

Recently died

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

Mr William John Johnson – The Funeral Service will be celebrated at St Mary of the Angels on Tuesday 3rd November at 10.30am.

Mr Lewis Tucker - The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary of the Angels on Friday 6th November at 11.00am.

Mrs Deidre Anne Rayer—The Funeral service will be celebrated at Cardiff & Vale crematorium on Wednesday 11th November at 1pm

Mr Mark William Robert Cuddihy - The Funeral service will be celebrated at Thornhill Crematorium on Friday 20th November at 2pm



Pray for the Sick

Holy Family: David Rogers, Catherine Driscoll, Kay & Paul Parris, Sheila Ferriter, Bernard Perry, Collette Griffin, Vivian Miller, Valentine, Brian Webster, Henry Fernandez, Hanna Marengi, Mary Bodman, Susanna, Martin, Gary Sutton, Chris Collins, Louise Macpherson.

St Mary's: Fr Christopher Delaney, Bethan Williams, Jean Allen, Madison Lane, John & Marian Lamb, Jean Hayman, Nadasiri Ifada, Cecily Hughes, James Church, Anthony Jackson, Margaret Griffiths, Tom Hopkins, Joanne Coakley, Helen Ward, Doreen Utley, Carina Foster, Maria Sullivan, Thomas Hyde (now living in Canada), Ivan Sadka, Mary D'Alpa, Richard Watson, Robert Partridge.

CONTINUING INCREASE IN INFECTIONS

WE MUST ALL ENSURE THAT WE ARE WASHING AND CLEANSING OUR HANDS REGULARLY AND THOROUGHLY. WE MUST ADHERE TO THE INSTRUCTION TO WEAR FACE MASKS BEFORE ENTERING OUR CHURCHES AND OTHER PUBLIC INDOOR ARENAS. WE MUST MAINTAIN THE TWO METRE DISTANCE RULE. LET US MAINTAIN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT SO AS TO PROTECT OURSELVES AND OTHERS, PARTICULARLY THE MOST VULNERABLE.

Parish Contacts

The Priory 67 Talbot St. Canton, Cardiff
tel: (029) 20 230 492

Parishes of St. Mary's and Holy Family
new email address is: canton@rcadc.org

Canon Peter Collins

e-mail: peter.collins@rcadc.org

Fr Nick Williams

e-mail: nicholas.williams@rcadc.org

Deacon Professor Maurice Scanlon

e-mail: maurice.scanlon@rcadc.org

tel (029) 2021 2651

Website: cardiffwestcatholics.org.uk

Bank details for standing orders, which are directly linked to the respective parish accounts are as follows:

Account name: Archdiocese of Cardiff

Sort code: 20-18-23 (for both)

St Mary's Acc No: 03285375

Holy Family Acc No: 63656861

St Mary's SVP contact number 07731847622.

Parish Safeguarding Reps

Mrs Ellery Hennessy (Holy Family)

Mr Jack Meggitt-Phillips (St Mary of the Angels)

Primary Headteachers:

Holy Family

Mrs Louise Mills Tel: 20565354

St. Mary's

Miss Claire Russell Tel: 2022 5680

Secondary Headteachers:

Corpus Christi

Mr Patrick Brunnock Tel: 20761893

Mary Immaculate

Mr Huw Powell Tel: 2059 3465

St David's 6th Form College

Mr Mark Leighfield Tel: 20498555

RETURN OF GUEST EDITOR

We are pleased to announce the temporary return of Smokey the parish cat as guest editor. Fr Nicholas is keeping an eye out for any mistakes but by and large, we have every confidence in Smokey's professionalism & attention to detail.



Holy Family & St Mary of the Angels

Keyston Rd, Fairwater CF5 3NP

Kings Rd, Canton CF11 9BX

1st-8th November 2020 Solemnity of All Saints Cycle A

SUNDAY READINGS – SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS.

Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14. This vision describes the scene leading up to the final destruction of the world which follows the opening of the Seventh Seal. The apocalyptic imagery describes the annihilation of all that does not belong to God. Before the annihilation takes place the 'elect' must be gathered. The 'elect' are the 'martyrs' who have been through the great persecution. The one hundred and forty-four thousand is a representational number rather than a literal figure (twelve times the twelve tribes of Israel). "I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language." The robes of the 'elect' have been washed white again by the Blood of the Lamb. It is only by sharing in the sacrifice and victory of Christ, the Lamb, that anyone can share in the fruits of salvation. God's presence and his power envelops his people like a tent – there is a word-play in the original text, for the Hebrew word for 'presence' has the same consonants as the Greek word for 'tent'. Our fulfilment is encapsulated by the worship offered by the heavenly host: "Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen."

Psalm 23. "Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things.

I John 3:1-3. "Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are." It would be true to say that God's nature is transcendent and incommunicable, yet in this First Letter of St. John we are assured that we shall be 'alike unto him'. "We are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is." The very vision of God is itself transformative. In our vision of God, we are 'elevated'. As we undertake the pilgrimage of our earthly life, we must recognise that each day is but a preparation for that 'beatific vision' of God. That being the case, as we entertain this hope, we must purify ourselves each day.

Matthew 5:1-12. Matthew is the great collector, the one who gathers the teachings of Jesus from a number of previous sources. Matthew structures these teachings into five great discourses. In the Sermon on the Mount we hear the opening 'manifesto' of Jesus. As Moses on Mount Sinai, Jesus is enthroned on a mountain. Beyond the obvious practicality of the location, Jesus is not only addressing the assembled crowd within this historical and geographical setting but truly addressing the entire world in every age. The content is probably drawn from a number of separate addresses delivered by Jesus which are assembled into a cohesive whole. The Christian is provided with the foundational ingredients of the Kingdom of God. The discourse begins with the presentation of the Beatitudes. There are eight 'lapidary' sayings, the imagery directing us to contemplate monumental inscriptions engraved on stone. This, of course, is meant to be seen as connecting us to the ten commandments of the Law given to Moses on Mount Sinai. In their attempt to sound less ecclesiastical, the Jerusalem Bible translators unfortunately employed the impoverished phrase 'HOW HAPPY' rather than 'BLESSED' to introduce each stanza. Blessed is the more accurate translation. The Beatitudes reflect the prophetic traditions of Zephaniah who himself confronted the hierarchy of worldly values and expectations. It would be wrong to interpret the promulgation of 'gentleness' within the Beatitudes as a proclamation of some form of weakness. Whilst the Beatitudes promulgate the contradiction of aggression, they nonetheless represent a demand for tenacity. A portrait is painted of the citizen of the Kingdom as one who must possess considerable composure and formidable strength.

Holy Family Masses (live-streamed from St Mary's)

Sunday: All Saints (1st November)
6pm Vigil Mass Michael Gerard McMahon

Sunday: 32nd Sunday of the Year (8th Nov)
6pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving (Sharon Clifford)

St Mary's Masses

Sunday: All Saints (1st November)

10am Stan & Frances Trigg

12pm Kathleen Lewis

6pm Pro Populo- For the People of the Parish

Monday All Souls (2nd November)

9.30am Holy Souls

10.30am Elizabeth Davidson

12.15pm **Intentions of the Holy Father**

Fr Nicholas will be celebrating 3 non-live streamed Masses for the Holy Souls

Tuesday; Memoria of St Winiride (3rd Nov)

9.30am Maria & David Lewis

10.30am Funeral service for Mr William Johnson

12.15pm Catherine Kemp

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday: St Charles Borromeo (4th November)

9.30am Danny Clements

12.15pm Stella Beaverstock

Thursday of Week 31 in Ordinary Time (5th Nov.)

9.30am Holy Souls

12.15pm William Johnson

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday Memoria of St Illtyd (6th November)

9.30am Coulson Family Intentions

11am **Funeral Mass for Mr Lewis Tucker**

Saturday of Week 31 in Ordinary Time (7th Nov.)

