



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

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**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
(Psalter Week 4 Sunday Reading Cycle C)**

<b>4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR C</b>  <b>30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022</b>	<b>Aberkenfig 9 am</b>  <b>Maesteg 11 am</b> Reader: Collette Matchett  <b>Maesteg 5 pm</b> Reader: Angela Brennan	People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers <b>The Rees Family (M Dunphy)</b>
	<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022</b> <b>St John Bosco Priest</b>	<b>Maesteg</b> <i>Private Mass</i>   <b>6 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022</b> Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II Week 4	<b>Maesteg</b> <b>10 am Mass</b>	<b>Howard Evans RIP (TW)</b> <b>Dante Ascari RIP (AA)</b> <i>We pray for the souls of Unborn Babies</i>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022</b> The Presentation of the Lord World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life	<b>Aberkenfig 10 am</b> <b>Maesteg 6.30pm</b>	People of our Parishes <b>Wayne Tanner RIP (CT)</b>
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022</b> St Blaise Bishop and Martyr “BLESSING OF THROATS”	<b>Maesteg 10 am</b>	<b>Mary and Ron Browne RIP (MTB)</b> Deceased Members of Dwyer & Crowley families RIP (MD)
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b> Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II Week 4  	<b>Maesteg 10 am</b>  <b>11 am - 6 pm</b>	<b>Margaret Banks RIP (CJ)</b> Family & Friends of the Kelly family (Kf) <i>We pray for the Clergy &amp; Religious Orders</i>  <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration</b>
<b>FRIDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022</b> <b>CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION</b> <i>and SPIRITUAL DIRECTION</i>	 <b>MAESTEG</b> <b>11 am– 6 pm</b>	<b>Fr. Edmund is available TODAY</b> <b>Please call the Mobile 07964366710</b> <b>to book an appointment</b>
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b> St Agatha Virgin and Martyr	<b>Maesteg</b> <i>Private Mass</i>	<b>Margaret &amp; Eddie Carroll RIP (LT)</b> Aurora, Conversion of Federica & Edoardo. <b>All Souls in Purgatory (AA)</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>  <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>	<b>Aberkenfig 9 am</b>  <b>Maesteg 11 am</b> Reader: Paul Donoghue  <b>Maesteg 5 pm</b> Reader: Maria Browne	People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers <b>Maurice Kehoe RIP (R&amp;BJ)</b> Patrick, Janet & Michael Butler RIP (M&f) <b>Theresa Griffiths RIP (JG&amp;f)</b>

**PLEASE ONLY ATTEND CHURCH IF YOU ARE SYMPTOM FREE. SUNDAY OBLIGATION REMAINS SUSPENDED**

**COVID:** Safety continues to be of vital importance. A reminder of the following: face coverings are mandatory; hand sanitisers available – please use on the way in and out of the church; requirement to register on entering the Church; wrap up warmly as the Churches need to be well ventilated; cleaning will remain a high priority. We still have a duty to be careful with others and ourselves so please do not come to Mass if you are showing any Covid symptoms or feel unwell.

## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### Christ the prophet

Following Jesus' own use of words from the Prophet Isaiah in last week's Gospel, the readings for this Sunday bring us to consider the rejection faced by God's prophets.

But we also receive words we can rely on, words of love and trust.

God's words to Jeremiah, in the **First Reading**, confirm him in his calling, and reassure him that despite trials he will never be abandoned.

The **Psalmist** sings of God's help, justice, strength and dependency.

From his youth God has never failed him.

The **Second Reading** is Paul's beautiful hymn to love in the letter to the Corinthians.

Love is the only true way of life which sustains us whatever happens.

In the **Gospel**, the people of Nazareth react to Jesus' challenging words with anger and some even try to kill him.

Early on in Luke's Gospel we see Jesus reaching out to outsiders, and in his rejection the cross is already present. Perhaps this week we may pray for the gift of trust in God's love that conquers all things.

### **ETERNAL REST:** In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the soul of **TREFOR JONES**

who passed on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022 and whose Funeral Services will be on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 2 pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick's Church; Margam Crematorium 3.15 pm.

