Our Lady of the Valleys Pastorate



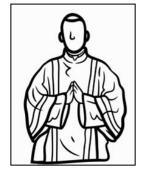
Catholic Churches serving southern RCT Parishes of the Archdiocese of Cardiff Registered Charity No. 1177272

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24/25 February 2024

Call: 01443 402439





Pastor Gareth writes: NEVER FORGET YOUR WELSH

We had a great turnout for the Station Mass last Monday. Special thanks to the All Hallows UCM (Urgent Coffee Ministry) and the many Altar Servers who assisted – and also for the many helpers at the Mass with anointing last Saturday. Now our thoughts turn to St David's Day, which we celebrate with three Masses: a vigil at All Hallows on Thursday, and Masses with school pupils present at Ss Gabriel & Raphael (10 am) and St Dyfrig's (2 pm). St David's is not a Holy Day of Obligation but it is a solemnity so you can feast and enjoy meat even though it's a Friday in Lent!

The National Eisteddfod (Welsh Cultural Festival) is being hosted by RCT this summer. At 6 pm on August 8th, St Dyfrig's will host the official Mass in Welsh. We're hoping to put together a small choir to sing in Welsh at this event, and next weekend we welcome Carys Whelan who will explain what we will do and organize rehearsals from late April.

This Friday will be CAFOD Family Fast Day! Please help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Use the envelope in church (collection this weekend) or give online: cafod.org.uk

It's not too late to pick up one of the reflection books on the *Our Father ('We Dare to Say')* and join the others sharing their prayerful thoughts at the Cwm Farm Shop on Mondays or All Hallows on Thursdays. Details below!

Thanks to Alan de Ste Croix who has been working hard in recent weeks to design our new Pastorate Website, and to Andrew Marsh who provided the infrastructure. You can now check it out on **OLOVRCT.org.uk** – a few pages are still to be added but if you think something crucial is missing, please drop me a line.

Finally, we have opportunities soon for your Lenten confession. Rather than agonizing over whether your sins are big enough to bother going to confession, ask why you want to miss out on the grace God offers to those humble enough to confess even their lesser sins. Priests' time is precious, but we *want* to spend our time offering you the grace of the sacraments, so please honour the time we spend waiting for you confessionals by exchanging your guilt for God's grace!

Upcoming events:

Archbishop McGrath, Bridgend Saturday 24th February from 10am to 5pm **Diocesan Youth Retreat** Monday 26th February from about 1 pm We Dare To Say (Chapter 2) Cwm Farm Shop Monday 26th February at 7pm Following Christ Retreat: Session 5 St Dyfrig's Presbytery + Zoom Monday 26th February at 7pm **Young Disciples** St Mary Magdalene Tuesday 27th February (after Mass) Stations of the Cross St Mary Magdalene Church Wednesday 28th February (after service) Stations of the Cross Ss Gabriel & Raphael Church Wednesday 28th February (after Mass) Stations of the Cross All Hallows Church Thursday 29th February at 1:30pm We Dare To Say (Chapter 2) All Hallows Side Chapel Thursday 29th February at 2:15pm **UCM Meeting** All Hallows Hall Stations of the Cross St Dyfrig's Church Friday 1st March at 6pm All Hallows' Hall Friday 1st March at 7pm Weekend Club: St David's Day

For more information on any of these events, please contact treforest@rcadc.org

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year B

Entrance Antiphon: Of you, my heart has spoken; seek his face.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Psalm response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:

'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!'
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

1st Reading: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 31-34

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

Please pray for the recently deceased in our churches:

Maureen Hughes Joyce Russell

Sr Anna Larkins

Jemima McDonald

Please also remember in prayer all our sick and housebound.

Our Churches:

St Dyfrig's, Treforest

Email: treforest@rcadc.org
Call: 01443 402 439

Address:

St Dyfrig's Catholic Church,

Treforest, Pontypridd CF37 1DB

St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir

Email: rhondda@rcadc.org
Call: 01443 421 929

Address:

St Mary Magdalene 4 Gynor Ave, Porth CF39 0NH

Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypandy

Email: rhondda@rcadc.org
Call: 01443 421 929

Address:

S.S. Gabriel and Raphael 13 Trinity Road, Tonypandy CF40 1DQ

All Hallows, Miskin

Email: miskin@rcadc.org
Call: 01443 228 866

Address:

All Hallows' Catholic Church

School Rd, Miskin,

Pontyclun CF72 8P

The Pope's February Prayer intentions:

For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Parish Directory

HOSPITAL CARE

To arrange communion for someone in hospital, contact:

Royal Glamorgan (RGH)

Marita Fernandez, mfwhat58@hotmail.com 07960 206916

Llwynypia Hospital

Sr Berenice (Parish Sister for the Rhondda Parishes) *Via Tonypandy Parish*

Cardiff Hospitals (UHW)