12.15pm Bob & Lynn Bastian

Sunday: 32nd Sunday of the Year (8th Nov)

10am For the Fallen

12pm Mary, Arthur & John Sparkes

6pm Harry Hogan

The Angelus and Prayer During the Day live-streamed at 12pm daily. Evening Prayer live-streamed at 7pm daily except Sundays. Tuesday & Thursday 7-8pm Adoration & Benediction (including Evening Prayer).

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 2nd November – The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church – 1030, 1031, 1032. The Final Purification, or Purgatory.

All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified. Are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence and Trent. The tradition of the Church, by reference to certain texts of Scripture, speaks of a cleansing fire: "As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgement, there is a purifying fire. He who is truth says that whoever utters blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be pardoned neither in this age nor in the age to come. From this sentence we understand that certain offences can be forgiven in this age, but certain others in the age to come" (St. Gregory the Great). This teaching is also based on the practice of prayer for the dead, already mentioned in Sacred Scripture: "Therefore (Judas Maccabeus) made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin" (II Macc. 12:46). From the beginning the Church has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God. The Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead: "Let us help and commemorate them. If Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice, why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them" (St. John Chrysostom).

Let us pray earnestly for our own beloved family and friends who have died, for the one hundred and ten members of our two parishes who have died over the past year and for all the faithful departed.



The Preface for All Saints: It is right and just, our duty and our salvation, alays and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For today by your gift we celebrate the festival of your city, the heavenly Jerusalem, our mother, where the great array of our brothers and sisters already gives you eternal praise. Towards her, we eagerly hasten as pilgrims advancing by faith, rejoicing in the glory bestowed upon those exalted members of the Church through whom you give us, in our frailty, both strength and good example. And so, we glorify you with the multitude of Saints and Angels, as with one voice of praise we acclaim: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts

Tuesday 3rd November – Memoria of St. Winefride, Virgin and Martyr.

Winefride, also known as Gwenfrewi, is a Virgin-Martyr of the seventh century. We have few secure facts concerning her life and death. The first text to provide a biography was not written until the twelfth century. However, it is historically certain that a widespread cult of devotion was established soon after her death. It seems certain that she lived at Holywell (Treffynon) in Flintshire. Saint Beuno is said to have been her Uncle and the strands of devotion are linked. Tradition describes Winefride as a maiden. A local Prince, Caradoc, attempted to seduce and marry her but she resisted. In his rage, Caradoc is said to have cut off her head. This happened at Holywell where a fountain sprang up on the spot her head touched the ground. St. Beuno is then said to have restored her to life after which she embraced religious vows and became Abbess of a Nunnery at Holywell. Following her natural death, her relics

laid to rest at Shrewsbury. Henry V undertook a pilgrimage from Shrewsbury to Holywell in honour of St. Winefride during the fifteenth century. Lady Margaret Beaufort, Mother of Henry VIII, built the fine Chapel still standing in Holywell following the Battle of Bosworth.

Also celebrated on 3rd November – St. Martin de Porres, Religious.

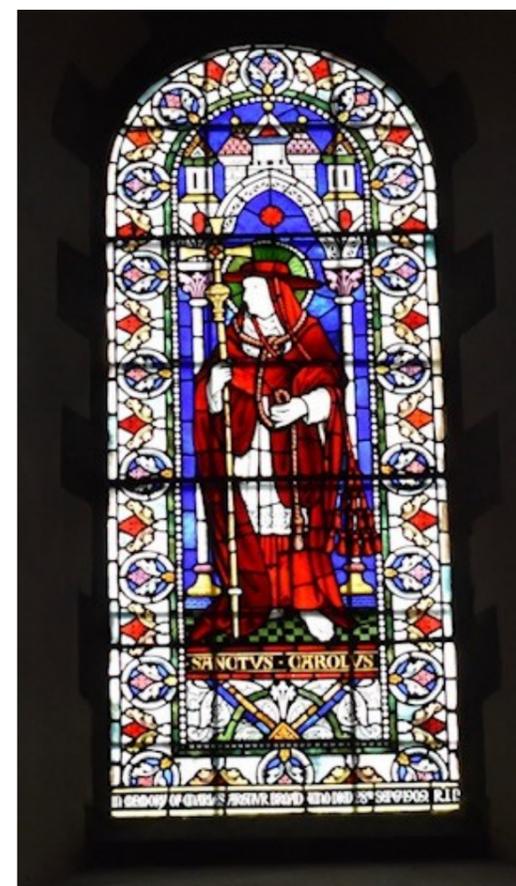
Martin was born at Lima, Peru, in 1579. His father was a Spanish Gentleman and his mother a native Indian from Panama. Aged fifteen, Martin became a Lay-Brother within the Dominican Friary in Lima and spent his entire life there. Martin longed to journey to far away places so as to spread the Gospel, willing even to pay the price of martyrdom. This was not to be his journey. He embraced penances for the sake of the Kingdom. As a result of these sufferings and sacrifices, Martin received many graces. Though he was not himself well educated, he became a spiritual counsellor to many leaders of the Dominicans and to many Bishops. He was also renowned for his care of the sick and for his love of animals. He became a close friend to St. Rose of Lima. He died on the 3rd November 1639 and was canonised by Pope St. John XXIII on the 6th May 1962.

