



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

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**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B  
DAY FOR LIFE “FATHERS’ 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: “Jesus asks for childlike abandonment to the providence of our heavenly Father who takes care of his children's smallest needs: "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?". . . Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." (CCC 305)

My dear people of God, today, in our readings, we journey with the Lord who has absolute power over what was created through him and for him. It is very comforting to Know that He is with us amid all the challenges of life.

Job had to go through a “violent storm” that plagued his life. Our first Reading forms part of God’s response to some of the questions Job had asked. Job had been lamenting about the disaster that had befallen him. Instead of answering his prayers, God rather asked him a series of questions, which no human could possibly answer. The lesson from this scripture is that during difficult times, we, too, must humbly remember our position before the all-powerful God, and wait upon him. Secondly, the reading asserts that a relationship of trust in God is more important than answers to our question of “Why?” Job’s deeper need was to know that God had not abandoned him but God still cared for him.

Today’s Gospel finds Jesus and his apostles caught in the raging waters of the sea of Galilee. In their anxious request, Jesus subdues the wind and sea in a dramatic fashion. Mark reveals that, it was under the instruction of Jesus, that the disciples set out to cross the sea to the other side. He knew the storm was gathering yet he ordered the departure. The apostles, being seasoned fishermen depending on their own experience took over the sailing of the boat hence Jesus went to sleep. For every follower of Jesus there would be many occasions to launch out over troubled waters.

Beloved, let us note that the presence of Jesus in the boat did not prevent the storm from coming. The humility and obedience of Job did not stop the raging storms in his life. The notion that a good Christian does not suffer is not always true. Certainly, there might be storms that will threaten to sink our faith. A terminal illness, the death of a loved one, financial crises, betrayal, marital infidelity, and many other storms that might cause us to question God’s goodness. The Lord never promised we will never see a storm in life. Rather, He has promised that He will be with us in the storm. When everything seems bleak and appears like God is asleep, remember the one in your boat. The point is really not about surviving the storm, it is about who is in the boat with you. It is not what we have in our life, but who we have in our life that matters. Jesus does not take us out into the middle of the sea to drown us. He takes us across the stormy sea so that we can participate in his work of redemption. The storm is not where we face the enemy, it is where we meet our God and see His mighty power.

One striking thing about today’s Gospel is Jesus’ response to the needs of his disciples. “And rising up, Jesus rebuked the wind, and ordered the sea, “Quiet now! Be still!” (Mark 4:39). It was only when the wind had dropped and there was a great calm, that he began addressing his disciple on their lack of faith.

Beloved in Christ, the secret of survival on the waters of life is not physical strength, wealth, knowledge, but a deeper faith in God. At least there were four experienced fishermen, who had lived most of their life on the sea of Galilee. As experts in their own right, they tried their best to safe the situation. Experience is the best teacher, but it has its own limitations. When we happen to reach our human limits and things become impossible to resolve, let us in faith learn to abandon ourselves in the hands of God. Sometimes, it is in adversity, when we have come to the end of ourselves, that we see the power of God in our lives. Remember, not all storms are destructive, some come to clear the way, some come to strengthen our faith in God. We just have to learn to go to Christ with deep humility and great faith in His word and Sacraments. There is a higher voice that nature obeys, there is a higher authority that governs us and all creation. It is Jesus whose command subdue even the powers of nature. Christ by His Word and Sacraments is always working through the power of the Holy Spirit in His Church. In fact, he is always with us, and especially when we are in an impossible situation, with special concern, He is ever ready to give a helping hand.

Beloved, sometimes when we feel the Lord is silent or sleeping, it is a sign that we have taken over and He has deep trust and respects our ability to perform. However, in difficult moments, let us call upon Him, and with humility, submit ourselves to God’s Holy Will, which is love and mercy itself.

God love you  
United in prayer.



