

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Catholic Parishes of St Mary's, Bridgend, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Porthcawl
& St Joseph's of Arimathea, Kenfig Hill

www.catholicchurchbridgend.org.uk

www.catholicchurchporthcawl.org.uk

Priests: Fr. Tim McGrath 01656 652034 & Fr. Silvio Briffa (retired)

Parish Deacons: Rev. Philip Manghan philip.manghan@rcadc.org

Rev. Robert Coyne Tel: 01656 783540 & Rev. Anthony Martin Tel: 01656 746648

Parish Administrator: Sarah Kearns bridgend@rcadc.org

A Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff: 1177272

Please note that Masses are to remain live stream only until further notice. Please keep an eye on the website and Facebook for developments. Stay safe. Take care. God Bless.		
Date	Mass Times	Mass Intention
Sat 16 th January	Mass 4.30 pm live stream only Vigil Mass 6.00pm live stream only	People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers Ursula James RIP(S Ryan)
Sun 17 th January <i>2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	Mass 10.00am live stream only Mass 11.00am* Mass 6.00pm*	Cristina Bisagni RIP (HCPT Group 55) Kevin Stephens & Efren Abulencia RIP (Filipino community) People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers
Mon 18 th January	No Mass Today	
Tues 19 th January	Mass 10.00am live stream only	Albina Cavalli (Meri Ricci)
Wed 20 th January	Mass 7.00pm live stream only	Kathleen Hammond (Steve Hammond)
Thurs 21 st January	Mass 10.00am live stream only	Martin Ginnelly (Kathleen O'Driscoll)
Fri 1 22 nd January	Mass 10.00am live stream only	John Leighfield (Lynne Dainty)
Sat 23 rd January	Mass 4.30 pm live stream only Vigil Mass 6.00 pm live stream only	Patricia Whare RIP (D&T Morgan) People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers
Sun 24 th January <i>3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	Mass 10.00am live stream only Mass 11.00am live stream only Mass 6.00pm live stream only	People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers Benji Vista Thanksgiving for recovery (R Vista) Sean Connick RIP (M McAweney)
Mass Intentions – these are now full well into this year. If you do have any queries please contact the office.		
<p>Please continue to remember all those who are sick and housebound in your prayers: Mary Bryan, Anne Colson, Ryan Dixon, Angela Ellis, Barbara Fentham, Elsie Freeth, Catherine Grills, Margaret Jarvis, John Lewis, Mary Maguire, Robert Morrison, Maureen Pritchard, Marcus Rossini and David Watkins.</p>		
<p>We pray for the sick and housebound of our parish, our friends, relatives and those who have asked for our prayers: Anna, Anthony George, Baby Elijah, Benji Vista, Conall & Siobhan, Eddie, Emma, Erica, Garry, Helle, Jamie, Keith, Kevin Thomas, Lloyd Woodroff, Margaret, Maria, Martin Ginnelly, Mary Farndale, Mary Thornton, Mike, Pat Dohoney, Peter and Vince Chapman. Please email bridgend@rcadc.org if you would like to add a name to the list).</p>		
	<p>'Speak Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.' (1 Samuel 3:9; Jn 6:68)</p>	

Eternal Rest

In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the souls of
Joan Margaret Pearson, John Spencer Harries, Anne-Marie Gwynne and James Morgan.

Funeral Service for Joan Pearson on Wednesday 20th January at 11.30am in Coychurch Crematorium.

Funeral Service for John Spencer Harries on Thursday 21st January in Coychurch Crematorium.

Requiem Mass for Anne-Marie Gwynne on Wednesday 27th January at 12.00 noon in St Mary's.

Funeral Service for James Morgan on Thursday 28th January at 1.45pm in Coychurch Crematorium.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendance is limited to family members and invited guests only.

Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers at this sad and difficult time.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

2nd Sunday, Year B, 17th January 2021

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening!

Like the people in today's readings, we, too, are called by Christ: called to spend time with him; to work with him; to offer our bodies, hearts and minds in loving service of God's will.

