

1st Sunday of Lent

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

See the notice at the end of the newsletter for the latest developments on when our Churches will reopen for Mass. Bookings are being taken from Monday – please do not attend unless you have booked. Many thanks.

| Date | Mass Times | Mass Intention |
|--|---|--|
| Sat 20 th Feb | Mass 4.30 pm live stream only Vigil Mass 6.00pm live stream only | Bob McCarthy RIP People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers |
| Sun 21 st Feb <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i> | Mass 10.00am live stream only Mass 11.00am* Mass 6.00pm* | People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers Jane Rajalingham (Manghan family) Eileen Field (Kay Readman) |
| Mon 22 nd Feb | No Mass Today | |
| Tues 23 rd Feb | Our Lady Star of the Sea - Mass 10.00am (Bookings only) | Cristina Bisagni (Catenians) |
| Wed 24 th Feb | Mass 7.00pm live stream & bookings | Eileen Field RIP (Rick, Maria & Family) Fletcher family deceased members (M Fletcher) |
| Thurs 25 th Feb | Mass 10.00am live stream only | Michael Thomas (S Cavalli) Pratt, Molinari & Davies families (L Davies) |
| Fri 26 th Feb | Mass 7.30am live stream only Mass 10.00am live stream only | Gina Rossi (R Hodges) Rob Disson (Manghan family) Eileen McGreevy anniversary (C Readman) Nigel Waters RIP (N Kershaw) |
| Sat 27 th Feb | Mass 4.30 pm live stream only Vigil Mass 6.00 pm live stream & bookings | People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers Ursula James (Elsie Burrows) |
| Sun 28 th Feb <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> | Mass 10.00am live stream only Mass 11.00am live stream & bookings Mass 6.00pm live stream & bookings | Jim McGowan Repose of the Soul (K&E Strange) People of the Parish, our frontline & NHS workers John Brett (June Brett & family) |

Mass Intentions – these are booking well into the year. If you do have any queries please contact the office.

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, Jean Martin, Robert Morrison, Maureen Pritchard and Marcus Rossini.

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, Canon Isaac, Conall & Siobhan, Derek, Eddie, Emma, Erica, Garry, Harold Jenkins, Helle, Jamie, Julia Margaret Lewis, Keith, Kevin Thomas, Lloyd Woodroff, Margaret, Maria, Martin Ginnelly, Mary Farndale, Mary Thornton, Mike, Pat Dohoney, Peter, Stewart, Terry and Vince Chapman. Please email bridgend@rcadc.org if you would like to add a name to the list.



'And so, this is the gift and duty for each one of us during the season of Lent: to listen to Christ, like Mary. To listen to him in his Word, contained in Sacred Scripture. To listen to him in the events of our lives, seeking to decipher in them the message of Providence. Finally, to listen to him in our brothers and sisters, especially in the lowly and the poor, for whom Jesus himself demands our concrete love.' (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)



Eternal Rest

In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the souls of
Bridget 'Bridie' Merrick, Mair Morris, Sally Mackey, Dariusz Potoczny and Kenneth Newman
recently deceased.

Funeral for Bridie Merrick 2.15pm on Monday 1st March 2021 at Coychurch Crematorium.

Funeral for Mair Morris 2.45 pm on Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at Coychurch Crematorium.

Funeral for Dariusz Potoczny 11.30am on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 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

How are you getting on with your Lenten promise?

This Lent try to do something more NOT just give something up!

1. Are you tuning in for an extra Mass? Why not try switching off breakfast TV and joining me for Mass every Friday at 7:30am during Lent?
2. Tune in via the website and spend 10 minutes or so reflecting and gazing at the Altar on your screen - we normally spend hours looking at the TV go on give 10 minutes to God!
3. Read some scripture or make up a Sermon. What points would you bring out of the readings for the Sundays of Lent? Join the talks on Sunday afternoon 3:00pm. (see notice below)
4. Speak and question your children - If you don't no one else will. Show them by your example what Lent is. Why 40 days? Why are the days of Lent longer? If you are not sure look it up.

Finding Hope in Scripture Online Lenten Retreat

A 6 week course starting Monday, February 22nd at 7.30pm led by Sr Hyacinthe, Portsmouth Diocese.

A look at the virtue of hope from different Scripture passages, so that we may grow in hope with others. Followed by live-streamed adoration and Compline with the Dominican Sisters of St.

Joseph. Register here to participate:

godwhospeaks.uk/finding-hope-in-scripture

Belmont Abbey – Wednesdays in Lent

10 am to 1pm.

See the Abbey website for further details:

www.belmont.abbey.org.uk

LENTEN TALK ON THE LIVE STREAM 3.00pm SUNDAY
As part of our Lenten Journey Deacon Anthony, Deacon Rob, Deacon Phillip and Fr. Tim will be giving short talks and reflections on the Priesthood. These talks will last approximately 30 minutes and will be live streamed every Sunday at 3:00pm, beginning on Sunday 21st February. It is hoped through these talks we may gain a deeper understanding of our own share in the priesthood, and the Sacramental Priesthood of the Church. These talks will expand on the recent book by John Bergsma "**JESUS and the Old Testament roots of the Priesthood**" (well worth a look at).

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - Friday 26th February.

Last year your donations helped families in Ethiopia survive devastating droughts.

This Fast Day our parish can help alleviate water poverty again in Ethiopia .

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support.

There are many ways we, as a parish community, can make a difference to people.

Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10*.

