



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

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Archdiocese of Cardiff – Registered Charity Number 1177272

**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say Rejoice!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: "Believers who respond to God's word and become members of Christ's Body, become intimately united with him: "In that body the life of Christ is communicated to those who believe, and who, through the sacraments, are united in a hidden and real way to Christ in his Passion and glorification." This is especially true of Baptism, which unites us to Christ's death and Resurrection, and the Eucharist, by which "really sharing in the body of the Lord, . . . we are taken up into communion with him and with one another." (CCC 790)

My dear people of God, in our 1st Reading of today, the apostles chose Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot, so that the work of the early church might continue without hindrance. They were united in prayer, and in supplication. This attitude of oneness of purpose remains a definite requirement for the success of our church in the present day. As God's chosen people may we be united in Faith and love by the gift of the Holy Spirit to support the growth of the Church (the Body of Christ).

Beloved, Faith involves an intimate relationship with Christ expressed in fidelity to the teaching of the Gospel, a deep life of prayer, and an ardent love for others. One who claims to be a Christian but does not love his neighbour, does not love God, since love of God is expressed by love of neighbour. Only through deeds of charity can we grow in both knowledge and friendship with God.

God loves us so much, so we must love one another. This mysterious spirit of love is the principle that underscores Christian unity. In other words, it is the love of God and love of neighbour that keeps us, and shall continue to keep the Christian community together.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ: in Jesus' prayer for His disciples, including those of us who follow him today, He prays that we should be united in love, as the Holy Trinity is united; and that we shall be protected from the evil one. Let us pray that we may all be one in Christ as He is one with the Father and the Spirit.

In this period of Pentecost Novena, as we seek greater encounter with Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ through His Word and Sacraments, and by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us pray that each one of us will be consecrated to the truth and receive a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit, and be empowered to be true witnesses of God's love in our Church and in the community where we live, to the greater Glory of God for our own good and the good of the world in which we live.

Let us Pray Together to the Holy Spirit: ***"Holy and Divine Spirit! Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, your spouse, bring the fullness of your gifts into our hearts. Comforted and strengthened by you, may we live according to your will and may we die praising your infinite mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen***

God love you.!

United in prayer



Through prayer a new incarnation of the Word takes place. And we are the “tabernacles” where the words of God want to be welcomed and preserved, so that they may visit the world. This is why we must approach the Bible without ulterior motives, without exploiting it. The believer does not turn to the Holy Scriptures to support his or her own philosophical and moral view, but because he or she hopes for an encounter; the believer knows that those words were written in the Holy Spirit, and that therefore in that same Spirit they must be welcomed and understood, so that the encounter can occur. (Pope Francis January 2021)



**(Psalter Week 3; Sunday Reading Cycle B)**

*(Restrictions apply)*

**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE – World Communications Day**

**VIGIL MASS: Saturday: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021: ST. ROBERT’S**

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

**HOLY MASS: Sunday: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK’S**

**9am: Graham White RIP (TW) Thanksgiving (Margaret Banks birthday) (M&f)**

**11am: Annie Scourfield RIP (NMCS) 5pm: Douglas Woodhatch RIP (CW)**

**Monday: 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021: Weekday: 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Eastertide**

***Private Mass: Canon Richard Byron RIP (CJ) Special Intention***

**Tuesday: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021: Weekday: 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Eastertide**

**10 am MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*):**

**Ken Jenkins RIP (Family) We pray for the souls of unborn Babies**

**1.30 pm Our Lady & St Patrick: (*Invitation only*)**

**Funeral Service: Kenneth David Jenkins RIP**

**2.45 pm Coychurch Crematorium**

**Wednesday: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021: Weekday: 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Eastertide**

***Private Mass: Special Intention (Anthony Roche) (M&f)***

**Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021: Weekday: 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Eastertide**

***Private Mass: Canon John Rohan & Patrick Brennan RIP (VB)***

**Friday: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021: Weekday: 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Eastertide**

**10am MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*): Special Intention (Kingsbury family) (M&M)**

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

**10.30am – 6pm EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOR ADORATION**

***(Restrictions apply: Please book a time slot with Collette on 07702023565)***

**6.00pm ROSARY DEVOTION AT THE GROTTA (*All are invited*)**

**CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION and SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:**

Fr. Edmund will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) and Spiritual Direction on Friday from 11am – 6pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg.

**You may please call the Mobile 07964366710 to book an appointment.**

**Saturday: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021: Weekday: 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Eastertide**

***Private Mass: Nell Pryce RIP (P&CD)***

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

**(Psalter Week 4; Sunday Reading Cycle B)**

*(Restrictions apply)*

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**VIGIL MASS: Saturday: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021: ST. ROBERT’S**

**5pm: Peter Reynolds RIP (AR)**

**HOLY MASS: Sunday: 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK’S**

**9am: People of our Parishes, Those, suffering from Coronavirus,  
NHS/Care Home’ Staff/frontline workers/volunteers; Fr. Edmund’s Intentions**

**11am: Patrick Butler & family RIP (MB) 5pm: Ken Jenkins RIP (TW)**

**RETIRING COLLECTION MAESTEG RESTORATION FUND**

## MONTH OF MAY

In this month of MAY, let us reflect on the importance and beauty of praying the Holy Rosary. In praying the Rosary, we contemplate the mysteries of Jesus, that is, we reflect on the key moments of His Life, so that, as with the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother and St. Joseph, Jesus remains the centre of our thoughts, our attention and our actions. May we remain in His Love.



