

Recently died

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

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

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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

The increase in infections continues to accelerate across the country. The regional variations are stark but all areas are inevitably affected by what is happening elsewhere. Leaving aside the political disagreements regarding what restrictions should be in operation, 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 AND WE MUST MAINTAIN THE TWO METRE DISTANCE RULE. Let us all willingly contribute to maintaining a safe environment so as to protect one another, 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
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Canon Peter Collins

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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

Holy Family & St Mary of the Angels

Keyston Rd, Fairwater CF5 3NP

Kings Rd, Canton CF11 9BX

8th-15th November 2020 32nd Sunday of the Year Cycle A

Readings for 32nd Sunday of the Year

Wisdom 6:12-16. The Wisdom Literature of the Hebrew Scriptures (constituted by a number of Books in the Old Testament), at times depicts Wisdom in a personified form. This is not the case in today's extract from the Book of Wisdom. The key ingredient is the simple recognition that Wisdom is a poetic and dramatic representation of the will of God. We are duty bound to undertake a dedicated and persistent search for wisdom. "Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her." Wisdom longs to be found, "quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them." Despite the fact that God grants us ready access to his wisdom, human nature often wantonly ignores what is revealed. Claiming ignorance of God's wisdom will be a weak defence on judgement day. God consistently and persistently addresses the human conscience and we would be responsible for a culpable ignorance if we were to claim that eternal truths are somehow distant and obscure.

Psalm 62. For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

I Thessalonians 4:13-18. The First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians constitutes our earliest extant example of Paul's writings. In the early stages of his ministry, Paul has an expectation that the triumphant Christ will soon return. His depiction of this return could be seen in the manner of a Roman triumphal procession with Christ leading his host of faithful followers to the Father's House in the Kingdom to come. Whatever images are nurtured to depict the cosmological end of all things, the most important ingredient for us to contemplate is that only if we have died with Christ, died to sin, can we rise with him.

Matthew 25:1-13. For three Sundays we will listen to three parables from Matthew. We are listening to the last great address given by Jesus as his public ministry approaches its conclusion in his Passion, Death and Resurrection. The Kingdom of Heaven is today depicted as a Wedding Feast. It was the cultural and religious norm for a wedding, together with its accompanying feast, to be celebrated late into the evening – to avoid the heat of the day. The bridegroom was usually greeted by the bride's attendants who would then escort him into the midst of the gathered assembly. The Lord speaks of ten bridesmaids, five of whom were foolish and five sensible. As they await the bridegroom, all the bridesmaids fall asleep. The distinction between the two groups is not alertness but preparedness. All ten have their lamps but only five have flasks of extra oil to trim their lamps. Be ready, then, for the return of the bridegroom, the return of the Lord. We will do well to "stay awake because we do not know either the day or the hour" when the Lord will come. We must prepare ourselves well in advance and we must take account of all contingencies. Last minute conversions cannot be relied on.

Holy Family Masses

Sunday: 32nd Sunday of the Year (8th Nov)
6pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving (Sharon Clifford)
Live-streamed from St Mary's

Sunday: 33rd Sunday of the Year (15th Nov)
6pm Vigil Mass Michael Gerard McMahon
11am William (Billy) Brown

St Mary's Masses

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

10am For the Fallen

12pm Mary, Arthur & John Sparkes

6pm Harry Hogan

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - Feast (9th November)

9.30am Eddie Beaverstock

12.15pm Kevin Walsh

Tuesday; Memoria od Saint Leo the Great (10th Nov)

9.30am Michael Maher

12.15pm Terence Patrick Donovan

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday: Saint Martin of Tours (11th November)

9.30am For the Fallen

12.15pm Mario Azzopardi

Thursday: St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr. (12th Nov.)

9.30am Holy Souls

12.15pm Peter Fardy

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday of Week 32 in Ordinary Time (13th Nov)

9.30am Intentions of the Holy Father

12.15pm Tony Fernandez

Saturday: St. Dyfrig, Bishop (14th Nov.)

12.15pm Stella Beaverstock

Sunday: 33rd Sunday of the Year (15th Nov)

10am Peter Sultana

12pm Eileen & Eric Phillips

6pm People of the parish

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). Confessions 10-11am Saturdays (South side-gate) and on request.



Monday 9th November – Feast: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica.

