM/EASTERTIDE:** (*Restrictions apply*)

**IMPORTANT:** It is VITAL you contact the designated Stewards to book for the Services during HOLY WEEK/EASTER.

**PLEASE DO NOT JUST TURN UP AS YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND. PLEASE DO NOT PUT PRESSURE ON THE STEWARDS TO TURN YOU AWAY. Thank you.**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY MAESTEG: 7 pm Mass. Altar of Repose - Watch until 9 pm.**

Telephone Collette on 07702023565

**GOOD FRIDAY MAESTEG: 10 am Stations of the Cross. 3 pm Passion of the Lord.**

Telephone Michelle 07488322929

**HOLY SATURDAY MAESTEG: 7 pm Easter Vigil.**

Telephone Derek or Denis on 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)

**EASTER SUNDAY MAESTEG 9 am Mass - FULLY BOOKED.**

**ABERKENFIG 11 am Mass - telephone Bill Ennis on 724855, after 6.30 pm.**

### **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.”

**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. AMEN.

### **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

**LENT:** The God Who Speaks Team has sent this link to our Parishes - [Stations of the Cross and prayer resources](#) to aid personal devotions. [godwhospeaks.uk/lent-at-home/personal-devotions](http://godwhospeaks.uk/lent-at-home/personal-devotions)  
**Our Lady & St. Illtyds Llantwit Major** live stream Stations of the Cross/ meditations on Wednesday & Friday, 3pm

**FINANCE MAESTEG:** (Income 14<sup>th</sup> March): Gift Aid £195.50; Planned /Loose £92.00; Restoration/Maintenance £84.50; Bricks £46.64; Standing Orders February £715.00.

### **MAESTEG: GIFT AID/PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2021/2022 AVAILABLE TODAY:**

Please note that due to several parishioners now donating by Standing Order we do not need so many boxed envelopes; therefore, your numbers may have changed; this will be highlighted on your green/blue box. If you have/will donate in your pink/yellow envelopes, please be assured your donations will be registered to you.

Do you pay tax and are currently giving loose donations? If so, please consider gift aiding; every £1 you donate the Church will receive an extra 25p. You can either pay by standing order or ask Denis/Derek for a gift aid box/declaration form. Full details on standing orders and gift aiding also available on our Website.

**300+ Club 2021:** The March draw shall take place after Mass, on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Our Lady & St Patrick's Easter Raffle, 2021:**

Another great response from parishioners and friends of the parish, with 574 tickets sold in the first two weeks. Grateful thanks to everyone who has bought tickets, donated eggs and for the super Chocolate Hamper of Easter eggs and treats. Tickets available at Masses, 50p each. If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to participate in the fun of our exciting Easter raffle, please contact any of the Church stewards, or Michael Banks (07584177456), Maria Kelly-Harris (07964 965152), Maria Davies (07779532212), who will arrange to co-ordinate tickets for you. Draw Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March.

**ABERKENFIG:** (Income February): Gift Aid £518, Other £206.

**VACANCY FOR HEADTEACHER ST MARY & ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Information on our Website “NEWS TAB” or telephone the Clerk on [01656 815585](tel:01656815585) . Closing date 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

**ST MARY'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEWPORT:** Four temporary & full-time vacancies for teachers for the next academic year; closing date April 12<sup>th</sup> 2021; Further details on our Website “NEWS TAB” or visit <https://www.eteach.com/job/classteacher-1137552?lang=en-GB&frmsrh=Y>