

Recently died

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

Mr Vaughan Mitchell R.I.P. – The Funeral Service will be celebrated in the Pigeons Chapel of Rest on Tuesday 9th March at 1.30pm.

Mr John Lamb R.I.P. – The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's on Wednesday 10th March at 12.00pm.

Mrs Johanna Tunbridge R.I.P. – The Funeral Service will be celebrated at St Mary's on Thursday 11th March at 11.15am.

Mr Anthony Wojtowicz R.I.P. – The Funeral Service will be celebrated at Thornhill Crematorium on Thursday 11th March at 12.30pm.

Mr Peter French R.I.P. - The Funeral Service will be celebrated at Cardiff and Vale Crematorium on Friday 12th March at 4pm.

Mrs Elizabeth Collins R.I.P. – The Funeral Service will be celebrated at Holy Family on Wednesday 24th March at 11.30am.

Mrs Loreto Morgan R.I.P. – details to follow.



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace. Amen.

Readings continued Although the money-changers cannot be accused of corruption, Jesus none-the-less strikes a radical blow when he made a whip out of some cord and drove them all out of the Temple. This action makes clear that even the Law has become dislodged from God's providential will. Because sin has created an ever-widening gap between the world and its Creator, there must be a radical purification. This will apply not only to Temple worship but to the whole relationship between God and Man. "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." The Temple must be purified, our lives must be purified. In this action of cleansing and purifying, Jesus makes manifest that he is the Messiah and he is taking possession of the Temple. The event takes place during the first of three visits to Jerusalem undertaken by Jesus according to John's Gospel. During the third and final visit, at the end of his Public Ministry, Jesus the Christ will displace the Temple and replace all its sacrifices. John's Gospel depicts Jesus has possessing a clear understanding of what will unfold. "During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him." Let us realise that as we stand in his presence, we are beheld by Jesus. He knows us better than we know ourselves. Within the Sacred Liturgy we are called upon to accompany Jesus on his third and final journey to Jerusalem. During our Lenten pilgrimage we must once more divest ourselves of all pretensions and presumptions. Our worship must no longer be offered according to the Temple but according to the Body of Christ.

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

Deacon Christian Mahoney

Contact details to follow

Priest in residence at St Mary's:

Fr Dwayne Bednar

Retired Priest in Residence at Holy Family:

Monsignor Canon John Maguire

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

7th-14th March 2021 Third Sunday of Lent Cycle B

Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17.

The text of this account of the Ten Commandments is closely modelled on the patterns employed across Mesopotamia in structuring contracts, specifically within the agreements drawn up between a sovereign ruler and a vassal client. The archaeological record provides us with many examples where a king promises to protect his vassal in accordance with established tradition. The vassal, on their part is duty bound to fulfil certain conditions. In today's text, God lays claim to his sovereignty over his People: "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no gods except me." The People are called upon to adhere to the ways of holiness, the single but absolute condition. The Lord God is holy and his People, therefore, must be holy. To be associated with God demands an adherence to his ways. However, the Ten Commandments do not constitute the arbitrary commands of a tyrant, but are an invitation to imitation. Jesus would later encapsulate the command contained within the Hebrew Scriptures: "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." Later writings in the Old Testament would typically describe the relationship between God and his People in terms of the Marriage Covenant. God's commandments are an expression of his love, an expression of his very being. The 'works' referenced in the Ten Commandments can be seen to arise from natural reason and from the examples given in the legal codes of surrounding nations. Their adoption and application within the context of Hebrew history and tradition represents a broadening of understanding from the confines of duty to the wide horizons of love: "For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God."

Psalms 18.

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

I Corinthians 1:22-25.

We Christians, together with the rest of humanity, remain tempted by the terms and perimeters of 'worldly' success and acceptability. The Christian community of Corinth was mixed, in terms of ethnicity and class. There were Jewish converts and Greek (Pagan) converts, rich and poor alike. Paul addresses them all with the proposition that the apparent clarity of vision provided by the standards of the world actually counts for nothing. "And so, while the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ: to the Jews an obstacle they cannot get over, to the Pagans madness." The uncomfortable truth is that 'failure' forms the centre of our faith. However, this 'failure' becomes the ultimate triumph. "To those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, Christ (who was crucified) is the power and wisdom of God." The Cross is a scandal in every sense, but one, for the Cross is the ultimate 'Sign of Contradiction'. "For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength."