Call 02920 747 747 and ask for the on-call Catholic Chaplain

Baptism	Wendy Marsh		
Becoming Catholic	Pastor Gareth		
Confirmation	Lizzy de-Ste-Croix (St Dyfrig's office)		
First Communion (St Dyfrig's)	Teresa (07500668424) & Alan de-Ste-Croix		
First Communion (All Hallows)	Sarah Horton (07447456824)		
First Communion (Rhondda churches)	Through St Gabriel and Raphael School		
Weekend Club	Marita Fernandez (07960206916)		
Hall Hire (St Dyfrig's)	Contact: treforest.hall@outlook.com		
Hall Hire (All Hallows')	Pamela Harding (01443556796)		
Maintenance (All Hallows')	Shamus Harding (01443556796)		
Marriage	Pr Gareth		
Mass Intentions	Individual Parish Administrator		
Music Ministry (All Hallows')	Teresa Bressington (07599155418)		
	Anne Thomas (organist)		
Music Ministry (SS Gabriel and Raphael)	Bridget Green (organist)		
	David Hoban (folk group) (07811707458)		
Music Ministry (St Mary Magdalene)	Joachim Biddulph		
Music Ministry (St Dyfrig's)	Chidie Ejiogu (07950642266)		
Newsletter	Parish Offices		
Safeguarding (St Dyfrig's)	Maggie White (01443 410593)		
	or Roy Mayo (01443 209850)		
Safeguarding (All Hallows')	Suzy Stacey (07734 701449)		
]	or Diane Franks-Herbet (07999 891 009)		
Safeguarding (Rhondda churches)	Maria Hughes (07811011674)		
UCM – Union of Catholic Mothers	Suzy Stacey (07734 701449)		



Collection figures (18th February):

St Dyfrig's

Gift Aid: £194.00 Loose Plate: £271.93 Standing Orders: £239.41

All Hallows'

Gift Aid: £607.20 Loose Plate: £125.73 Non Gift Aid: £38.00

The Rhondda Parishes

Loose Plate (Tonypandy): £156.35 Loose Plate (Ynyshir): £57.65

Gift Aid: £206.00

Standing Orders: £140.50

Here are the latest articles on our parish blog: amdg.page

- Information on the <u>Lenten Alms</u>
- An opportunity to go to Medjugorie
- Retrouvaille's latest programme for Married Couples
- Some news on the Abortion law
- Let's celebrate St David's Day with our previous Archbishop

Our local Catholic Schools:

Cardinal Newman RC Secondary, Rhydfelin 01443 494110

Email: headteacher@cardinalnewman.co.uk

S.S. Gabriel and Raphael RC Primary, Tonypandy 01443 433094

Email: admin@ssgabrielraphaelrcprimary.rctcbc.cymru

St Michael's RC Primary, Treforest 01443 570090 *Email: admin@stmichaelsrcprimary.rctcbc.cymru*

The Latest News

Weekend Club at All Hallows

We resume the monthly Weekend Club meetings on Friday 1st March, St David's Day at 7pm in All Hallows' Hall. It is a Bring & Share event. Everyone is invited of all ages and do bring your friends too.

<u>Foodbank</u> – Nile Street <u>Pontypridd</u> 01443 404 692 and Taff Ely Foodbank 01443 520 730

All Hallows Church: We would like to make an appeal for more donations please. An item per family would fill the weekly box. Thank you for your generosity. The box at All Hallows is emptied every Wednesday. If you would like to donate money, kindly consider gift aiding your contributions. The forms are in the FB box in the foyer. St Dyfrig's: Thank you for the continued support from you all. If possible, the foodbank is desperate for any of the following: tins of rice pudding or custard, UHT fruit juice, tinned sweetcorn, tinned soup and jars of curry sauce. We are also still in need of empty fabric conditioner bottles - thank you

Young Disciples

Lizzy de-Ste-Croix writes: Young Disciples is a weekly group that is aimed for those in secondary school (ages 11 to 16) where they can meet with like-minded young people who want to grow deeper in their faith. Each week, we'll meet for some light food, games and fellowship with the aim to grow into a community dedicated to growing with Christ. The next meeting will be on Monday 26th February.

Novena to St Joseph

Let's join with the rest of the country to ask for the prayer intentions of St Joseph, wife of Mary and earthly Father of Jesus. Join the National Novena to St Joseph from 10th to 18th March. To find out more,

visit www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena

The Big Walk: Treforest to Abercynon

Are you a passionate walker? Come along for our Pastorate Big Walk on Saturday 23rd March at 12pm, starting at St Dyfrig's. This will be a great afternoon of exercise, friendship and prayer.

Please pray for bright weather and don't forget to bring a picnic, your close family and friends and perhaps your dog (or cat). We hope to see you there. To find our more, visit: tinyurl.com/olovwalk24

Sunday Tea and Coffee

St Dyfrig's is still in need of another team, to help out on Sunday mornings after mass to serve the tea and coffee. If we have another 'team' (2 people), then everyone will only have to volunteer once a month. Can you spare an hour once a month to help out with this activity? If so, please contact the office of see one of the regular volunteers. Thank you

Sunday 31st March, Easter Sunday - there will be **NO tea and coffee** in the annex due to the previous commitments of the volunteers on that day. Apologies for this inconvenience, we will see you again on Sunday 7th April.