Wednesday 4th November – Memoria of St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop.

Charles Borromeo was born of an aristocratic and wealthy family in the Castle of Arona on the banks of Lake Maggiore in Italy in 1538. Through his Mother, Charles was related to the famous Medici family. He would study first at Milan and then at Pavia, and by the age of twenty-two had obtained doctorates in Canon and Civil Law. His Uncle, Cardinal de Medici, was elected to the Papacy at this time. Pius IV heaped many honours upon his Nephew. Charles became Archbishop of Milan, a Cardinal and was effectively Papal Secretary of State. His papal responsibilities kept him in Rome and therefore absent from his own Archdiocese. He rendered immeasurable assistance to Pius IV, helping to Pope to reconvene the Council of Trent. It was Borromeo who ensured that what became the final session of that protracted Council was fruitful and conclusive. It was St. Charles Borromeo who was the prominent architect of the Catechism of the Council of Trent which would play such a key role in the reform of the Church in response to the Protestant movement. St. Charles would also be responsible for the reform of liturgical books and church music, being himself a patron of Palestrina. He was not actually ordained to the priesthood until 1564 and was then consecrated as bishop. Following the death of his Uncle in 1565, the new Pope, Pius V, granted Charles permission to take up residence in his own diocese of Milan. He moved from Rome in 1566. He immediately adopted an austere lifestyle, so different from the Papal Court he had previously inhabited. He became a truly reforming bishop. His reforms were not universally welcomed, nonetheless, he remained vigorous and determined in the implementation of his plan. It is worthy of note that St. Charles was very generous in his support of the newly created English College at Douai. In 1580 he welcomed a group of young English priests making their way to England from Rome. The group included two future

martyrs, St. Ralph Sherwin and St. Edmund Campion. It is also worthy of note that his personal Confessor was a Welshman, The Reverend Dr. Griffith Roberts. St. Charles Borromeo became the archetypal bishop of the Counter-Reformation. At the age of just forty-six, he had expended all his energy and died in Milan in 1583. He was canonised by Pope Paul V in 1610.

Editorial note (Smokey & Fr Nick, but mostly Smokey): The window above the right-hand (South) side of the sanctuary at St Mary's depicts St Charles Borromeo. Dr Griffith Roberts wasn't the only exiled Welshman in St Charles' service either; Owen Lewis, later bishop of Cassano, acted as his Vicar General for a time (Eamon Duffy, *Fires of Faith*, 207).



Friday 6th November – Memoria of St. Illtud, Abbot.

St. Illtud's life spanned the fifth and sixth centuries. He was the founder and Abbot of the great Monastery at Llanilltud Fawr (Llantwit Major) in the Vale of Glamorgan. He is said to have been a disciple of St. Germanus of Auxerre. Illtud represents the connectivity of Wales with Brittany, spiritually and culturally. Illtud's community became a renowned centre of learning.



