







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

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Edmund Neizer
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Archdiocese of Cardiff - Registered Charity 1177272



**8TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
(Psalter Week 4 Sunday Reading Cycle C)**

8th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Day of Prayer for the Unemployed Sunday 27th February 2022	Aberkenfig 9 am	Felicity Acquah RIP People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers
	Maesteg 11 am Reader: Keith Lewis Maesteg 5 pm Reader: Clare Casey	Alan Hughes RIP (G&DW) Cathleen & Howard Thomas RIP (CW)
Monday 28th February 2022 Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II Week 8	Maesteg Private Mass  6 PM	Trefor Jones RIP (M&SK) Special Intention (C/F/F) ROSARY – IN CHURCH
Tuesday 1st March 2022 ST DAVID. BISHOP, PATRON OF WALES	Maesteg 10 am Mass	Margaret Banks RIP (R&B) <i>We pray for the souls of Unborn & Aborted Babies</i>
Wednesday 2nd March 2022 ASH WEDNESDAY LENTENALMS BOX PLACED AT REAR OF BOTH CHURCHES DURING LENT	Maesteg 7 am Maesteg 2 pm Aberkenfig 10 am  6pm-6.30pm	People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers Pupils, Staff & Governors of our Schools Private Intentions Father Edmund will visit St Robert's School after Mass ROSARY - AT THE WAR MEMORIAL
Thursday after Ash Wednesday 3rd March 2022	Maesteg 10 am 11.30 am	REQUIEM MASS Margaret Wells RIP Maesteg Cemetery
Friday after Ash Wednesday "Women's Day of Prayer" 4th March 2022 	Maesteg 10 am 11 am - 6 pm	Maurice Kehoe RIP (Kfamily) <i>We pray for the Clergy & Religious Orders</i> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration
FRIDAY 4th MARCH 2022 CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION and SPIRITUAL DIRECTION	 MAESTEG 11 am– 6 pm	Fr. Edmund is available TODAY NO need to book an appointment. First come first served
Saturday after Ash Wednesday 5th March 2022	Maesteg Private Mass	Holy Souls RIP (M&R) <i>Aurora, Conversion of Federica & Edoardo.</i> All Souls in Purgatory (AA)
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT Sunday 6th March 2022	Aberkenfig 9 am Maesteg 11 am Reader: Paul Donoghue Maesteg 5 pm Reader: Mike Lawler	Thanksgiving (Lewis Family) People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers Vince Kelly RIP (B&G) Mary Farndale RIP (EH)

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; requirement to register on entering the Church; wrap up warmly; cleaning will remain a high priority. Social Distancing – restrictions have now been relaxed, however please be respectful of other parishioners who may wish to maintain a social distance. 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.

ETERNAL REST: In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the soul of **PATRICIA LLOYD (CROESERW)** who passed on 16th February 2022 and whose Funeral Service will be on Thursday 10th March at 1pm at Our Lady & St. Patrick's Church; Maesteg; Cemetery 2 pm.



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

Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to her 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.

LENTEN MESSAGE

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

All too soon Lent is here with us again, beginning with Ash Wednesday, a universal day of fast and prayer, where ashes are distributed to all the faithful to usher us into a season appointed for spiritual purification. The sign of the ashes expresses the human condition as affected by sin. In this sign we outwardly confess our guilt before God and thereby, prompted by the hope that the Lord is kind and compassion, slow to anger and abounding in mercy, we express our desire for inward conversion and ascent to the new life and holiness of Easter. The signing with the Ashes is also the beginning of our journey of conversion that will reach its goal in the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation during the days leading to Easter.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the season of Lent disposes us to the spirit of repentance and to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery. During this period, the Church calls us to listen more intently to the Word of God, devote ourselves to prayer and do penance, that we may grow in love of God and be more charitable towards our brothers and sister most in need of mercy.

In this Lenten season, may we be encouraged to be more positive in our penance, take a greater and more fruitful share in the Lenten Liturgy, Mass and Penitential/ Reconciliation services, Stations of the Cross and Praying of the Holy Rosary, and strive to be more charitable in our thoughts, words and deeds toward our neighbours, and our brothers and sisters in the community in which we live.

Commending this season of Lent to the Motherly intercession of the Blessed Ever-Virgin Mary, and All the Saints and Angels, I wish you all a very fruitful and Spirit-filled Lent leading us to a Glorious and Holy Easter. God love you all.

Our Lady & St Patrick's and St Robert's - Shrove Tuesday & The Feast of St David; Tuesday, 1st March 2022.