Mass Intentions

There are plenty of mass intentions available over the next few weeks. If you would like a mass to be said for one of your loved ones or your families, please just let Suzy or Lizzy know by email.

Rhondda Fire Marshals

In each of the Rhondda Churches we need 6 volunteers to be trained as deputy Fire Marshals. In the event that we need to evacuate the church they would do duties at the doors or muster point. Training will be given after Masses on 13/14 April. A fire drill will be held at the end of Masses on 20/21 April. There is a sign up sheet in the porch of each church.

Joan Gregory

Our prayers and good wishes go to Joan for a swift recovery and return to full health from the parishioners of St Dyfrig's. Get well soon Joan.

Jumble Sale at St Dyfrig's

Many thanks to everyone who supported our recent jumble sale. A tremendous £900 was raised, this included £70 donated by parishioners. Thanks to everyone who supported us.

Keep a lookout for further events to support St Dyfrig's.

<u>Service To Celebrate the Life of Owain Williams RIP</u> <u>Saturday March 2nd</u>

There will be a Mass at 1 pm on Saturday, March 2nd to celebrate the life of Owain Williams and parishioners, who remember him, are invited by Bethan and their five children to attend this service, which will be followed by a private function, as sadly the hall will be filled afterwards with family. Those who do remember Owain will know that he was instrumental in assisting Canon Daly with the building of All Hallows and worked very closely with Canon Daly, to facilitate this. So we are all indebted to the love and enthusiasm that Owain had for All Hallows and St. Michael's school, where he was a governor. May God bless him and the family he cherished.

Lent Confessions

On Saturday 24 February and Sunday 3 March, with help from Canon Pat, confessions will be heard during the Sunday Masses. Please be assured that you will still fulfil your obligation to attend Sunday Mass if you step out of the prayers of the Mass for a few minutes for the sake of confession.

Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at All Hallows will continue on the first and third Saturdays following 10am mass until 12. There will be confessions on the first Saturdays after mass. There is no Adoration on 17th February as there is Mass with Anointing of the Sick. The next dates for adoration are 2nd and 16th March. The church will now remain open for prayer from 10am till noon every Saturday. Come in and spend time with Our Lord.

Mass and Service times for this week

	Place	Time	Service with intentions
Saturday 24 th February	All Hallows, Miskin	10:00am	Mass –
	Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypandy	5pm 5:30pm	Confession Mass – Sr Anna <i>RIP</i>
Sunday 25 th February	All Hallows, Miskin	8:45am 9:15am	Confession Mass – Deceased Members of UCM
2 nd Sunday of Lent	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	11:15am	Mass – Kevin Power RIP + Steve Griffiths RIP
	Penrhys Shrine	2:45pm	Rosary
	St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir	3pm 4pm	Confession Mass - Maria Alessandrini <i>RIP</i>
	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	7pm	Confession
Monday 26 th February	Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypandy	9:15am 9:30am	Morning prayer Service of the word with Holy Communion
	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	11 am	Mass with Morning Prayer – Followed by adoration until 12:15pm
Tuesday 27 th February	St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir	9:00am 10am	Adoration with 9.40 Morning Prayer Mass – Followed by Stations of the Cross
	From home	9pm	Rosary for the sick members of our parish
Wednesday 28 th February	Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypandy	9:15am 9:30am	Morning Prayer Service of the word with Holy Communion Followed by Stations of the Cross
	All Hallows', Miskin	10am	Mass – Elwyn Williams RIP Followed by Stations of the Cross
	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	10am	Service of the word with Holy Communion Church open for prayer until 2pm
Thursday 29 th February	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	10:30 am	Church open for prayer until 2 pm
	All Hallows, Miskin	6:00pm	Mass (Vigil of St David) – Reparation for Our Lord's Abandonment
Friday 1 st March	Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypandy	9:15am 10:00am	Morning Prayer and Adoration Mass –
St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	2:00pm	Mass -
•	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	6:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 2 nd March	All Hallows, Miskin	10:00am	Adoration until 12 noon.
		1:00pm	Memorial Mass - Owain Williams RIP
	Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypandy	5pm 5:30pm	Confession Mass –
Sunday 3 rd March	All Hallows, Miskin	8:45am 9:15am	Confession Mass – Charles, Sarah, Sven + Lloyd (Healing)
3 rd Sunday of Lent	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	11:15am	Mass – Charles, Sarah, Sven + Lloyd (Healing)
	Penrhys Shrine	2:45pm	Rosary
	St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir	3pm 4pm	Confession Mass -
	St Dyfrig's, Treforest	7pm	Confession

A box for collecting Lenten Alms is now available in each of our churches from Ash Wednesday. At the direction of Archbishop Mark, the Lenten Alms this year will go towards aid to the Holy Land, through the work of Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre and Friends of the Holy Land, as well as Caritas Cardiff & Menevia. Meanwhile CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day this year falls on Friday 23rd February with a collection in our churches on 24/25th.