SCHOOLS NEWS

Applications for Secondary Schools Admissions for September 2021 opened on 28th September and close on 23rd November, Offer Day being 1st March 2021.

Applications for Primary Schools Admissions for Reception Class for September 2021 open on 16th November and close on 11th January 2021, Offer Day being 16th April 2021.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St.Mary's amounted to £ 00.00.

St.Mary's Standing Orders per week amount to £ 600.00.

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family amounted to £ 00.00.

Holy Family Standing Orders per week amount to £ 250.00.

WHY NOT GIFT-AID ALL YOUR PARISH DONATIONS?

MISSION BOXES

Would all holders of red Mission boxes please count and bag the contents of your boxes, writing your name, parish and the total amount on a slip of paper in the bag. These can then be returned to church after Mass once Masses recommence or delivered directly to the Priory.

Many thanks for your assistance.

DONATE BUTTON ON THE PARISH WEBSITE

You can now make a donation via Virgin Money Giving by using the Donate button on the parish website. Please specify in the message section which parish you are supporting.

NOVEMBER – THE MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE – PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED.

As November commences with the Solemnity of All Saints and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, the entire month is traditionally dedicated to the offering of prayers for the dead. We should offer prayers daily for the faithful departed throughout the year, but at this time we recognise the opportunity to focus our attention on the connectivity between the Church in Heaven, in Purgatory and on Earth. November also brings us to Remembrance Sunday: to our duty of prayer for 'The Fallen of the Wars'; to our duty to defend the peace; to our duty of vigilance in fostering justice.

Psalm 130.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchmen for daybreak. Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption; Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

V. Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

V. May they rest in peace – and rise in glory.

R. Amen.

ACTS OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

A Prayer by St.Alphonsus Liguori.

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly 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 at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

A Prayer by St.Thomas More.

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with You ... give me warmth, delight and quickness in thinking upon You. And give me Your grace to long for Your holy sacraments, and specially to rejoice in the presence of Your blessed Body, Sweet Saviour Christ, in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

PRAYER OF SORROW / ACT OF CONTRITION

Wash me from my guilt and cleanse me of my sin. I acknowledge my offence; my sin is before me always. Psalm 50:4-5.

Father, I have sinned against you and am not worthy to be called your son. Be merciful to me, a sinner. Luke 15:18; 18:13.

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, and with the help of your grace I will not sin again.

LET US DAILY OPEN OUR HEARTS IN CONTRITION TO ALMIGHTY GOD AND REMIND OURSELVES HOW ESSENTIAL IT IS TO GRANT MERCY IF WE EVER EXPECT TO RECEIVE MERCY.

PRAYER FOR WALES

O Almighty God, who in your infinite goodness have sent your only-begotten Son into this world to open once more the gates of heaven, and to teach us how to know, love and serve you, have mercy on your people who dwell in Wales. Grant to them the precious gift of faith, and unite them in the one true Church founded by your divine Son: that, acknowledging her authority and obeying her voice, they may serve you, love you, and worship you as you desire in this world, and obtain for themselves everlasting happiness in the world to come. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady, Help of Christians, pray for Wales.

Saint David, pray for Wales.

Saint Winefride, pray for Wales.

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LOTTERY

Support our school by playing the lottery at www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play.

Join the school lottery for the chance to win £25,000 and a guaranteed prize for someone from our school every week. The first draw will take place on **Saturday 7th November.**



'FIRE BREAK' RESTRICTIONS ACROSS WALES CLOSE OUR CHURCHES ONCE AGAIN

In accordance with the recent instruction, we are obliged to close the doors of our churches from 6.00pm on Friday 23rd October to 1.00pm on Monday 9th November. Funerals and weddings can still be celebrated but no other access is possible. Once more we must rely on the compensation of our streaming facility. We will maintain the timetable of weekday Masses. We will maintain the celebration of four of our usual five Masses for live streaming from St Mary's:

Saturday 6.00pm.
Sunday 10.00am, 12.00pm and 6.00pm.

Let us hope and pray that there will be no extension of these new restrictions beyond the stipulated timeline. Let us recommit ourselves to embracing the guidance for the wellbeing of all, particularly the most vulnerable.