To celebrate Shrove Tuesday and the Patron Saint of Wales on his Feast Day, we shall be offering a social hour, served in the Parish Hall, Maesteg, following Mass; tea, coffee, Welsh Cheese and biscuits, and of course Welsh Cakes shall be served for your delectation, and given it is Shrove Tuesday, we shall even throw in a pancake for good measure. You might even be tempted to test your knowledge of Wales, by participating in our 'Fun Quiz'. Naturally, there shall be a 'RAFFLE'!!! To facilitate catering purposes, please register your name on the registration form at the back of church. Anyone wishing to make a small donation to the church on the day, a collection box shall be made available at the parish hall.

ABERKENFIG PARISH

Dates for your Diary: STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Tuesday 8th March, 6.30 pm; Friday 25th March, 10 am; Friday 8th April, 10 am.

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.

COLLECTIONS February 20th: Gift Aid £145; Loose £36.96, Standing Orders £280.

MAESTEG PARISH

"GWEDDIWN" PRAYER GROUP: next meet on Wednesday, 9th March at 1.30 pm.

SACRAMENTS: Congratulations and every blessing to *Edith, Emilia, Holly, Imogen, Isaac, Samantha, Seren and William* who celebrated their First Communion yesterday. Congratulations to their parents and families. God Love Them!

CONGRATULATIONS AND EVERY BLESSING to Kate Kehoe celebrating her 90th birthday.

200+ CLUB 2022:

February Draw:

1ST Prize £50, (24) Clare Lawler; 2ND Prize £30, (252) Edward Grealley; 3RD Prize £20, (13) Gillian Williams.

THANK YOU to everyone who has registered for membership for *THE 200+ Club Draw, 2022*. Membership currently stands at 257. The books for 2022 membership shall remain open until 31st March to receive subscriptions from those members who have not yet had the opportunity to make their payments.

Membership payments: You are kindly requested to 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; the sealed envelope should to be addressed to '**THE 200+ CLUB**', handed to a steward or put into the box designated for the purpose, situated at the back of Church.

The March draw shall take place on **Tuesday, 27TH March 2022.**

EASTER EGG RAFFLE: Our Lady & St Patrick's Easter Egg Raffle 2022 shall launch on Sunday, 13th March; pending delivery of raffle tickets. Donations of Easter Eggs for the raffle are welcome.

The Feast of St Patrick; Thursday, 17th March, 2022: Details to be advised.

MAESTEG COLLECTIONS 20th February: Gift Aid £198.50; Planned Giving/Loose £85.50; Restoration £273.30; Damaged Window £70; Bricks £13.00; Standing Orders January £931.00.

DAMAGES CAUSED BY STORM EUNICE AT OUR LADY & ST. PATRICK CHURCH:

Dearly Beloved Parishioners, The heavy storm on Friday 18th February 2022 brought down one of the Sanctuary windows of Our Lady & St. Patrick's Church, Maesteg, and some roof tiles as well. We thank the builder Krzysztof Kwiotek, David Matchett and the Horton brothers for securing the window to save the Church from flooding with rains after the storm. Much as we appreciate the hard times facing all of us and your already many commitments to your families and the parish, on behalf of the Church and in the Name of Christ Jesus Our Lord and Saviour, I would like to appeal to your kindness and generosity to help support the restoration of the window and the sanctuary as a whole for the Glory of God and for our good and the good of His Holy Church. Your kindness and generous support would be very much appreciated. Looking forward to your positive response. God love you! Fr. Edmund.



The God Who Speaks Sharing the Word of God Through Ministry
A Day of Reflection **via Zoom** for Ministers of the Word, Catechists and
Leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word.



This Saturday 5th March 2022 10.30am – 3pm Keynote Speaker: Deacon Rob Coyne
To confirm a place and further information, please email Diocesan Scripture Champions
madeleine.walters@rcadc.org or kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk

WELSH NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 25th - 30th JULY 2022

Come & Join Us! A full religious programme, all transport, travel and full board 4* accommodation are included in the pilgrimage package. Detailed information will be shared & booking forms available from next week. Subscribe to our new website, to receive our pilgrimage newsletter for further updates: www.welshnationalpilgrimage.com



Team members of our Parishes:
Paul Donoghue, Collette Matchett, Maria Browne and Keith Lewis,
Martin Braithwaite, Sarah Lewis, John Morgan, Ruth Howells.
Feel free to contact any of us.

Please return your completed questionnaires by Tuesday this week, 1st March, either to the box at the back of our Churches or place in an envelope and post to The Presbytery, Monica Street, Maesteg, CF34 9AY, marked for the attention of either the "The Synod Team" Maesteg or Aberkenfig.

Please keep praying the Synod Prayer and we thank you for your kind co-operation.

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.*