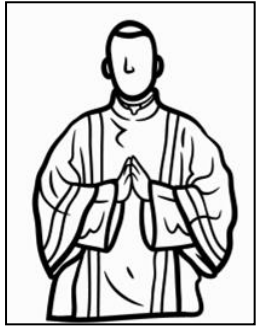




**Catholic Churches serving southern RCT  
Parishes of the Archdiocese of Cardiff**  
Registered Charity No. 1177272

**To Contact Pastor Gareth,**  
**Email:** [gareth.leyshon@rcadc.org](mailto:gareth.leyshon@rcadc.org)  
**Call:** 01443 402439

*Pastor Gareth writes:* **CHRISTMAS AND CONSULTATIONS**



Christmas is at hand! Our Saviour's birth is presented to us once again for us to look with wonder upon our God who became a tender infant in order that we might be saved from our sin and enter heaven. You may have seen images circulating from the Holy Land, of crib scenes with the Infant placed among the rubble caused by urban warfare. Our God, Emmanuel, is truly with us in the messiness of human life.

Rather than giving me any personal gifts this Christmas I humbly invite you instead to make a donation to the Presbytery Renovation Fund; you can give to the same cause by writing "PR Fund" on an envelope or when making an on-line donation at: [app.goodhub.com/st-dyfrigs-church-treforest](https://app.goodhub.com/st-dyfrigs-church-treforest)

Last weekend, Archbishop Mark invited all of us to reflect on the question of whether the Archdiocese of Cardiff and the Diocese of Menevia should merge to become a single structure enabling the work of the Catholic Church in South Wales and Herefordshire. This week, the name of his successor as Bishop of Plymouth was announced, causing adjustments to the schedule of consultative meetings (so Archbishop Mark can attend his successor's episcopal ordination). The most local opportunities for you to have your say will now be as follows: Each opportunity includes a consultative meeting and the celebration of Mass, with the evening programme starting at 5 pm: **most locally, 19th Feb @ All Hallows, Miskin** :: Wed 10th April @ St Mary's, Newport :: Wed 24th April @ St Illtyd's, Dowlais :: Wed 15th May (Wed) Cornerstone, Cardiff.

**Upcoming events:**

|  |                            |  |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Mass with enrolment of Altar Servers                               | All Hallows Church         | Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> December at 11am          |
| Mass with enrolment of Altar Servers                               | St Mary Magdalene Church   | Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> December at 3pm           |
| Reflections on Mary Mother of God                                  | St Dyfrig's Church         | Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> December at 6 pm           |
| Worship to see in the New Year<br><i>Followed by midnight mass</i> | St Dyfrig's Church         | Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> December at 11:30pm        |
| Reflections on Epiphany  | St Dyfrig's Church         | Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January at 6 pm             |
| Adoration  | All Hallows' Church        | Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2023             |
| Guest Speaker for the Pastorate                                    | All Hallows' Hall          | Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January at 7pm              |
| <i>Ways of Praying</i> (Anna Mayer)                                | ZOOM                       | Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2-3 pm             |
| Young Disciples returns  | St Mary Magdalene Hall     | Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January at 7pm             |
| Prayers for Christian Unity Week                                   | St Dyfrig's Church         | Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 6 pm               |
| Prayers for Christian Unity Week                                   | All Hallows                | Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 11 am              |
| <i>Following Christ</i>  | ZOOM & St Dyfrig's Church  | Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 7-9 pm (Session 1) |
| Prayers for Christian Unity Week                                   | St Barnabas, Penygraig     | Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 7 pm             |
| Jumble Sale  | St Dyfrig's Community Hall | Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 1 pm             |
| Archbishop's Consultative Meeting                                  | All Hallows                | Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 5 pm              |

*For more information on any of these events, please contact [treforest@rcadc.org](mailto:treforest@rcadc.org) – also contact if you wish to book a place on the Ways of Praying or Following Christ courses.*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, Year B**

Entrance Antiphon: ***Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
And let the clouds rain down the just one;  
Let the earth be opened and bring forth a savior.***