NOTICE REGARDING FUNERALS

Please note that the number of mourners who can attend a funeral in either of our churches is restricted to 30 persons. It will be necessary to supply the contact details of all attendees.

MORE STEWARDS REQUIRED

The expansion of our liturgical and sacramental life in our parishes is dependent upon the presence of sufficient stewards.

COULD I ASK FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS TO STEP FORWARD TO ASSIST IN BOTH OUR PARISHES.

The necessary training can now be undertaken on-line, though we will provide on-site training for those who cannot access the internet.

Could new volunteers please contact Fr.Nicholas or myself for details.

PARISH HALLS MUST REMAIN CLOSED

Our most recent advice from diocesan officers informs us that Government guidelines make it impossible to open our parish halls for use by external bodies for the foreseeable future. We will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Dial-up service for Recorded Sunday Mass

I am grateful to Fr Nicholas for setting up our telephone connection that will enable those who do not possess internet access at home to nonetheless tune into our celebrations of the Sacred Liturgy. The 10am Mass on Sunday will be recorded each week and will then be accessible by dialing our designated number. Fr Nicholas edits the recording to cut out the inevitable silences. The telephone charge is a minimal local tariff. The number is a local Cardiff number – (20) 098 149. (02920 098 149 if you are dialing from outside Cardiff or from a mobile). Call charges will apply depending on your phone contract but please bear in mind that if you don't have inclusive minutes, the BT standard tariff is 20p per minute. Please share the number with anyone who would benefit from this connection.



PROPOSALS FOR CELEBRATING THE 2020 FIRST CONFESSIONS / FIRST COMMUNIONS

The candidates who have been preparing with their parents for these sacraments have had to deal with the disappointment of postponement and continuing uncertainty as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions. I would ask that parents contact me to arrange First Confession for their child. When these celebrations have taken place, I will be in a position to arrange a sequence of dates for the celebration of First Communion which will be organised on the basis of four or five groups. I would ask all parents to give their children the assurance that Fr.Nicholas and I are keeping them in our prayers and that we look forward to celebrating the sacraments with them in the not too distant future.

***** THE MOST RECENT RESTRICTIONS HAVE IMPOSED FURTHER DISRUPTION AND DELAY TO THIS PROCESS.*****

RECOMMENCING OUR CELEBRATION OF BAPTISMS

It is my intention to re-commence our celebrations of the Sacrament of Baptism with immediate effect. A number of baptisms were postponed due to the lock-down and have not yet been rescheduled.

A number of children have happily been born into our midst over recent months. I would ask that parents contact me to discuss arrangements and how to proceed. The number of persons who can be present has been set at 10.

***** THE MOST RECENT RESTRICTIONS HAVE IMPOSED FURTHER DISRUPTION AND DELAY TO THIS PROCESS.*****

RECOMMENCING OUR CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGES

It is my intention to re-commence our celebrations of the Sacrament of Marriage with immediate effect. A number of marriages were postponed due to the lock-down and have not yet been rescheduled. I would ask all affected couples to contact me to discuss the prospect of arranging new dates and how to proceed with preparation. ***** THE MOST RECENT RESTRICTIONS HAVE IMPOSED FURTHER DISRUPTION AND DELAY TO THIS PROCESS.*****

THE BOOKING OF MASS INTENTIONS

We have recently received a number of requests for Mass Intentions that have stipulated a particular date but providing only a week or two of notice. In order to avoid disappointment might I ask that requests are sent well in advance when the proposal is for a specific date. We have a particular backlog with Mass Intentions at Holy Family. We are only celebrating Mass there on Sundays (according to our usual circumstances) and people are naturally wanting to be present for the celebration. Unless you are prepared to wait for some time, could I ask that intentions be allocated if possible for weekday celebration at St Mary's where all Masses are live-streamed.

NHS COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING APP

I am most grateful to Fr Nicholas for establishing our connectivity with the NHS Covid-19 App in both our churches. The QR code will be on display in both churches – scan the QR code to check-in.