The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures as she has venerated the Lord's body, in that she never ceases, above all, in the sacred liturgy, to partake of the bread of life and to offer it to the faithful from the one table of the word of God and the body of Christ.' (Dei Verbum, 21)



**(Psalter Week 4 Sunday Reading Cycle B)**  
**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**  
**DAY FOR LIFE “FATHERS’ DAY”**

*(Restrictions apply)*

**VIGIL MASS: Saturday: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2021: ST. ROBERT'S**  
**5pm: Private Intention (BL) Aiofe McCloskey RIP**

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

**HOLY MASS: Sunday: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S**

**9am: Anniversaries Mavis & Jack Harris (M&TC)**

**11am: Patrick, Janet & Michael Butler RIP (MB) 5pm: Kathryn Richards & Arthur Williams RIP (GB&G)**



**Monday: 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021: St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious**

**Private Mass: Ken Jenkins RIP (SW) Special Intention**

**6 pm ROSARY at OUR LADY'S GROTTTO**

**Tuesday: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year 1, Week 12**

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

**John Manley RIP (A&R) Erwin Cyba RIP (LM) we pray for the souls of unborn Babies**

**Wednesday: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year 1, Week 12**

**10 am ABERKENFIG *(Restrictions apply)*: John Lowe Snr RIP**

**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021: The Nativity of St John the Baptist**

**Private Mass: Paul & Jackie Waters RIP (SW)**

**Friday: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021: Weekday in Ordinary Time, Year 1, Week 12**

**10 am MAESTEG *(Restrictions apply)*: Vince Kelly RIP (M&KL) Dante Ascari RIP (AA)**

**We pray for All the Clergy & Religious Orders, to always & ever follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit**

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

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

**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: 26<sup>th</sup> June 2021: Votive Memorial of Our Lady**

**Private Mass: Angela Lewis RIP (R&BJ)**

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

**(Psalter Week 1 Sunday Reading Cycle B)**  
**13<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

*(Restrictions apply)*

**VIGIL MASS: Saturday: 26<sup>th</sup> June 2021: ST. ROBERT'S**

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

**HOLY MASS: Sunday: 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S**

**9am: Maureen Lucas RIP (D&CJ)**

**11am: Thanksgiving 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Eirlys Furlong) (D&DH)**

**5pm: Vincent Kelly RIP (Family)**

**ETERNAL REST:** In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the souls of VINCENT KELLY who passed away on Wednesday, 2<sup>ND</sup> June 2021, His Funeral will be on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 10am at Our Lady & St. Patrick's Church, Maesteg; and MAUREEN LUCAS who passed away on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2021, her Funeral will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 12.30pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick Church, Maesteg.

*May they rest in perfect peace and rise in Eternal Glory. Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to their bereaved families at this sad and difficult time.*



## Month of June

We continue to pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus; especially for all Priests for their care, love and support; especially those of our Archdiocese and Deanery. *Amen.*

**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: David Lonergan, Gerald Hughes, Maurice Kehoe, Anthony Roche, Linda Pryce, Theresa Griffiths, Fr. Dennis Opoku, Marion Smith, Violet Ronan. 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

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

**HAPPY FATHERS’ DAY:** To all fathers we thank you and pray for God’s abundant blessings and favours upon you today. Remain in God’s love and care.

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

**11am: Collette - 07702023565 5pm: Derek or Denis – 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2 pm)**

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

#### **ABERKENFIG PARISH:**

**WEDNESDAY 10 am & SATURDAY Vigil Mass 5 pm - Bill Ennis on 01656 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.**

### **ST PETER & ST PAUL TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021 - HOLY MASS:**

**ABERKENFIG: 9.30am Contact Bill Ennis on 01656 724855, after 6.30 pm.**

**MAESTEG: 11am and 6pm Contact Derek or Denis - 01656 731767 (Any afternoon after 2pm)**

**PARISH FINANCE:** Our sincere gratitude goes to everyone for your contributions to the Parishes.

**ABERKENFIG:** Income May 2021 £875; Expenditure £212.

**MAESTEG:** Income 13<sup>th</sup> June: Gift Aid £317.50; Planned /Loose £235.80; Maintenance £83.45; Bricks £3.28.  
Standing Orders May 2021 £926.00.

