

**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>

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

**MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Acclaimed as son of David, as the one who brings salvation (Hosanna means "Save!" or "Give salvation!"), the "King of glory" enters his City "riding on an ass". Jesus conquers the Daughter of Zion, a figure of his Church, neither by ruse nor by violence, but by the humility that bears witness to the truth. And so, the subjects of his kingdom on that day are children and God's poor, who acclaim him as had the angels when they announced him to the shepherds. Their acclamation, "Blessed be he who comes in the name of the Lord", is taken up by the Church in the "Sanctus" of the Eucharistic liturgy that introduces the memorial of the Lord's Passover." (CCC 559)

Beloved, Christ redeemed us all and gave perfect glory to God principally through the paschal mystery: dying He destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore, the Easter Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord is the culmination of the entire liturgical year. Thus, the solemnity of Easter has the same kind of pre-eminence in the Liturgical year that Sunday has in the week. Hence, the exemption of Sundays in Lent from the 40 days fast.

My dear people of God, Mother Church encourages us to let the paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, wherever possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, as a way of coming to the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection with uplifted and welcoming heart.

The days of the Holy Week are therefore unique in the liturgical year and their celebration is of the utmost importance in the spiritual and pastoral life of the Church.

At the Last Supper, on the night He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus, loving those who were His own in the world even to the end, offered his body and blood to the father under the appearance of bread and wine, and gave them to the apostles to eat and drink, then enjoined them and their successors in the priesthood to offer them in turn.

The Mass of the last Supper is first of all, the memorial of the institution of the Holy Eucharist, that is of the memorial of the Lord's Passover, by which under sacramental signs he perpetuated among us the sacrifice of the New Law (the Law of Love), Love one another as I have loved you.

On Good Friday, when "Christ our paschal lamb was sacrificed", what had long been promised in signs and figures was at last revealed and brought to fulfilment. The true lamb replaced the symbolic lamb, and the many offerings of the past gave way to the single sacrifice of Christ.

My dear brothers and sisters, with devotion and reverence, may we journey with Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the Passion Week, through His passion and death, that we may also share with Him the Glory of His Resurrection.

I wish you all a passionate and fruitful Holy Week that leads to a Glorious and a Happy Easter. God Love you all.

United in Prayer!



(Psalter Week 2; Sunday Reading Cycle B)

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

*Palms will be blessed and distributed after Holy Communion*

**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)**

**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**



**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: Terry Morgan RIP (KK)**  
**Special Intention**

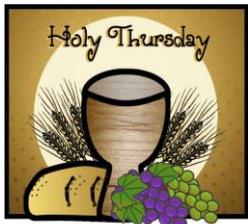
**Tuesday of Holy Week 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021: 10 am MAESTEG (Restrictions apply):**  
**Special Intention (Sue Walsh) (LR)                      Thanksgiving Finn Evans (LMM)**

**Wednesday of Holy Week 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021: 10 am ABERKENFIG (Restrictions apply):**  
**Winnie Hollyman RIP**

**11.30 am St David's Cathedral, Cardiff: CHRISM MASS (live streamed–visit [cardiffcathedral.org.uk](http://cardiffcathedral.org.uk))**

**THE SACRED TRIDUUM                      (RESTRICTIONS APPLY)**

**IMPORTANT: It is VITAL you have booked 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. PLEASE NOTE GOOD FRIDAY PASSION OF OUR LORD AND EASTER SUNDAY 9 AM – FULLY BOOKED.**



**EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER MAESTEG 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021: 7 pm Mass**  
**Telephone Collette 07702023565**

**Thanksgiving 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Mary & Ken Jenkins (Family)**

*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*

**Watching and Praying at the Altar of Repose until 9 pm**



**GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD: MAESTEG 2<sup>ND</sup> April 2021**

**10 am Stations of the Cross.                      Telephone Michelle 07488322929**

**3 pm Passion of the Lord.                      (Fully booked)**

**Retiring Collection for Holy Places**

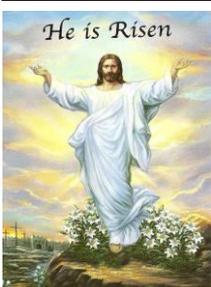


**EASTER VIGIL MAESTEG: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2021**

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

**7 pm Tom Bumford RIP (R&PB)**

**Lorna Hutton RIP (IH)**



**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD: 4<sup>TH</sup> April 2021**

**MAESTEG 9 am Mass (Fully booked)                      Stephen Mark Walsh RIP (SW)**

**Thanksgiving 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Moya and Keith Lewis (Family)**

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

**Angelo Rossetti RIP (KR)**

**People of our Parishes, Those suffering from Coronavirus,**

**NHS/Care Home' Staff/frontline workers/volunteers**

**Retiring Collection Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday Masses – Easter Offerings**

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.*

Living God, you walk alongside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures. Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears and shows us how to live for one another. Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world. *The Year of the God Who Speaks*



**ETERNAL REST:** Let us pray for the repose of the soul of ELIZABETH DAWKINS who passed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. *May she rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to her bereaved family and friends.*

**APPRECIATION:** *Fr. Edmund and the entire Neizer Family will like to express their sincerest gratitude to all Parishioners for your prayers, cards, words of support and condolences on the demise of our Beloved PRISCILLA ASAMOAH NEIZER. May God abundantly reward you all. God Love You!*

### **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 constantly on them
- 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. AMEN.

### **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.”

To attend Masses: week commencing Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, 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.**

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Fr. Edmund 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)

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

**ST ROBERT'S 100 CLUB:** Subscriptions being taken and new members welcome; cheques to be made payable to St. Robert's Parish. Please contact Bill Ennis 01656 724855.

**FINANCE MAESTEG:** (Income 21<sup>st</sup> March): Gift Aid £238.00; Planned /Loose £197.00; Restoration £407.50; 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 this Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March.

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

990 tickets sold to date, not including the tickets carried over from Easter 2020. Thank you to everyone for participating in our Parish event. Please note, all tickets for inclusion in the draw must be received by Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

The draw shall take place after Mass, Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

**Spread the Gospel: Developing a Missionary Parish**

The Diocesan Evangelisation Commission has spent the year of lockdown creating the programme and then piloting, reviewing, and amending it. The Programme has been approved by His Grace, Archbishop George Stack. It is a seven-week programme, running for one and half hours via Zoom on one evening a week. The dates will be Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The Programme is open to all parishioners and clergy across the Archdiocese.

The new Programme will remind participants of the Great Commission and the basic Gospel message. It will cover a rudimentary history of the early church and will consider important messages from recent papal papers, how to give witness testimonies, evangelise non-church going Catholics with practical approaches and tools for building a parish team to evangelise.

The Genesis Mission will be an important follow-on activity offered to participants, providing the necessary skills for successful encounters.

For more information and to register for the Programme, please email Madeleine Walters at [madeleine.walters@rcadc.org](mailto:madeleine.walters@rcadc.org)

**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>