



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

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**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE 9th May 2021
MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

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

Jesus says: As the Father Has Loved Me, So I Have Loved You. Remain in my Love.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: "Charity is the soul of the holiness to which all are called: it "governs, shapes, and perfects all the means of sanctification." If the Church was a body composed of different members, it couldn't lack the noblest of all; it must have a Heart, and a Heart BURNING WITH LOVE. And I realized that this love alone was the true motive force which enabled the other members of the Church to act; if it ceased to function, the Apostles would forget to preach the gospel, the Martyrs would refuse to shed their blood. LOVE, IN FACT, IS THE VOCATION WHICH INCLUDES ALL OTHERS; IT'S A UNIVERSE OF ITS OWN, COMPRISING ALL TIME AND SPACE - IT'S ETERNAL!" (CCC 826)

Beloved, in the 1st Reading, The Holy Spirit came down on Cornelius, a Roman soldier, as well as the other non-Jews who were listening to Peter, even before they were baptized. By this event, we learn, first of all that the Good News of our faith can be shared with everyone, and secondly, that the Holy Spirit can take the initiative and start working in us, whenever he wishes.

The 2nd Reading explains that we must love one another, because love comes from God, and, indeed, God is love. God showed his love for us by the sacrifice of his only son, through whom we have salvation.

Jesus in the Gospel Reading commands us to love one another, as he loved us, and as God loved him. In fact, he loves us well enough to teach us everything he received from God, in order that we should become his friends. Jesus urges us this day, to maintain and sustain our love for each other.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Love of God the Father is revealed by his Son, Jesus Christ. We are chosen to be friends of Christ. Jesus Christ trusts us, so he tells us everything about the Father. The love of God the Father is sustained by the Power of the Holy Spirit, one whom the Catechism describes as "the interior master of love. He is a gentle guest and friend who inspires, guides, corrects, and strengthens us to go out and bear fruits, fruits that will last. (CCC 1697).

St. Augustine wrote: "Love and do what you will. If you keep silence, keep silence in love; if you will speak, speak in love: if you will correct, correct in love; if you will forbear, forbear in love. Let love be rooted within you for it is from that root that goodness can spring."

My dear people of God, as the Father has chosen the Son to lay down his life for us, so as Christians we have been chosen by the virtue of our baptism for love. For the Christian love is self-sacrifice, which demands us to give. It is not just giving things we possess or our time, but to give ourselves.

We are chosen for Joy. However, challenging the way of the Christian life is, it is a way of joy. There is always joy in doing the right thing - LOVE. It is true we are Christians and imperfect, but we are the redeemed sinners, and there lies our joy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church provides us with the truth of the Love of God. This truth enlightens us, frees us, strengthens us, and draws us into the wonder of God's love for us and for the whole world. For the love of Christ lies at the center of the church, of her teaching and her liturgy, her life, and her prayer.

May we realize the purpose of our lives through loving God, Knowing God, and serving God in our neighbors. God love you. Remain in His Love.

United in prayer

(Psalter Week 2; Sunday Reading Cycle B)

(Restrictions apply)

6th SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

VIGIL MASS:

Saturday: 8th May 2021: ST. ROBERT'S

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

HOLY MASS:

Sunday: 9th May 2021: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S

9am: Jeff Wyatt *RIP (MB)* **11am:** Patrick, Janet & Michael Butler *RIP (MB)*
5pm: Patrick Hayes *RIP (EH)*

Monday: 10th May 2021: Weekday: 6th Week of Eastertide

Private Mass: Elias Family *RIP (S&MK)* **Special Intention.**

Tuesday: 11th May 2021: Weekday: 6th Week of Eastertide

10 am MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*):

Terry & Nancy Hayes *RIP (PT&S)* Mary McBride *RIP (WF)*
We pray for the souls of unborn Babies

Wednesday: 12th May 2021: Weekday: 6th Week of Eastertide

10 am ABERKENFIG: (*Restrictions apply*) Kathryn Lowe *RIP (KL)*

ASCENSION OF THE LORD - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Wednesday, 12th May, 6.30 pm

MAESTEG: VIGIL MASS: Proceeded by the Rosary in the Church at 6pm.
Kenneth David Jenkins *RIP (ALL&M)*

Thursday, 13th May 2021, 9 am MAESTEG: HOLY MASS:

Connie & Albert Williams *RIP (P&C)*

To attend please telephone Derek/Denis on 01656 731767 any afternoon after 2 pm.