Psalm response: ***I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.***

Gospel Acclamation:

***Alleluia, Alleluia!***

***I am the handmaid of the Lord:***

***Let what you said be done to me. Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: ***Behold, a virgin will conceive and bear a son,  
And his name will be called Emmanuel.***

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-28

**Please pray for the recently deceased in our churches:**

Elwyn Williams

Peter Anzani

Dorino Cavalli

**Please also remember in prayer all our sick and housebound.**

**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: llantrisant@rcadc.org

Call: 01443 228 866

Address:

All Hallows' Catholic Church  
School Rd, Miskin,  
Pontyclun  
CF72 8P

**The Pope's Prayer intentions:**

*During December, Pope Francis says: "Let us pray that people with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions offer inclusion programs that enhance their active participation."*

**Parish Directory**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 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)                 | Treforest Office (or Sue Cleary)                                     |
| 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)<br>Anne Thomas (organist)           |
| Music Ministry (SS Gabriel and Raphael) | Bridget Green (organist)<br>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)<br>or Roy Mayo (01443 209850)            |
| Safeguarding (All Hallows')             | Suzy Stacey (07734 701449)<br>or Diane Franks-Herbet (07999 891 009) |
| Safeguarding (Rhondda churches)         | Maria Hughes (07811011674)   |
| UCM – Union of Catholic Mothers         | Suzy Stacey (07734 701449)   |

**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

**Collection figures (10<sup>th</sup> December):**

**St Dyfrig's (for 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>)**

Gift Aid: £390.50

Loose Plate: £606.80

Standing Orders: £239.41

**All Hallows'**

Gift Aid: £431.00

Loose Plate: £187.93

Non Gift Aid: £22.00

**Ss Gabriel & Raphael**

Gift Aid: £236.00

Loose Plate: £127.96

Standing Orders: £140.50

**St Mary Magdalene**

Loose Plate: £18.50

Here are the latest articles on our parish blog: [amdg.page](http://amdg.page)

- ❖ Some resources for [Family hoping to grow in Faith](#) together
- ❖ A Primary Head [Vacancy](#) in Herefordshire
- ❖ More information on the 2023 [Crib Offering](#)
- ❖ The [Foot of the Cross](#) latest podcast episode to view
- ❖ A workshop on the [Synodal Mission Church](#)
- ❖ Some words from those in Bethlehem. ["Hear Angels Cry"](#)

**Our local Catholic Schools:**

**Cardinal Newman RC Secondary, Rhydfelin** 01443 494110

Email: [headteacher@cardinalnewman.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@cardinalnewman.co.uk)

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

Email: [admin@ssgabrielraphaelrcprimary.rctcbc.cymru](mailto:admin@ssgabrielraphaelrcprimary.rctcbc.cymru)

**St Michael's RC Primary, Treforest** 01443 570090

Email: [admin@stmichaelsrcprimary.rctcbc.cymru](mailto:admin@stmichaelsrcprimary.rctcbc.cymru)



## The Latest News

### Christmas Offerings

The collection taken at Christmas Masses forms part of the parish priest's annual income (and in the Rhondda, is shared with the Sisters' fund). The government allows us to claim gift aid on such gifts, but the money must be banked via the parish account. Hence we ask that all cheques are made payable to your parish ("All Hallows" / "Parish of St Dyfrig" / "Rhondda Parish") and not the Parish Priest.

### Next Week's Newsletter

Due to a number of our newsletter editors being away in a couple of weeks, next week's newsletter will be a double issue. *There will be no newsletter printed for the weekend of 6 January.* Please send any news that you want to add to [treforest@rcadc.org](mailto:treforest@rcadc.org)

### St Dyfrig's Newsletter

We are looking for volunteers to fold the Newsletter on a Thursday. If you think that you'd be able to volunteer to help us then contact Lizzy in the office via [treforest@rcadc.org](mailto:treforest@rcadc.org)

**Foodbank** – Nile Street [Pontypridd 01443 404 692](tel:01443404692) and [Taff Ely Foodbank 01443 520 730](tel:01443520730)

**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.

**St Dyfrig's:** Thank you to everyone who has donated the foodbank, the Christmas parcels are starting to go out to families in Pontypridd and Treforest. We are still giving out the regular food parcels and are running short of: Packets of biscuits, jars of curry sauce, jars of jam or peanut butter, tins of meat. Thank you again for your continued support.

