



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

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Archdiocese of Cardiff – Registered Charity 1177272



**29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
MESSAGE FROM FR. EDMUND**

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

May the Peace and Joy of Christ be with you.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that: “Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to man. We can lose this priceless gift, as St. Paul indicated to St. Timothy: “Wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have made shipwreck of their faith.” To live, grow and persevere in the faith until the end we must nourish it with the word of God; we must beg the Lord to increase our faith; it must be “working through charity,” abounding in hope, and rooted in the faith of the Church.” (CCC 162)

My dear people of God, by His suffering and death on the Cross, Christ atoned for the sins of the world. This supreme sacrifice was the price of our redemption and the culmination of the revelation of God’s Love. Through Christ’s redemption, everyone is invited to receive forgiveness, healing and everlasting life. Like a Lamb led to the slaughter, Christ endured his passion largely in silence, obediently accepting His Father’s plan for the ransom of humanity from the bondage of sin and death. Prefigured by the Passover lamb, Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Beloved, the perfect sacrifice of Christ has an infinite merit and, therefore replaced the imperfect sacrifices of the Old Covenant. On account of His redemptive sacrifice, Christ sits at the right hand of the Father interceding for us.

Since He is like us in all things but sin, Christ experienced fears, sorrows and fatigue, etc. However, being perfect God and perfect Man, He had no inclination to sin. We can turn to Him for help in overcoming our weaknesses due to suffering since the Lord can identify with every human plight and suffering.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, when Christ announced His passion again to His disciples and reminded them that they, too, were called to follow in His footsteps, they were thinking of positions in the Kingdom. Christ, however, teaches that greatness in the Kingdom of God rests upon a spirit of service and least to say, suffering. By saying, “The cup that I drink... you will be baptised” Christ indicate that Just as He came to serve and to suffer for our salvation, so His disciples will serve and suffer for their faith in Him. Hence, the Priestly Office “is in a strict sense of the term Service”. (LG 24) This life of service is exemplified in every action of Christ, who gave His life in atonement for our sin and the sins of the world.

May God increase our faith and grant us the grace to follow Christ in His life of service and obedience to the will of the Father for our good and the good of His Holy Church. God Love you.

United in prayer!

**THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS 2023**

Last Week, The Holy Father, Pope Francis launched the world-wide Synodal journey in Saint Peter’s, Rome. Today, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 it is to be launched in all dioceses all over the world. This invitation to all the faithful to enter into the Synodal process is the first phase of preparation for the Synod of Bishops in 2023, which is entitled, ‘For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and Mission’. The entire synodal journey has three phases, that is, the diocesan phase, the continental phase, and the universal phase; beginning in 2021 and climaxing in 2023. Pope Francis is calling the Church to rediscover its deeply synodal nature which will involve a process of humbly discerning together how God is calling us to be Church in the third millennium. Synodality is a way by which the Church lives out her mission in the world; it requires the entire People of God to be on a journey together, with each member having the opportunity to contribute to the decision-making process of the Church. It will be a situation where the whole Church will gather in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to inspire us and direct us on the right path to take. So, Pope Francis is inviting all of us, the People of God in the diocese, to dream about the Church we are being called to become; we are ‘to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to learn from each other, to enlighten minds, warm hearts and restore strength for our common mission.’



“The word of God is thus expressed in human words thanks to the working of the Holy Spirit. The missions of the Son and the Holy Spirit are inseparable and constitute a single economy of salvation. The same Spirit who acts in the incarnation of the Word in the womb of the Virgin Mary is the Spirit who guides Jesus throughout his mission and is promised to the disciples. The same Spirit who spoke through the prophets sustains and inspires the Church in her task of proclaiming the word of God and in the preaching of the Apostles; finally, it is this Spirit who inspires the authors of sacred Scripture.” (Verbum Domini n15)

**29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B – SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021:**