ARCHBISHOP'S FUND – SUPPORTING PEOPLE DURING THE PANDEMIC

This fund has been established by the Archdiocese to support people through these difficult days, particularly in terms of responding to hunger in our poorest communities. The Archdiocese has arranged a system of delivering supermarket food vouchers across South Wales and Herefordshire. The fund has already attracted a number of significant contributions. Barclays Bank has awarded the Archdiocese of Cardiff £100,000; the National Lottery Community Fund has donated £70,000; the Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation has provided another £47,000. The Archdiocese is supporting a food kitchen in the Parish of St David Lewis, Bettws, Newport. Another food kitchen is being supported in the Parish of St Francis Xavier, Hereford. In our Parish in Usk a dedicated team of volunteers are providing hot meals for delivery to the elderly and the vulnerable. 'Shop and Drop' services are being supported in many places. If you wish to make a personal contribution to the Archbishop's Fund then please follow the links on the Archdiocesan Website.

ANOTHER TERRORIST ATROCITY IN FRANCE.

The City of Nice has once more been subjected to the barbarity of violence perpetrated by a terrorist. A man from Tunisia, aged just 21 years and resident in France for barely a few weeks, attacked and killed three people within the Notre Dame Basilica. Understandably, the Muslim community in France and beyond has felt outrage at the cartoon depictions of their prophet. However, there is no justification for anyone to perpetrate violence, least of all the indiscriminate violence of terrorism against the innocent. We know few personal details of the perpetrator beyond the fact that he is a migrant who made his way to France, having first landed on the Italian island of Lampedusa. The details of the three victims will emerge in time. We entrust the dead to God's great mercy and pray for their eternal repose. We declare our solidarity with all that is truly civilised and stand in opposition to all who would attack the dignity and value of human life.

A NOTE FROM DEACON MAURICE

Hello everyone, very sadly, as a vulnerable 72 year old, I'm having to keep a low profile in these difficult times, even though I don't feel either old or vulnerable! But I haven't been completely idle and have some good news!

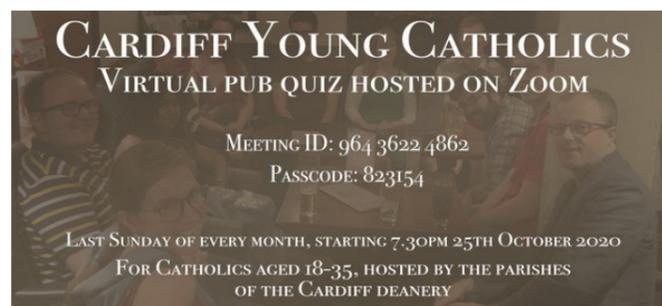
Firstly, we've secured a grant award of £35K for refurbishment of the kitchen, loos and installation of shower facilities in the parish hall. Sadly however, we'll not be running our night shelter this year because the risk is just too great.

Secondly, we have secured £50K from the SVP in London for the refurbishment of St Clare's in Ely for its development as a community centre for those in need. I'm now hoping that we'll be able to attract volunteers to help run it! More details will follow soon.

Finally, I'm happy to offer my service of counselling/support via telephone or Zoom to anyone who may need it in these traumatic times, so if you or anyone you know would like such help just contact me on 07747038274 or mfscanlon@hotmail.co.uk

God bless you all and keep safe and patient.

Did you know we have a YouTube channel, St Mary of the Angels & Holy Family, Cardiff on which we regularly post videos explaining points from the catechism, tours of the church or discuss Saints' feast days?



CATHOLIC EDUCATION UNDER THREAT.