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

*Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to his bereaved family 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, relatives and friends, remembering in a very special way: Gerald Hughes, Max Buckley, Fr. Dennis Opoku, Marian Smith, Violet Ronan, Teresa Boast, Carmel Roach, Lewis Lee, for those suffering from COVID within our Communities.

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.*

### **ABERKENFIG PARISH**

**Collections 2<sup>nd</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> January:** Gift Aid £319; Loose £88; Crib Donations £40.

**January 100 Club Winners:** 1st £40 K Richards (117) 2nd £10 J Stevens (122) 3rd £10 M Took (115)

**100 Club Subscriptions** will be taken during February and March 2022. Cheques to be made payable to St. Robert's Parish - £12 for the year. Please contact Bill Ennis 01656 724855 to arrange collection or bring to Church in a sealed envelope with your name on the front.

### **MAESTEG PARISH**

**"GWEDDIWN" PRAYER GROUP:** Restarts this Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 2 pm.

**MAESTEG COLLECTIONS 23rd January:** Gift Aid £267.50; Planned Giving/Loose £129; Restoration £50; Maintenance £94; Bricks £57.10; Year Book £3; Standing Orders December £901.00.

**Our Lady & St Patrick's 200+ Club 2022:** Membership cards are available from the back of church, or delivered directly to your homes. If you are unable to attend Mass and would like your Membership card delivered to you, where we can pick up your £12 subscription at the same time, please contact any of the following who shall coordinate collection: Angela Brennan 07572 274646; Michael Banks 07584 177456; Derek/Denis 01656 731767 (after lunch). If possible, please could you make your payment for the full year £12, if this is not manageable for you, we will be happy to collect your subscription monthly or quarterly. The subscription payment period for 2022 remains open up to the end of March 2022. To participate in and be included in the **BIG** Christmas draw, the full annual subscription of £12 must be paid. Please make your membership payments, cash or **cheques, made payable to 'The 300+ Club'**, in a sealed envelope, together with the members names, addresses and membership numbers if known and addressed to **'THE 200+ CLUB'**, handed to a steward or put into the box designated for the purpose. The January draw, shall take place in early February. If you have not been able to make your subscription by then, your names as paid up members from 2021, shall remain in the draw up to the close of March, Thank you for your continued support and help with coordinating this important fundraising activity during difficult times.



## **Towards a Synodal! A listening Church! Please join the conversation!**

What is the Church doing well? What is the Church doing less well?

What can the Church better do to help it fulfil its mission?

Pope Francis is inviting the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: “It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.” This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church’s “renewal” proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission. Our “journeying together” is, in fact, what most effectively enacts and manifests the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God. Please do take part. It’s vital and hugely important. It’s a time for listening, reflection, discernment and honesty. Pope Francis is encouraging us in this synod to pray together, to talk about the faith together, to understand one another better, and to experience that the Church is called to be a real, personal and authentic communion of its baptised members. For bishops, the local synod process is an opportunity to learn from local Catholics what their own pastoral priorities should be — not by asking other people to set the bishop’s agenda, but by hearing what matters to Catholics, and how they think, and then using that information to develop plans for evangelization, catechesis and pastoral care. “Hearing from Catholics” is not a lofty goal, but it is an important and an attainable one.” We pray for the Church, gathered in Synod; that by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit this journey would be marked by humble listening, courageous speech, and lively hope.

***The Diocesan Team is working with clergy, laity and groups so that as many people as possible across the Archdiocese can contribute. Consultations and meetings are being organised in each parish to listen and to share with each other. Our thoughts and ideas will help inform the conversation of the Church as it prepares for the next Synod of Bishops meeting in 2023.***

***The whole process is supported by prayer and a spirit of cooperation and sharing.***

***Representatives of our Parishes – Martin Braithwaite, Collette Matchett, Maria Browne and Keith Lewis.***

### **PLEASE PRAY THE SYNODAL PRAYER**

#### **Synod Prayer**

#### **Prayer of Invocation to the Holy Spirit**

***We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
As we gather together in Your name  
With You alone to guide us,  
Make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go  
And how we are to pursue it.  
We are weak and sinful;  
Do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity so that we may  
journey together to the eternal life and not stray  
away from the truth and what is right.  
All this we ask of You, who are at work in every  
place and time, in the communion of the Father  
and the Son, forever and ever.  
Amen.***