Thursday, 13th May 2021, 10.30 am ABERKENFIG: HOLY MASS:

Winnie Hollyman *RIP (D)*

To attend please contact Bill Ennis on 724855 after 6.30 pm

Friday: 14th May 2021: St Matthias, Apostle

10am MAESTEG (*Restrictions apply*): Ray Dunphy *RIP (MD)*

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*)

Saturday: 15th May 2021: Weekday: 5th Week of Eastertide

Private Mass: Jeff Wyatt *RIP (CT)*

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

(Psalter Week 3; Sunday Reading Cycle B)

(Restrictions apply)

7th SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

VIGIL MASS: Saturday: 15th May 2021: ST. ROBERT'S

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

HOLY MASS: Sunday: 16th May 2021: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S

9am: Graham White *RIP (TW)* **11am:** Annie Scourfield *RIP (NMCS)*

5pm: Douglas Woodhatch *RIP (CW)*

ARC DIOCESAN THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE 2021: Saturday 15th May at 11am. All are welcome to join the Mass livestream via the [All Saints YouTube channel](#) when all couples will be encouraged to make the Renewal of Commitment together at home.



The Ascension

CONGRATULATIONS!

WE PRAY FOR ARCHBISHOP GEORGE STACK AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY TODAY 9TH MAY 2021 AND CONGRATULATE HIM FOR THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS EPISCOPAL ORDINATION, TOMORROW 10TH MAY 2021. MAY THE GOOD LORD GRANT HIM GOOD HEALTH AND MANY MORE FRUITFUL AND HAPPY YEARS.

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 souls of **KENNETH DAVID JENKINS** who passed away on Wednesday, 28th April 2021; his Funeral Service to be held at Our Lady & St Patrick Church on Tuesday, 18th May at 1.30 pm; Coychurch Crematorium at 2.45 pm. (*Invitation only*). And **JEFFERY GRAHAM WYATT**, who passed away on Sunday 25th April, 2021. And **CANON RICHARD BYRON** who was buried last Wednesday.

May they rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory.

Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to the bereaved families at this difficult time.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: We congratulate **HARRI JAMES GODNEY** who was baptised at St. Robert Church, Aberkenfig on Saturday 8th May 2021. Let’s continue to pray for him and his Parents and Godparents to be faithful in bringing him up in the faith.

Let us also pray for **MALLORY KATIE LYN KERRIDGE** who will be Baptised on Saturday 15th May 2021 at Our Lady and 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, Linda Pryce and Sue Welsh. 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.

CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION and SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Fr. Edmund will available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) and Spiritual Direction on Fridays from 11am – 6pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg. You may please call the Mobile 07964366710 to book an appointment.

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 unborn children diagnosed with disabilities, we pray for protection for them and their mothers from the pressures of society to have an abortion, and that they would instead experience overwhelming support by all who surround them.”

“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.”

To attend Masses: please telephone the following Stewards:

MAESTEG PARISH:

TUESDAY: 10am: Derek or Denis - 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)

FRIDAY: 10am: Collette - 07702023565

SUNDAY: 9am: Derek or Denis - 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)

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. **Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.**

MAESTEG:

FINANCE: (Income 2nd May): Gift Aid £320.50; Planned /Loose £122; Maintenance £112.40; Standing Orders March £1163; Priest Training Fund £69.00; Funeral donation £50.30, Bricks 52.80.

300 PLUS CLUB APRIL DRAW: 1st £50 136 Andrew Winston; 2nd £30 201 Anna Jordan; 3rd £20 241 Cath Treharne. Grateful appreciation to all members for your continued participation.