




**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



**5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
(Psalter Week 1 Sunday Reading Cycle C)**

5 th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Sunday 6 th February 2022	Aberkenfig 9 am	People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers Nell & Tom Caulfield RIP
	Maesteg 11 am Reader: Paul Donoghue Maesteg 5 pm Reader: Maria Browne	Maurice Kehoe RIP (R&BJ) Patrick, Janet & Michael Butler RIP (M&f) Theresa Griffiths RIP (JG&f) Trefor Jones RIP (JG&f)
Monday 7 th February 2022 Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II Week 5	Maesteg <i>Private Mass</i>  6 PM	Roger Maddock RIP (A&R) Special Intention (FFP) ROSARY – IN CHURCH
Tuesday 8 th February 2022 Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II Week 5	Maesteg 10 am Mass	Lily Bolger RIP (TW) Vince Kelly RIP (J&CT) <i>We pray for the souls of Unborn & Aborted Babies</i>
Wednesday 9 th February 2022 Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II Week 5	Aberkenfig 10 am	People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers
Thursday 10 th February 2022 St Scholastica Virgin	Maesteg 10 am	Joe Dwyer RIP (MD) Alan Hughes RIP (MB&f)
Friday 11 th February 2022 OUR LADY OF LOURDES World Day of the Sick 	Maesteg 10 am 11 am – 6 pm	Margaret Banks RIP (Friends) Lynn Reid RIP (CT) <i>We pray for the Clergy & Religious Orders</i> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration
FRIDAY 11th FEBRUARY 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 12 th February 2022 Votive Memorial of Our Lady	Maesteg <i>Private Mass</i>	Phil White RIP (M Butler) <i>Aurora, Conversion of Federica & Edoardo.</i> All Souls in Purgatory (AA)
6 th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Racial Justice Day Sunday 13 th February 2022	Aberkenfig 9 am Maesteg 11 am Reader: Maria Cahalane Maesteg 5 pm R: Michelle Bumford	Thanksgiving Lewis family (BL) People of our Parishes, our sick and NHS/frontline workers Coleman family RIP (AD) Sheila Allan RIP (MD) Ann, Bob & Sean Hayes 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 – please use on the way in and out of the church; 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.

Dearly Beloved Parishioners,

I bring you warmest greetings from Ghana. It was incredible to begin the New Year with family and friends back home. I give thanks and praise to God for taking me and bringing me back to serve you once again in His Grace and Mercy. I will like to thank Fr. Tim and all the Deanery Clergy for looking after the parishes and offering Pastoral assistance in my absence. Grateful thanks to all the stewards for facing the challenges of the Covid restrictions and keeping the Parishes running with weekend Masses. Your sacrifices and dedications are very much appreciated. May God richly bless you. And to all the faithful of our parishes, thank you very much for your co-operation and support for the smooth running of the Parishes.

Now, rejoicing that the Covid restrictions has been significantly lifted, let us journey together as one Parish family in unity and love, respecting and living in communion with God and with one another, by participating fully in Parish life and making God's Love, Grace and Mercy known among ourselves and in the wider community in which we live, for the Glory of God and for our good and the good of all His Holy Church. May Christ Jesus who calls us to follow Him, unworthy as we are, empower and enable us to fulfil His Mission in His Church. God love you all. Fr. Edmund

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

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

MARGARET WELLS who has recently passed.

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, 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.*



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.

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



ABERKENFIG PARISH

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: Next meeting on Wednesday, 16th February at a new time of 1.30 pm.

MAESTEG COLLECTIONS 30th January: Gift Aid £329.00; Planned Giving/Loose £136.20; Restoration £15; Maintenance £137.50; Fundraising (Christmas) £961.66; 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. please contact any of the following who shall coordinate collection of your payment:

Angela Brennan 07572 274646; Michael Banks 07584 177456; Derek/Denis 01656 731767 (after lunch).

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.



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

The Parish Team explained at all Masses that a Synod is a meeting between the Pope and his Bishops where they discuss matters of the Church. The next Synod is in 2023 but Pope Francis has made history by stating he doesn't just want the opinions of the Bishops but of every Catholic around the world (practising and lapsed) and he wants every voice to be listened to and heard.

We are asked to answer some basic questions:

“What are the good things about the Church?”

“What are the areas needing improvement and how do we do that?”

To that end we have a parish team who have been commissioned to collate the responses. We want to listen to YOU.

All opinions will be anonymous and will be valued. We will do this in a variety of ways:

We will be holding meetings in groups, phoning you, inviting you to respond to a questionnaire and making ourselves available to you. Please take part in this moment of history. Be honest and say what you feel. We are there to listen, to record, but not to react or to resolve any issues.

A report will then be written and sent to the Cardiff Team. They will report to London and London will report to Rome.

You will receive the questionnaire on Sunday Feb 13th to be returned on the 20th. After Masses on the 20th, team members will be available in the Meeting Room (Maesteg) and Sacristy (Aberkenfig) if anyone wishes to clarify or give verbal responses.

We thank you in anticipation and ask you to pray the synodal prayer each day so that the Holy Spirit will inspire us.

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.*

Addendum to the Newsletter Sunday 6th February 2022

200+ Club 2022

218 new and existing parishioners and friends of the parish have registered for club membership for 2022, progress is good, the team wishes to thank everyone for helping and supporting this important fundraising scheme by making it all so easy to coordinate subscription activities. The club books shall remain open until the 31st March, to give everyone the opportunity to participate in the draw. If you have not already received your membership card and wish to subscribe to the scheme, please contact any of the below, who shall be pleased to assist you with completing your membership. To participate in and be included in the **BIG** Christmas draw, the full annual subscription of £12 must be paid.

- Angela Brenna – 07572 274646
- Michael Banks - 07584177456
- The Horton Boys - 01656 731767 (after lunch)

Where at all possible, please could you make your membership payment for the full year £12, if this is not manageable for you, we shall be very happy to collect your subscription monthly or quarterly.

Membership payments: Due to COVID 19 restrictions, we are not permitted to congregate at the back of church to receive monies or to mark off membership cards, consequently, 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 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 January draw, shall take place on Tuesday, 8th February. If you have not been able to make your subscription by then, please don't worry, your names as paid up members from 2021, shall remain in the draw up to the close of March, giving you ample time to make your subscriptions.

Good luck everyone; thank you for your continued support and help with coordinating this important fundraising activity during difficult times.

The Feast of St David; Tuesday, 1st March, 2022.

To celebrate the Patron Saint of Wales on his Feast Day, we shall be offering a social hour, served in the Parish Hall following Mass; tea, coffee, Welsh Cheese and biscuits, and of course Welsh Cakes shall be served for your enjoyment, you might even be tempted to test your knowledge by participating in our 'Fun Quiz' on Wales. 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.

The Feast of St Patrick; Thursday, 17th March, 2022.

Details to be advised