### St Dyfrig's Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas raffle last weekend. A total of £501 was raised and a full list of winners is displayed on the notice boards in the narthex and the annex. Thank you.

### Christmas Message from St Michael's

A happy Christmas from all the pupils in St Michaels. We have enjoyed sharing our concerts with the whole school community and at the same time we collected for the food bank to share with both Parish collections. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

### The Surprise

"Watch The Surprise, a wonderful play by Catholic author GK Chesterton this Christmas. Sunday 24th December 3.30pm online [www.ewtn.co.uk](http://www.ewtn.co.uk) or on sky 586. For GK Chesterton Prayers see; [www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk](http://www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk)"

### Christmas Masses

We need stewards at the Christmas masses. If you would like to volunteer, please make yourself known (at St Dyfrig's to the Ushers, at All Hallows to Marita, in the Rhondda churches to Sr Berenice).

If anyone needs a lift to mass especially over Christmas, please ring Lizzy at St Dyfrig's parish office, and leave a message stating clearly the church and mass time you wish to attend, where you live and how we can contact you.

### Eucharistic Adoration

The next eucharistic adorations at All Hallows will be on 6th and 20th **January** 2024. The church will remain open for private prayer after Saturday morning mass until 12 on 23rd and 30th December 2023.

### All Hallows Tea Dancers

The total amount of money raised by our Tea Dancers during 2023 is £1185. It has been allocated as follows. £272 Moss Road Cottage.; £204 DEC Ukraine; .£266 Macmillan Cancer Care and £443 Pontyclun Food Bank. UCM added £53 and we were able to donate £500 to the food bank last week.

### Christmas Hamper Raffle

Raffle tickets will be on sale this weekend at All Hallows for a Christmas Hamper. The draw will take place on Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> during tea and coffee after mass and all proceeds will go to Tŷ Hafan.

### Rest in peace

Please remember in your prayers Dorino Cavalli and Elwyn Williams who died recently. May they rest in peace.

### Christmas Greetings

A very happy and enjoyable Christmas to all parishioners. May the Christ Child bless you and your families with peace and love. Sr Berenice

### All Hallows Childrens Christmas party :

Thank you to everybody who helped to make last weekend's children's Christmas party a fantastic success, we had nearly 30 children and it was great to see them having so much fun. It takes lots of people to make things happen, but I must say a special thank you to Joey as our party host as he spent so much time setting up the technical side of it, but he also never stopped all the way through a party. We also need to thank everybody who helped to set it up and to clear away afterwards. It was a great team effort, and we have something to aspire to next year. Each Child received a selection box from Saint Nicholas, and we also donated 30 selection boxes to the food bank from the children of All Hallows.

### Friends of St Dyfrig's Christmas winners

Congratulations to all the winners of the Christmas draw, you can collect your prizes from the St Dyfrig's Sacristy.

- 1: Helen Friel (106) (£100)
- 2: Alwyn Pugh (83) (£50)
- 3: Wayne Coughlin (61) (£20)
- 4: Joyce Dyer (159) (£10)
- 5: M. White (53) (£10)
- 6: Veronica Atkins (81) (£10)

*Sheila writes:* Merry Christmas to you all. Once again, I would like to thank you for your support over the last 23 years.