John 2:13-25.

The incident when Christ cleanses the Temple has evoked many a dramatic depiction, in art and literature. However, we will do well to pause before making too many presumptions. The money-changers were highly regulated, being permitted by the Temple authorities to charge a reasonable 4% for their services. The pilgrim worshippers at the Temple required animal victims for the sacrifices that were offered according to the Law.

Continued opposite

Holy Family Masses

3rd Sunday of Lent (7th March)

6pm Vigil Mass Francis Davey
11.00 Michael McMahon

4th Sunday of Lent (14th March)

6pm Vigil Mass
11.00 Seân Bowler

St Mary's Masses

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent (7th March)

10am Lawrence & James Tobin

12pm People of the Parish

6pm Fr Raymond O'Shea

Monday: (8th March)

9.30am Deceased members of Foster/Madden Families

12.15pm Intentions of John Barry

Tuesday: (9th March)

9.30am Kell Newnes RIP

12.15pm Michael & Olive Lynch RIP

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday: (10th March)

9.30am Frederick John Wride

12.00pm Funeral Mass for Mr John Lamb

6.30pm Stations of the Cross

Thursday: (11th March)

9.30am S Sueref

11.15am Funeral Service for Mrs Johanna Tunbridge

No 12.15pm Mass

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday: (12th March)

9.30am Michael Maher

12.15pm Phyllis Lyons

6.30pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday: (13th March)

12.15pm Mary Dyne RIP

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent (14th March)

Laetare Sunday / Mothering Sunday

10am

12pm

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). Stations of the Cross Wednesday and Friday at 6.30pm. Confessions on Saturdays 10-11am. Access to the children's liturgy room via the side gate.

Great Penitential Psalm 129/130

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.

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 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.

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.

THE ANGELUS

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary,

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

R. Be it done unto me according to your word. Hail Mary,

V. And the Word was made flesh:

R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary,

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted. He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy, the mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PAPAL VISIT TO IRAQ

I ask you to keep Pope Francis in your prayers as he undertakes his Apostolic Pilgrimage to Iraq, from the 5th to the 8th of March. His Holiness will meet Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, leader of Iraq's Shi'ite Muslim majority. There will be ecumenical meetings with other Christians. Inter-religious gatherings with Muslim and Yazidi leaders are also scheduled to take place on the Plain of Ur, recognised as the homeland of the Patriarch Abraham. The Pope will celebrate in the Chaldean Rite and Syriac Rite Catholic Cathedrals. His Holiness will also visit the Autonomous Region of Iraqi Kurdistan.



COMMEMORATIONS OF SAINTS

Monday 8th March – St John of God.



St John of God was born in Portugal in the year 1495. Though born into poverty, his family environment was characterised by the warmth of its humanity and by the integrity of its religious piety. His early life was spent as a shepherd. Although Portugal had long been an independent monarchy, during John's lifetime the country increasingly came under the influence of Spain. In 1522 he enlisted in military service, joining the mercenaries of the Count of Oropusa (a Castilian nobleman), and participated in the conflict between Spain and French forces. He was later engaged in fighting the Turks in Hungary, becoming a member of the armies assembled by the Emperor Charles V (Charles being King of Spain as well as Holy Roman Emperor). During John's military service his allegiance to the faith declined and then evaporated entirely. In 1536 he left the army and once again became a shepherd, in service to a wealthy lady near Seville. It was at this stage in his life that a profound conversion took place. He first felt drawn to the work of helping Christians who had been enslaved in the Muslim lands of North Africa. He was based for a while in Gibraltar and his zeal led him to the conclusion that he must fight for the faith, even at the cost of martyrdom. He received wise counsel and he was dissuaded from following his instincts for a Christian must never actively seek martyrdom. After these hesitations and vicissitudes, he eventually moved to Granada in 1538 where he became a shopkeeper selling religious books and devotional items. It was here that he heard the sermons of St John of Avila whose preaching left an imprint upon John's soul. In 1540 John rented a house with the intention of providing a refuge for the sick and poor. This action established the foundations of what would become the Brothers Hospitaller of St John of God. John devoted himself to this work for the rest of his life. He lived for ten more years, dying while at prayer on his knees before an altar on the 8th March 1550. He was canonised in 1690 by Pope Alexander VIII.