The **First Reading** tells the delightful story of God's initiative in the life of the boy Samuel, who is open to the call of the Lord despite his youth, signalling the beginnings of a close relationship with God.

The **Psalmist** invites us to a personal knowledge of and intimate relationship with God. God desires 'an open ear', bidding us to make Samuel's prayer our own: '*Speak Lord, your servant is listening*'. Writing to those in Corinth, a city notorious for its vice, Paul emphasises that both our bodies and our souls are meant for the glory of God. The physical body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, and we come together in unity as the cosmic body of Christ (**Second Reading**). John the Evangelist describes the call of the first disciples, where Jesus asks the searching question addressed to every reader of the **Gospel**: '*What do you want?*' Here begins the journey of getting to know Jesus, as the disciples (and we ourselves) follow on the path of deepening faith towards an understanding of who Jesus Christ is.

This week, we, too, may ask for the grace of an *open ear* and an open-hearted response to Jesus's invitation to '*Come and see*'. We also remember those of our sisters and brothers who, like Samuel, as yet have '*no knowledge of the Lord*', and ask that they may come to know the safety and peace such knowledge can bring in an uncertain world.

Parish Prayer

Heavenly Father, who sent the ten plagues to free his children, and protected them by the blood of the Lamb, bless all those affected by the Coronavirus.

Encourage and strengthen those who seek a cure.

Protect all who care or work in the NHS.

Send your Holy Angels to guard us and bring us safely through this time of trial.

May your Holy Mother care for us as she did for the sick child Jesus.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes. Pray for us.

St. Raphael Archangel. Pray for us.

St Luke, the Physician. Pray for us.

St. Bernadette. Pray for 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.

We Can Help

Do you know of anyone who is struggling with food poverty?

If so we can help. Ring 07534 095766

Sunday, January 24th – the Sunday of the Word

24th January is the special day inaugurated by Pope Francis to promote greater love of the Bible in our faith and daily lives. “Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world.” Pope Francis – ‘Aperuit Allis’.

1. Blessing of Bibles

All the Faithful are encouraged to bring their Bibles to Mass or to have them with them at their live-streamed Mass to be blessed during the Sunday of the Word of God as decreed by Pope Francis.

Introduction

- To encourage the faithful to own a copy of the Bible and to read it prayerfully, they might be invited to bring their Bibles to Mass for them to be blessed.
- People should be encouraged to bring any edition or even a part, such as the Gospels.
- In the homily, the priest or deacon may speak on the importance of Scripture in the life of the Church, different approaches to reading Scripture and on the particular readings of the celebration. He may even invite people to find the Gospel text of the day in their own Bible.
- The blessing takes place after the Prayer of the Faithful.
- It would be suitable to celebrate this blessing on the Sunday of the Word of God (3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time). To celebrate it well will require an invitation in the weeks before and the ordering of any Gospels to be given out.

Order of Blessing within Mass

Prayer of Blessing:

The assembly is invited to hold up their copies of the Bible.

With hands extended over the assembly (live or online), the celebrant says:

“Everlasting God, when He read in the synagogue at Nazareth, Your Son proclaimed the good news of salvation for which He would give up His life. Bless all who will read from these sacred texts. As they read, listen and reflect on your words of life, strengthen their faith so that what they read in hope, they may live in love and charity. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.”
(Prayer based on Order of Blessing of Readers, *Book of Blessings*)

2. Echoes of God: Journeying with God’s Word

This is a very worthwhile new 7-week course - **Echoes of God** written by **David McLoughlin** explores how the Old and New Testaments echo each other in their preparation for, and arrival of, Jesus. See the programme here.

godwhospeaks.uk/echoes-of-god-journeying-with-the-word-of-god

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starting Monday, 18th January 2020.

The theme for 2021 is 'Abiding in Christ', based on John 15:1-17. It expresses and encourages the vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family. Although many of us are unable to meet with our fellow Christians this year, the Commission for Christian Unity encourages us to make use of the prayerful material available as a download. Find it at

<https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2021/>

and sustain our prayer for the Unity for which Christ prayed. Contact email: unity@rcadc.org