The Welsh Government are pressing ahead with a tranche of so called educational 'reforms' that constitute an attack on the identity, nature and purpose of Catholic Schools. Angela Keller, the Wales Adviser of the Catholic Education Service (CES), said plans to repackage Religious Education as 'Religion, Values and Ethics' in a new curriculum, among other changes, were deeply upsetting and threatened the Catholic ethos of our schools. The new proposals place additional legal burdens on Catholic schools, obliging them to teach an additional secular RE curriculum if demanded by non-Catholic parents. Catholic parents would not be entitled to ask for a Catholic RE curriculum to be provided for their child if that child were attending a community/ secular (non-Catholic) school. The CES Adviser told a Senedd Committee that it appeared as if the Welsh Government saw Catholic schools as some kind of anomaly, "as a problem" in the system. The CES has highlighted the fact that the Welsh Government is pushing this legislation through in the midst of the Pandemic when our schools and all others are already under enormous pressure. It is said that a clause in the new bill means that the Welsh Government could specify the content of Catholic RE for pupils over the age of 14. The proposals undermine parental rights and constitutes a direct attack on the ability of the Church to teach the Catholic Faith in our Voluntary Aided schools. Dr. Mark Drakeford, the First Minister, is our local Member of the Senedd. I urge all parishioners to research the proposals. We will all need to play our part in defending our right to teach the Catholic Faith in our schools. If the Welsh Government undermines the integrity of Catholic Religious Education it will constitute a substantive threat to the future provision of Catholic Schools across Wales. What would be the point of a Catholic School if it could not effectively communicate and sustain the Catholic faith? Deacon Maurice Scanlon serves as Chair of Governors at Mary Immaculate Catholic High School, where Fr. Nicholas also serves as a Governor. I am a member of the Governing Body at St. David's Catholic Sixth Form College and a Governor at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School. I was Chair of the Archdiocesan Education Commission for twelve years, which meant regular contact with National and Local Government. The current proposals concerning the teaching of RE must be resisted by the Catholic community. We shall soon receive more information from the CES and archdiocesan authorities regarding how we can contribute to the campaign to change the proposals.

POLITICS, CIVILITY AND THE TRUTH.

Democracy is the best system yet invented to enable societies to function and prosper. We sometimes forget that democracy functions in very different ways in different countries. Any attempt to explain our own constitutional arrangements would be quite a challenging undertaking. As the U.S. Presidential Election draws near, we have been bombarded with information concerning the American system with its 'Electoral College'. The lack of civility in political debate across the United States has revealed a society that is bitterly divided. Are you a Trump supporter? Are you a Biden supporter? What is the defining policy that will determine how you vote? Is it Race? Is it the Wall? Is it Abortion? Is it the Pandemic? Decision making within a democracy is always more complex than it appears. Democracy is enacted through a wide variety of 'representational' systems and structures. We often pride ourselves on allegiance to the 'rule of law' as distinct from many foreign regimes. An independent Judiciary and Press hopefully provide restraints and balances to the power exerted by the Legislative and Executive branches of Government. Public service in politics is admirable when conducted with integrity. Too easily do we 'blame' politicians for this or that policy, for this or that failure. Whether we occupy the centre ground of the political debate, whether we are to the left or right of that centre ground, we all have a responsibility to contribute to the social debate. As citizens we are duty bound to take responsibility as well as vicariously delegate those responsibilities to our representatives. Politicians are called upon to lead public debate, but they are inevitably constrained by volatile public opinion. We too easily accuse politicians of vacillation and fluctuation whilst forgetting how easily public opinion can change when 'realities' strike home. If we are prepared to criticise politicians for not being brave enough to say that more tax must be paid in order to fulfil public expectations, we must also recognise the inclination of any given member of the public body to declare that 'other' people must pay more tax rather than them. Before I am accused of merely descending into a political rant, I simply wish to draw attention to the outcome of the recent referendum in New Zealand which opens up the possibility of legalising euthanasia in that country. Can truth be determined by a simple majority? In case you are in any doubt, the answer is NO. How then to assess, reflect and decide? Over recent weeks the Sacred Scriptures have reminded us that it is the sovereignty of God that ultimately enlightens the human mind and soul. We are duty bound to employ our reason to the full and to open our conscience to the guidance of faith. The depth of our faith and the scope of our morality flow from what is fully revealed in God's Incarnation. The truth begins and ends in Jesus Christ. Every human assessment, reflection and decision must be cradled within the embrace of this TRUTH.