Tuesday 9th March – St Frances of Rome.

Frances was born in the Trastevere of Rome into a noble but pious Roman family in 1384. In childhood her one desire was to enter religious life, however, in accordance with the wishes of her parents she married the wealthy Lorenzo Ponziani at the age of twelve or thirteen. Frances joined forces with her sister-in-law in attending to the needs of the poor and the sick within the City of Rome. In 1400 she bore the first of her six children. Her married life was afflicted by the consequences of the 'Great Schism' when her husband suffered banishment and family resources were confiscated by the forces of Naples. Ponziani was able to return home when ecclesiastical order was restored. In 1425, following the death of two of her children, Frances founded a society of devout lay women, the Oblate Congregation of Tor di Specchi that followed the prescriptions of the Rule of Saint Benedict. After the death of her husband in 1436, Frances herself was able to embrace the religious habit within the community she had founded. She soon became the superior and remained in the community until her death on the 9th March 1440. She was buried in the church of Santa Maria Nuova, which was eventually renamed as Santa Francesca Romana. She was canonised by Pope Paul V in 1608.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMMES

As we are still heavily constrained by the pandemic restrictions, we will be unable to arrange general meetings for candidates and their parents. The sacramental programmes will need to adapt to the circumstances. It is my intention to post some video presentations on the parish web-site to support home learning. Let us pray for our children and young people who are looking to complete their Christian Initiation. By their participation in these programmes may they expand their understanding of the Catholic faith and deepen their commitment in service to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2021 COHORT FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION AND HOLY EUCHARIST

An information document can be collected after Mass or at The Priory on March 13th and 14th. When this is completed I would ask all parents of potential candidates to either telephone or e.mail me (Canon Collins) to arrange a time when the document can be delivered in person to The Priory and catechetical resources can be collected.



2020 AND 2021 COHORTS FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

An information document can be collected after Mass or at the Priory on March 20th and 21st. When this is completed I would ask all parents of potential candidates to either telephone or e.mail me (Canon Collins) to arrange a time when the document can be delivered in person to The Priory and catechetical resources can be collected.

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, Chris Collins, Louise Macpherson.

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

The Stations of the Cross

The Way of the Cross is a devotion to the Sacred Passion in which we accompany, in spirit, our Blessed Lord in his sorrowful journey from the house of Pilate to Calvary, and recall, with sorrow and love, all that took place from the time when he was condemned to death to his being laid in the tomb. We meditate devoutly on the Passion and Death of our Lord as come before each station. Although we cannot physically move around our Churches at present, let us engage fully with this devotion at home.

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

First Station: Jesus is condemned to death.

Second Station: Jesus receives the Cross.

Third Station: Jesus falls the first time.

Fourth Station: Jesus is met by his Blessed Mother.

Fifth Station: The Cross is laid upon Simon of Cyrene.

Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.

Seventh Station: Jesus falls the second time.

Eighth Station: The women of Jerusalem mourn for our Lord.

Ninth Station: Jesus falls the third time.

Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped of his garments.

Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the Cross.

Twelfth Station: Jesus dies on the Cross.

Thirteenth Station: Jesus is taken down from the Cross.

Fourteenth Station. Jesus is placed in the Sepulchre.

Throughout Lent, Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at 6.30pm on Wednesday and Friday.

Origins of the Stations of the Cross

We can trace the devotion back to the Patristic era when large numbers of pilgrims began visiting the sites of the Passion in and around Jerusalem. This practice continued into the Middle Ages, though disrupted in the aftermath of the Crusades when Islamic Governance was imposed on the Holy Land. When it was no longer possible to visit Jerusalem, there arose in Europe a demand for pictorial representations of the Passion of the Lord. When the Franciscan Order took over custody of the shrines in the Holy Land in 1342 AD, they propagated devotion to the 'Holy Places'. Shrines were erected across Western Europe as a result. The number and titles of the 'stations' varied. The current norm can be traced back to Spanish Low Countries in the sixteenth century. The pattern was standardised in the eighteenth century with a series of Papal pronouncements. The Franciscan Friar Leonard of Port Maurice (Died 1751 AD) was the chief promoter of this devotion being responsible for the erection of five hundred sets of stations, the most famous being established in the Colosseum of Rome.