The Basilica, dedicated to the Saviour, to St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, is the Cathedral of Rome and ‘Mother of all churches’ (mater et caput). “Most holy church of the Lateran, mother and foundation of the churches of all cities and of all the world.” It was the first Christian basilica in Rome and in the world, thirteen years older than the Vatican basilica. The Lateran was the seat of the papacy until the fourteenth century. A strand of scholarship believes that in the fourth century there was a domus ecclesiae (house church) on the site of the present basilica. The site is said to

have been the house of Fausta, wife of the Emperor Constantine. Adjoining buildings belonged to the Laterani, a Roman family who had lived on the southern side of the Coelian hill. The site was entrusted to Pope Melchiodorus in 313. The basilica was originally dedicated to the Saviour. During the papacy of Gregory I (590-604) the dedications to St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist were added. Five Ecumenical Councils have been hosted on the site. The basilica has suffered despoiling by the Vandals in the fifth century, destruction by earthquake in the ninth century and two major fires in the fourteenth century. The present great façade dates from the eighteenth century. There is a magnificent baptistry, extensive cloisters and the former Lateran Palace alongside.



Tuesday 10th November – Memoria: St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church.

Leo was a member of a Tuscan family, though he was probably born in Rome. We know little of his early life, but he was at least a deacon during the pontificates of Celestine I and Sixtus III. He was significant enough a figure to have corresponded with St. Cyril of Alexandria. He conducted diplomacy on behalf of the Papacy in Gaul (France) and it was during one such expedition in 440 that he received the news he had himself been elected Pope. His theological writings and his letters reveal the critical role of the Papacy in promulgating and maintaining the integrity of the faith and the unity of the Church. The political role of the papacy was revealed when Attila the Hun sacked Milan in 452 then made his approach to Rome. Leo went out to meet the invader, persuading Attila to accept a tribute rather than sacking Rome. Leo was not as successful when he later confronted another invader, Genseric the Vandal. Leo’s greatest imprint on history came with his dogmatic letter (Tome) addressed to the Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon. With wonderful theological clarity, Leo promulgated that Jesus Christ is one Person, the Divine Word, in whom the two natures, human and divine, are permanently united without confusion or mixture. When the assembled bishops heard the document, read by Leo’s Legates, there was a cry of acclamation: “Peter has spoken by Leo”. Pope Leo died on the 10th November 461. His relics were translated to St. Peter’s Basilica in 688. He was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1754. Only Leo and Gregory I are acclaimed as ‘the Great’. Great indeed was he - indomitable, magnanimous and devoted.



Wednesday 11th November – Memoria: St. Martin of Tours, Bishop.

Martin was born in Pannonia (Hungary) in 316. His father was a pagan officer in the Roman Legions. Martin himself became a soldier, probably by conscription rather than by choice. He was determined to become a Christian and was enrolled among the catechumens. He requested permission to leave military service, for which he was imprisoned. He was eventually discharged. It was at this point in his life that it is said he cut his cloak in half in order to offer it to a naked beggar. This episode is said to have happened at Amiens. Martin had a dream in which Christ appeared to him wearing the cloak he had shared with the beggar. Martin then became a disciple of St. Hilary of Poitiers and was baptised. He travelled back to his homeland and onward to Illyricum and Milan. Martin would eventually return to Gaul to join Hilary, becoming a solitary monk. Others joined Martin and their community formed the first monastic foundation of Gaul. Here he remained until he was called to become Bishop of Tours in 372. He continued to live in monastic fashion throughout the twenty-five years of his episcopate. He confronted paganism and expunged pagan practices that were contaminating the life of the Church. He was also energetic in undermining heresies. He died on the 8th November in 397 at Candes.



Thursday 12th November – Memoria: St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr.

Josaphat Kuncewicz was born in 1580 at Vladimir, in present day Poland, into a wealthy merchant family. He became the first great leader of the Ruthenian Catholics (Uniates), the former schismatics who had returned to full communion with Rome in 1595 through the Treaty of Brest Litovsk. In 1604 Josaphat entered the Order of St. Basil and was ordained to the priesthood. Josaphat gained a reputation for his courage and skill. The Ruthenians petitioned the Pope to nominate him as their undoubted leader and he was appointed as Archbishop of Polotsk in 1617. He was dedicated to furthering and deepening the newly re-established communion with Rome. His work centred on Kiev, in present day Ukraine. Conflict with the Orthodox worsened. Josaphat would eventually be the victim of a murder-plot instigated by fanatical opponents. He was martyred at Vitebsk in 1623 and was canonised in 1867.

Saturday 14th November – Memoria: St. Dyfrig, Bishop.

Dyfrig (A.K.A. Dubricius or Devereux) died in the year 550. He lived his life and exercised his ministry, as a monk and as a bishop, along the Welsh-English border between Herefordshire and Monmouthshire. We possess little information regarding his early life. Some later sources claim that he was born at Madley, near Hereford. Another source says that he owned land at Caerleon. He was the founder of monasteries and churches. The most significant connection is with Moccas, in the Wye Valley. It is claimed that he ordained St. Samson, that he became Abbot of Caldey and was consecrated a bishop. It is said that he retired to Bardsey Island where he died. A much later tradition, found in The Book of Llandaff, says that Dyfrig was a disciple of Germanus of Auxerre. The same source says that Dyfrig acknowledged St. David as Archbishop of Wales during the Synod of Brevi. The ancient Diocese of Llandaff lays claim to Dyfrig as founder, this move being linked with a desire to expand diocesan territory. Dyfrig’s relics were translated to Llandaff in 1120.