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

**AT ALL MASSES TODAY - STATISTICS COUNT 3**

**ST. ROBERT’S ABERKENFIG**

**People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers**

**9am: Maria Costain *RIP* (KL)      Mr Dorino Civetta *RIP* (DC)**

**OUR LADY & ST PATRICK’S MAESTEG**

**11am: Thanksgiving New Granddaughter (KHF)      Louise & Vince *RIP* (KF)**

**5pm: Philip Colston *RIP* (MB&f)      Special Intention (FFM)**

**RETIRING COLLECTION RESTORATION FUND**

**Let us pray with the Clergy of the Archdiocese as they go on an Annual Clergy Retreat at Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, Reading, from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021.**

**Be assured that our thoughts and prayers will be with you.**

**MONDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021: St Luke**

**6 pm ROSARY at OUR LADY’S GROTTTO**

**Let us continue to pray the Rosary daily which will help us draw closer to Jesus and Mary by Meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.**



**FRIDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021: St John Paul II Pope**

**11am to 12.30pm “CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER”**



**SATURDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021: Votive of Memorial of Our Blessed Lady**

***Private Mass: Terence, Denis, Brian & Eddie *RIP* (M&f)***

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

**30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

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

**ST. ROBERT’S ABERKENFIG**

**9am: People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers**

**Mary Dunphy (Birthday) (KL)**

**OUR LADY & ST PATRICK’S MAESTEG**

**11am: Margaret Heath & Arthur Williams *RIP* (GBG)      Ken Lucus *RIP* (LF)**

**5pm Gwen Richards & Sinnott Family *RIP* (CW)**

**RETIRING COLLECTION World Mission**

***Please only attend Church if you are symptom free***

**SUNDAY OBLIGATION REMAINS SUSPENDED AT THIS TIME**

**MAESTEG PARISH:**

**ANY QUERIES REGARDING MASSES PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Sundays: 11am Derek/Denis 01656 731767 (any afternoon after 2pm)**

**5pm Michelle 07488322929**

**ABERKENFIG PARISH:**

**Sunday Mass 9am - Bill Ennis on 724855/Bernadette 725911, after 6.30 pm**

**ETERNAL REST:**

**In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the souls of NEIL STANTON who recently passed away and for TERRANCE O’NEILL who passed away on 1<sup>ST</sup> October 2021; his Funeral Service will be on 26th October, 2 pm, Maesteg Cemetery. *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.***

**Please pray for all our Parishioners who have recently died and those who have anniversaries at this time.**

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





**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** “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”

Let us pray for the sick of our Parishes remembering in a very special way:

Gerald Hughes, Maurice Kehoe, Linda Pryce, 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 to always & ever follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Vocations to the Priesthood; our Seminarians - Dale Cutlan and Deacon Elliot Hanson
- All Prisoners and their dependents
- An end to the Pandemic and for our parishioners and all who work in the hospitals/care homes and our frontline workers/volunteers
- the faithful departed parishioners, family, friends and those who have died from the Pandemic and from the disasters in the world; 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 the Pandemic
- those who have no-one to pray for them
- our young people & students, Headteachers, Teachers, Staff & Governors of our Schools
- the souls of unborn Babies
- all expectant mothers, for an overwhelming sense of hope and joy to fill their lives, and for increased support to be given by their families, friends, and local communities, as they journey through this life-changing experience. *“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.”

**NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS (Maesteg/Aberkenfig Parishes):**

Traditionally, during the month of November, we remember and pray for those who have died and gone before us. It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for our dead. **The “November Dead Lists” will be distributed at all Masses today; also available online (News tab).**

Please return to the Stewards or post to Father Edmund, The Presbytery, Our Lady & St Patrick, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY. Your lists will be compiled in a special book and placed on the Altar at your Parish Church. A Mass each day throughout November will be offered for departed family and friends.

Red grave candles available at the Maesteg/Aberkenfig Repositories.



**ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS FOR OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST NOVEMBER**

**(Aberkenfig/Maesteg Parishes):** Father Edmund will celebrate the Annual Requiem Mass for those who have died during the past year on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November at 6 pm at Our Lady & St Patrick’s Church.

**VISIT TO THE CEMETERIES AND BLESSING OF GRAVES: Holy Souls Feast 2<sup>nd</sup> November.**

**World Mission Sunday:** Envelopes available today for World Mission Collection next Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> October.