**LEVY TO ARCHDIOCESE:**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021: OUR LADY & ST. PATRICK, MAESTEG paid £2,686.00 out of £10,745.00

ST. ROBERT, ABERKENFIG paid £1,083.00 out of £4330

The next payment will be due 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. Your support financially and in kind to the Parishes in these uncertain times is very much appreciated. Please continue to keep it up. God love you.

**NEW FILM ON “FATIMA”** will be shown in Cinemas from 25 June.

You can also get a good idea of what the film will be like by visiting: <https://www.fatimafilm.co.uk/>

**OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S GARDEN PARTY:** Thank you to everyone who attended the parish June Garden Party yesterday and to all those who contributed in cash and kind to make it a success. It was a terrific opportunity for us to catch up with old friends, to see happy, smiling faces and to hear the sounds of laughter. We are eternally grateful to each and every one of you who generously donated raffle and bingo prizes, bottles of Bucks Fizz, bottles of sparkling wine, in addition to financial donations, you made it all possible – **THANK YOU.**

**Our Lady & St Patrick's 'Sizzling Summer Raffle'**

Our first ever parish 'Summer Raffle' launches today, 20th June, tickets available at Mass from stewards. Alternatively, please contact Michael Banks on 07584177456, or any of the stewards. For those of you who want to participate in our exciting raffle, but is unable to attend Mass, we shall be happy to facilitate a 'Click & Collect' system, that is to say, we can drop off to your home the amount of raffle tickets you wish to purchase and to collect your money at the same time.

Tickets are priced at £1 each; Prizes include:-

- 1st Prize: £100 cash
- 2nd Prize: Indulgent basket of cheese & wine.
- 3rd Prize: £25 voucher for Summer BBQ meat selection
- Plus, many more exciting prizes which we are beginning to receive as donations.

Draw shall take place on the 2nd Tuesday in August.

**Fr Edmund's Silver Jubilee Anniversary to the Priesthood:**

Fr Edmund shall celebrate his 25th Anniversary to the Priesthood at Our Lady and St Patrick's Church on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. Details for the celebration shall be announced next week – 'COVID 19 restrictions for numbers will apply'.

**MONTH OF AUGUST:** FR. Edmund will be going to Ghana at the end of July for a Funeral. God willing, he may return on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. In his absence the Priests in the Deanery would cover Masses for the first Sunday in August. You may please contact Fr. Tim for any pastoral need in the absence of Fr. Edmund. Please God, Fr. Gareth Leyshon, will come in to cover for the rest of the period. Thank you

**What impact has the pandemic had on you and your family?** Is this impact temporary? Or are the effects of it likely to last for months/years to come? How has your family life changed? Are there any areas of your life that you need advice about? Do you miss having people to share your experiences with? Would talking with others in similar situations help? The Family Life Team for the Archdiocese would like to invite **YOU** to a 'Drop in Zoom' if you would like a bit of advice, support or information **or just chat with likeminded parents/grandparents** about the joys and challenges they face within their families and maybe discover how the Church can support the families of our community, directly or through signposting to appropriate organisations. **Zoom Drop In Sessions will be held by Zoom on Tuesdays as follows:**

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 11am, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 11am.** Parents and grandparents can 'drop in' to the sessions as suits your availability and as one off or several as you wish... but you will need to get a joining invitation, so, please email [flc@rcadc.org](mailto:flc@rcadc.org) and a joining invitation will be sent by reply.

If you do find things getting too much, remember to talk to family and friends and share your feelings; if this isn't possible or appropriate remember there are organisations that can offer support or just a listening ear: Family lives - offer information and support on many aspects of family life and parenting. **They offer an online chat and have a helpline 0808 800 222 Samaritans – call them anytime 116 123. If you have domestic abuse concerns, Refuge have a 24 hour helpline 0808 2000 247**