*Pastor Gareth writes:* Since no volunteers have come forwards to take on the work of organization, the *Friends of St Dyfrig's* draw will not continue in 2024. I am truly grateful to Sheila for her long service, and I am sure our long-standing supporters will find other ways to bless the parish in future.

| <b>This Week's Masses and Services</b>  |                                |                   |   |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|
|   | <i>Place</i>                   | <i>Time</i>       | <i>Service with intentions</i>  |
| Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December  | All Hallows, Miskin            | 10am              | Mass – Healing for Angela Murray  |
|   | Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypany | 5pm<br>5:30pm     | Confession<br>Mass – Paddy Kelly <i>RIP</i>   |
| Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent,<br/>Year B</b>  | All Hallows, Miskin            | 8:45am<br>9:15am  | Confession<br>Mass – Eirwen Healy (Healing)   |
|   | St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir     | 9:30am            | Mass – Deceased Clergy of Rhondda Parishes  |
|   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 11:15am           | Mass – Claire Louise Turnbull <i>RIP</i> 4th anniv.                                     |
| <b>Christmas Eve</b>  | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 4:00pm            | <b>Christmas Vigil Masses</b><br>Mass – Picton Family                                   |
|   | Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypany | 6:00pm            | Mass – Thelma Cole <i>RIP</i> + Grahame Thomas <i>RIP</i>                               |
|   | All Hallows, Miskin            | 6:30pm            | Mass – George Franks-Herbert <i>RIP</i>   |
| Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>Christmas Day</b>  | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 12:00am           | Mass – Anne Parker <i>RIP</i>   |
|   | All Hallows', Miskin           | 9:15am            | Mass – Edwina Kingston and family   |
|   | St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir     | 9:30am            | Mass –  |
|   | Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypany | 11:15am           | Christmas Day Mass – Dave and Pat Price <i>RIP</i>                                      |
| The 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day are separate Holy Days of Obligation. (Attending a Christmas Vigil Mass this year can fulfil either your Sunday Obligation or Christmas Obligation, but not both at the same time.) As is always the case, if you are a Catholic truly unable to attend Church on a Holy Day, you may fulfil your obligation through a time of personal or family prayer on that day, perhaps reflecting on the readings of the Mass that you were unable to attend. |                                |                   |   |
| Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> December<br><i>St Stephen</i>  | All Hallows, Miskin            | 11 am             | Mass – <i>With enrolment of altar servers</i>   |
|   | St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir     | 3pm               | Mass – <i>With enrolment of altar servers</i>   |
|   | From home                      | 9pm               | Rosary for the sick members of our parish   |
| Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> December<br><i>St John, the evangelist</i>   | Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypany | <del>9:15am</del> | <b>NO</b> Service of the Word with Communion  |
|   | All Hallows', Miskin           | 10am              | Mass – Elwyn Williams <i>RIP</i>  |
|   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | <del>10am</del>   | <b>NO</b> Service of the Word with Communion<br><i>Church open for prayer until 2pm</i> |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> December<br><i>Holy Innocents</i>   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 10 am             | <i>Church open for prayer until 2 pm</i>  |
|   | All Hallows, Miskin            | 10 am             | Mass  |
|   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 11.15 am          | Funeral Service – Peter Anzani<br><i>Followed by committal at Glyntaf Crematorium</i>   |
| Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> December<br><i>St Thomas Becket</i>   | Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypany | 9:15am<br>10:00am | Morning Prayer and Adoration<br>Mass –  |
|   | All Hallows, Miskin            | 10 am             | Adoration, praise music & seasonal reflection   |
|   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 6:00pm            |   |
| Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> December  | All Hallows, Miskin            | 10am              | Mass – Healing for Angela Murray  |
|   | Ss Gabriel & Raphael, Tonypany | 5pm<br>5:30pm     | Confession<br>Mass –  |
| Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> December<br><b>Holy Family</b>  | All Hallows, Miskin            | 8:45am<br>9:15am  | Confession<br>Mass – Denis McCarthy <i>RIP Anniversary</i>                              |
|   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 11:15am           | Mass – Anne + Brian Parker <i>RIP</i>   |
|   | Penrhys Shrine                 | 2:45pm            | Rosary  |
|   | St Mary Magdalene, Ynyshir     | 4:00pm            | Mass –  |
|   | St Dyfrig's, Treforest         | 11:30pm           | Praise & Worship (followed by midnight mass)  |