**FINANCE:** Sincere gratitude goes to everyone for your contributions and support to both Parishes. 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!

**MAESTEG PARISH:** Income 10<sup>th</sup> October: Gift Aid £192.50; Planned /Loose £118.50; CAFOD £15; Standing Orders September £1066. **TOTAL PARISH DEBTS OUTSTANDING:** Loan: £250,663.08, Levy: £7,958.00

**ABERKENFIG PARISH:** September Income – Gift Aid £1021, Loose £11.47.

## OUR LADY & ST PATRICK PARISH MAESTEG

### IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES PRAYER IS OUR LIFELINE

Maria Browne invites you to a new Parish Prayer Group called "GWEDDIWN"  
The next meeting will be in the Parish Hall at 2 pm this Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October  
(and every two weeks thereafter).

**WHY NOT COME ALONG AND REFLECT, FIND PEACE and PRAY FOR THE  
NEEDS OF OUR PARISH AND THE WORLD**



**For your safety:** Masks must be worn, sanitizer will be provided and we will be socially distanced

### INVITATION TO ALL MOTHERS



Would you like an opportunity to chat about the "big questions" your child asks?

Would you like to extend the activities on offer for families in our Parish?

Do you just want time for a chat and relax with friends?

You are invited to join us for a cuppa after dropping your children at school.

**Fridays 8:45 to 9:45am Parish Function Room**

**MISSIO (Red Boxes):** Please, can promoters empty their boxes. We are still looking for a promoter for the Caerau area, if you can help please contact Paula 733605. If you need your box emptied, please leave it in the school office or Church for Paula. Wish to support MISSIO by having a Red Box contact Paula.

*Many thanks for your continued support.*

## Archdiocese of Cardiff "The God Who Speaks"

### SAINT OF THE MONTH - Saint Luke (18<sup>TH</sup> October)

St. Luke's two-volume work comprises the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. His Gospel is the only one written by a Gentile Christian and it is likely that he wrote it between 70 and 85 AD. Luke was thorough in his research and interviewed eye witnesses when composing his works. Luke's writing is warm and his Gospel is often summarised as the Gospel of Mercy. Luke was a disciple of Paul, first appearing in Acts during Paul's second missionary journey to Philippi. He was a faithful missionary companion of Paul's and stayed nearby when Paul was imprisoned. Paul refers to Luke as "our beloved physician". St. Luke is the Patron Saint of Artists and Painters and of Physicians and Surgeons. His symbol is an ox.



### Scripture Study Days

The next Scripture Study Day will be given on Saturday, November 6th from 11am-12.30pm.

Deacon Philip Manghan will be giving a talk on "The Gospel of St. Luke". He will bring our study of the four Gospels to an excellent end.

Details of the programme of talks for the year can be found on the Archdiocesan website <https://rcadc.org/events>

You can access the talks on the day via Zoom at: <http://tinyurl.com/RCADCscripture>

Meeting ID 863 9669 5727 Passcode: 068790

Contacts for enquiries: Madeleine Walters [madeleine.walters@rcadc.org](mailto:madeleine.walters@rcadc.org) or Kate Duffin [kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk)

## PASTORAL LETTER FROM HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP GEORGE OCTOBER 2021

(Available on our Website "Events/Resources" tab)

The forthcoming meeting of world leaders in Glasgow from 31st October-12th November COP26 (Conference of the Parties-Participants) will have unprecedented urgency and importance. "Care for Creation" has been a constant theme in the teaching of Pope Francis, contained not least in his publication of "Laudato Si". If, as it is hoped, the Holy Father attends the COP26 Conference, he will surely re-iterate this message. At the very least, governments must surely seek to make achievable and realistic policies to ensure that further global warming is limited so that sustainable living conditions may be available for all.

His Grace, asks that we make Sunday 31 October (the Feast of All Saints) a Day of prayer for the success of the meeting in Glasgow. The following prayer, offered by CAFOD, may be used daily in preparation for the success of COP26.

*Loving God, We praise your name with all you have created. You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures. We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us As stewards of your creation. May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP6 as they Seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society. Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.*