*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice

CAFOD works not only to alleviate poverty around the world but to combat injustice and climate change which impact the most vulnerable.

Thank you for your generosity and compassion for the most devastated communities in our world.

1st Sunday of Lent, 21st February

God's Covenant

Lent – a new liturgical season, and an opportunity to start again. We can give thanks to God for giving us this season of grace. Lent is closely associated with God's Covenant and with baptism, and the readings this Sunday strongly underline this.

In the **First Reading** from Genesis, God makes a Covenant with Noah's people, saved from the flood by the ark. It is a Covenant of peace, symbolized by the rainbow.

St Paul, in the **Second Reading**, reminds us that just as Noah is saved from the waters, so we are saved by the waters of baptism.

It is a pledge made to God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The **Psalm** is a prayer that we may walk in God's ways: a suitable prayer for beginning our Lenten journey.

The account of the temptations of Christ in Mark's **Gospel** is very brief. It is only after this experience that Jesus begins his ministry, calling people to repent and believe the Good News. This week, we may give thanks for 'this joyful season' (as the Lenten preface calls it) – a time to prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery.

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.

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.

Re-opening our churches – YOU MUST BOOK

Week commencing 22nd February Mass will resume at Our Lady Star of the Sea at 10.00am on Tuesdays only. St Mary's will be open for Masses at 7.00pm on Wednesday 6.00pm on Saturday, 11.00am on Sunday and 6.00pm on Sunday.

Obligation to attend Mass is still suspended and it may be wise to wait until you have had both doses of your vaccine administered. Even if you have had your vaccine to keep us all safe it is really important to abide by the social distancing rules that are still in force.

You must wear a mask. If you are able to join our team of stewards please do contact Sarah by telephoning 07534 095766 or emailing bridgend@rcadc.org

Please read the reminder of the rules below. Many thanks for your support.

- Bookings for Masses can be made from Monday 22nd February during office hours (9am-4pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) by **telephoning 07534 095766**. Alternatively you may email bridgend@rcadc.org
- You **MUST** book if you wish to attend Mass. We do not want to turn people away at the door. If you have not booked and had your place confirmed in advance – PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND.
- By registering to attend Mass, you confirm the following conditions are met:
 - You currently show no symptoms for Coronavirus.
 - Should you develop symptoms prior to the service, you will NOT attend.
 - You agree to use hand-sanitiser as a condition of entry.
- Please note that **Face Coverings MUST be worn in Church**.
- It should be noted that there will be **no toilet facilities available**.
- You should arrive between 15 and 5 minutes before the start time of Mass.
- Please allow a Steward to show you to your seat.
- Please wait to be invited up to Holy Communion. If you do not wish to take communion please come for a blessing to avoid others having to brush past you on returning to the pew.
- Please refrain from talking to your friends who are not part of your household.
- No congregational singing is allowed at Mass and any responses should be made in a low tone, as singing and loud voices have been shown to spread the virus further.
- There will be no collection at Mass. You are encouraged to make your donation to the Church via standing order or online. If you wish to donate cash, please do so in the basket at the back of the Church or in one of the wall boxes around the Church.
- Once Mass has ended please leave the Church promptly and disperse.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience or distress these regulations may cause. They are a requirement to enable public worship to take place.

Who should steward?

If you are clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable to severe symptoms of COVID-19, you should NOT help with stewarding during COVID-19.

If you are 60+, pregnant or BAME you should be aware that you are also vulnerable to serious illness from COVID and consider if there are alternative ways you could help your church.

If you live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, you should also consider whether stewarding is safe for your household circumstances.

Stewarding during COVID

Stewarding during COVID-19 is likely to involve:

- Opening and closing the church.
- Checking that temporary signs, notices and barriers are clear, legible, secure and in the right place.
- Encouraging people to use the check in facilities.
- Reminding people to use the hand sanitising facilities.
- Encouraging visitors to use a face covering.
- Helping people to observe social distancing guidelines e.g. by highlighting one way routes, directing people to seating and helping to manage queues and congestion.
- Checking for obvious hazards that could cause an accident e.g. slip and trip hazards, fire hazards.
- Being vigilant to potential dangers such as slip and trip or fire hazards, unusual or antisocial behaviour.
- Keeping consumables such as hand washing materials, spare disposable gloves and face coverings well stocked
- Monitoring votive candle stations where these are in use.
- Helping with cleaning of hard surfaces that are touched frequently by multiple people.
- Implementing emergency procedures in the event of a fire or accident.
- Being a point of contact for visitors.

Dear all, many thanks to all those who have responded and embraced giving via standing order, particularly as our counting teams are presently out of action. If setting up a standing order is something you do not feel comfortable with, by all means hold onto your offerings until you are next able to attend Church or forward a cheque to the Presbytery.

Equally, it is understandable that in these uncertain times people may not be in a position to give.

Many thanks also to those who are making donations via the Virgin Money site on the websites. Please be advised that there are transaction fees due when donating in this way, as such the preferred option is always to give via the appropriate parish account. If you would like standing order forms and gift aid declaration forms sent out to you or if you do have queries about any of these issues **please contact the office bridgend@rcadc.org**

or 07534 095766.

Many thanks for your support.

| January Giving | Gift Aid | Non Gift Aid | Virgin Money | Total |
|----------------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Bridgend | £2809.00 | £307.00 | £150.00 | £3266.00 |
| Porthcawl | £1521.00 | £311.00 | £60.00 | £1892.00 |