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.

In the Catholic tradition, it is a universal custom to place a Catafalque in churches on All souls week as a reminder of the importance of offering Mass and praying for those who have gone before us. This year, All Souls and Remembrance Sunday have taken place during lockdown, but we will mark the fallen by the laying of a Poppy wreath.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.

For the Fallen – Extract from a Poem by Laurence Binyon. "They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them".

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, PARTICULAR-

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.



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.

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.

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.

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

Our cohort of stewards at both churches have all been true stalwarts in their service to our parish communities over recent months. Inevitably, our established pattern of operation is going to remain the norm for the foreseeable future. The contribution of our stewards is critical to enabling access to the celebration of Mass and the other sacraments. We must expand the number of stewards to alleviate the pressure on those who are currently active.

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.



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?

NEW CARDINALS NAMED BY POPE FRANCIS.

His Holiness recently named thirteen new Cardinals, nine being able to participate in any future Papal Election and four others who are already over the age of eighty and consequently ineligible to vote. 57% of eligible Cardinal Electors have been appointed by Pope Francis.

The new Cardinals are as follows:

Bishop Mario Grech, who is Maltese, was recently appointed Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops. Bishop Marcello Semeraro, who is Italian, has been named as Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The Archbishop of Kigali, Rwanda; the Archbishop of Advincula of Capiz, Philippines; the Archbishop of Santiago, Chile; the Archbishop of Siena, Italy; the Archbishop of Washington, U.S.A. (Wilton D.Gregory – the first African American to become a Cardinal); the Apostolic Vicar of Brunei. Perhaps the most surprising and interesting appointment is the fifty-five year old Franciscan, Father Mauro Gambretti, who serves as the Custos at the Sacred Convent of Assisi. One of the four other older Cardinals is another Franciscan, Fr.Raniero Cantalamessa. Cardinal Elect Cantalamessa is now eighty-six. He has been known to millions for his many books on spirituality and has served for many years as Preacher to the Papal Household.

N.B. Malaysia's first and only cardinal, Cardinal Anthony Soter Fernandez, former Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur, has died at the age of eighty-eight. He was appointed by Pope Francis in 2016. May he rest in peace.

FR.MICHAEL RONAN R.I.P.

Please pray for the eternal repose of Fr.Michael Ronan who died on the Solemnity of All Saints at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend. Fr.Ronan was born in Maesteg and was ordained to the priesthood in 1985. He served as Parish Priest of St.Mary's, Dinas Powys and St.Gabriel's, Newport. He retired early through ill-health just two years ago. May he rest in peace.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS.

Please pray for two of our diocesan priests who are seriously ill at this time.

Reverend Father J.Ambrose Walsh is a son of St.Mary of the Angels. Ill health forced his early retirement from active ministry some twenty years ago. He is seriously ill in hospital. Please pray for him in the midst of his vulnerability and for the comforting of his family.

Reverend Canon William Isaac, Parish Priest of St.Teilo's in Whitchurch, is seriously ill and in need of our prayerful support.

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.

SETTING UP A STANDING ORDER AND GIFT-AIDING DONATIONS

If you decide to set up a standing order so that your offerings go directly into the parish bank account, we can only claim the Gift Aid if you complete the appropriate form. If this is more convenient for you than a weekly envelope and you are a tax payer, **please ask after Mass or at the Priory for a Gift Aid form.** As you know, Gift Aid provides a very significant amount of money each year to both parishes but does not cost you anything as an individual. If you are taxpayers, please consider gift aiding your donations, which are thus increased by 25p for every £1 you have donated during this tax year. If you are not attending Mass at present, please phone the Priory and we will post you the relevant form. Many thanks as always for your tremendous generosity.

Account name: Archdiocese of Cardiff

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

St Mary's Acc No: 03285375

Holy Family Acc No: 63656861

A NEW BOOK ON LOCAL HISTORY.

Mr. Mike Crocker has written and published a book entitled "The Story of Little Ireland: Newtown, Cardiff." Fairwater was one of the new zones created to accommodate the redistributed population of Newtown. For more information contact the author on 07503 875009. There is a facebook connection 'Newtown and the Irish in Cardiff'.

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.

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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 now ask that parents contact me directly on peter.collins@rcadc.org 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 Communions 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 recommence 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***

'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 until 1am 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 also be celebrating four of our usual five Masses for live streaming from St. Mary's:

Saturday 6.00.pm.

Sunday 10.00.am, 11.00.am and 6.00.pm.

*****Next weekend (14th-15th November) we return to our usual schedule of Masses at St Mary of the Angels and at Holy Family. We rejoice that our churches will be able to reopen for access to the celebration of Mass & the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*****