**“In this thine own sweet month of May, do thou remember me!”**

During the month of May, we traditionally crown Our Lady, and with prayers and processions, invoke her intercession. This year, “The Holy Father invites and encourages us to dedicate this Marian month to praying for the end of the pandemic. This prayer initiative, under the theme of “The Whole Church, was fervently praying to God” (Cf. Acts 12:5), will involve all the shrines of the world in a special way, so that they might encourage the faithful, families, and communities to recite the Rosary to pray for an end to the pandemic. Pope Francis has reflected that this pandemic has demanded enormous sacrifices from each nation and its citizens. The crisis has called on the entire international community to commit, unite, with a spirit of responsibility and fraternity, to face the many challenges already in action and those which will come.”

### **ROSARY DEVOTION AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES GROTTTO**

**Our Lady & St. Patrick’s Church, MAESTEG**

**Every Monday – Saturday 6.00pm & Sunday 5.45pm**

*Everyone is WELCOME. Please, let us make it a point to attend to pray for the end of the Pandemic.*

**ETERNAL REST:** In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the soul of **JEFFERY GRAHAM WYATT** who passed away on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021; his Funeral Service to be held at Our Lady & St Patrick Church on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> May at 1 pm; Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15 pm. *(Invitation only).* **May he rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to his bereaved family at this difficult time.**

### **SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISM:** We congratulate **MALLORY KATIE LYN KERRIDGE** who was baptised at Our Lady and St. Patrick’s Church, Maesteg, yesterday Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Let us pray for her and her Parents and Godparents to be faithful in bringing her up in the faith. God Love Them!

**CONVALIDATION OF MATRIMONY:** We pray with **Collette Adrienne Matchett & David Henry Matchett** whose Civil Marriage contracted on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008 will be convalidated on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at Our Lady & St. Patrick’s Church, Maesteg. God love them!

**SICK OF OUR PARISHES:** “Is any among you sick? Let him call on the elders of the Church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed any sin, he will be forgiven” (James 5: 14-16). Let us pray for the sick of our Parishes remembering in a very special way: Vincent Kelly, David Lonergan, Maureen Lucas, Gerald Hughes, Maurice Kehoe, Anthony Roche, Linda Pryce and Sue Walsh. Fr Dennis Opoku, Marion Smith, Violet Ronan, Jeffrey Richards. Please do not hesitate to inform Fr. Edmund to add your love ones who are sick to the prayer list and to visit them where possible to administer the sacrament of the sick for their healing and strengthening. God love them.

### **WE PRAY FOR:**

- His holiness Pope Francis, Archbishop George, all clergy & men/women of Religious Orders, our sick and retired clergy; several who remain active in our parishes
- Vocations to the Priesthood; our Seminarians - Elliot Hanson, Dale Cutlan, and Gwyn Jones
- People of India who have died and suffering from the devastating second wave of the Coronavirus
- An end to the Pandemic and for our parishioners and all who work in the hospitals/care homes and our frontline workers/volunteers, as 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/residential homes 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  
all women going through unexpected pregnancies, that they would experience peace and support in this circumstance, and recognise the many blessings that motherhood brings.

*“Lord hear us ..... Lord graciously hear us”*

**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.”

**VIGIL OF ST RITA** on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. On this month’s Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life, you are especially asked to 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/886441852198421/>

**To attend Masses: please telephone the following Stewards:**

Derek and Denis away; for Masses Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May, please ring Maria on 07964965152

**MAESTEG PARISH:**

**TUESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> May: 10am: Derek or Denis - 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)**

**FRIDAY: 10am: Collette - 07702023565**

**SUNDAY: 11am: Collette - 07702023565 5pm: Michelle - 07488322929**

**EXPOSITION & ADORATION: FRIDAY: 10.30am -6.00pm: Collette on 07702023565**

**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.**

**CAFOD:** As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with experienced local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD’s Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID & vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up safely run isolation & quarantine centres. You can donate online here: [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give). **Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.**

**Archdiocese of Cardiff “The God Who Speaks”:** Scripture Study Days Saturday, May 29th from 11am-12.30pm. Deacon Rob Coyne will be giving a talk on “Celebrating, Living and Sharing “The God Who Speaks”. This will be a very enlightening talk as the title is the theme of the Year of the God Who Speaks. Further details of the programme of talks for the year can be found on the Archdiocesan website [https://rcadc.org/ events](https://rcadc.org/events). How to Access the Online Talks You can access the talks on the day via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82409256453?pwd=YktlYnQvWjNzQjI5L0xnZkFsaHNYUT09> Meeting ID 824 0925 6453

Passcode: 633303 The talks will also appear on YouTube. Please go to the ACES YouTube channel Contacts for enquiries: Madeleine Walters at [madeleine.walters@rcadc.org](mailto:madeleine.walters@rcadc.org) or Kate Duffin at [kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk)

**CROWN OF OUR LADY**

***GRATEFUL THANKS to Evelyn of Flower Basket, for arranging and donating the floral crowns for Our Lady’s statues at Our Lady & St. Patrick’s Church, and Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Maesteg. God Love her!***

**MAESTEG: (Income)**

9<sup>th</sup> May: Gift Aid £334.00; Planned /Loose £166; Maintenance £93.50; Standing Orders April £909.

**ABERKENFIG: (Income) March £1329, April £476)**

**100 CLUB Winners April: 1<sup>st</sup> £40 M. Maderson (152); 2<sup>nd</sup> £10 B.C. Stone (138); 3<sup>rd</sup> £10 D. Riley ( 123 )**