One Year On: Remembering Our Loved-Ones

On 23rd March 2021 we will reach a significant milestone in the country's fight against Coronavirus: for it was on this day that we entered the first of the lockdowns. With these words of the Prime Minister, our lives radically changed, and the era of a 'new normal' was ushered in:

"From this evening I must give the British people a very simple instruction - you just stay home".

Since then, we as a nation have lost over 121,000 lives, with the total here in Wales exceeding 5,000. These are no mere statistics: each number is a life, each life is a memory, each life is a family trying to grieve in such exceptional circumstances.

On Monday, 23rd March, I will celebrate a Solemn Requiem Mass at St. David's Cathedral for all the faithful departed who have died as a consequence of the pandemic. I have opened a Book of Remembrance at the Cathedral, and I invite you to send in the names of your loved-ones who have died over the last year as a result of the pandemic. The Book of Remembrance will be given place of honour at the Requiem Mass before the pascal candle at the Requiem Mass. If you would like the name of your loved one included in the Book of Remembrance, please email Fr. Daniel at cathedral@rcadc.org.

The Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral 12:45pm on Monday, 23rd March. Due to limited numbers able to safely be present at the Cathedral, those who may wish to attend will need to reserve a seat by telephoning Fr. Daniel Stanton at Clergy House on 029 20 23 14 07. There are thirty-four spaces available in the Cathedral for yourself or your bubble. These seats will be reserved on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. The Requiem Mass will also be live-streamed through the Cathedral website.

May their souls, and the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

With every blessing,

Archbishop George Stack

NEWS OF FR NICHOLAS WILLIAMS

Last Monday the Archbishop announced that he was appointing Fr Nicholas to be the next Chaplain to Cardiff University. The appointment also involves responsibility for the students at Cardiff Metropolitan University. On behalf of our two parishes, I wish to congratulate Fr Nicholas as he contemplates this exciting next step in his priestly ministry. He will take up his responsibilities from September, though effectively he will need to initiate the transfer from late July to provide for some holiday opportunity and to account for other essential practicalities. Fr Nicholas possesses a skill-set that is well suited to ministry at the university. As many of you will know, Fr Nicholas is a native of Cardiff, being nurtured within the bounds of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Rumney where his parents continue to live. Fr Nicholas has one older brother. Although only ordained to the priesthood some three years ago, Fr Nicholas is a mature man with over ten years of work experience as an aeronautical engineer. He first studied aeronautics at the University of the West of England (B.Sc.), the campus being in close proximity to the aeronautics hub at Filton. He worked for an engineering company in Chepstow before moving to a new post in Portsmouth. Whilst there he helped mould the Catholic Chaplaincy at the University of Portsmouth. He completed a post-graduate degree at Portsmouth (M.Sc.) just before applying to the Archdiocese to become a seminarian. He undertook his formation for the priesthood at St Mary's Seminary, Oscott, which is located in Sutton Coldfield. After three years formation he graduated from the University of Birmingham (B.A.) and at the conclusion of his sixth year he graduated from the Pontifical University of Louvain (S.T.B.). Following his ordination he was appointed as Assisting Priest here at The Priory, serving St Mary of the Angels and Holy Family. I have known Fr Nicholas since 2002 when he began attending Mass at the Cathedral. I soon invited him to become a Special Minister of Holy Communion. Since my arrival at The Priory in 2019, Fr Nicholas has been the most supportive of colleagues and I will miss his presence and immense contribution when he departs – though don't tell him I said so! Fr Nicholas and I will have much to do over the coming months in preparation for his departure. Hopefully we can look forward to hosting a communal farewell before the summer concludes.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE DEPARTURE OF FR NICHOLAS

2011 saw the final departure of Fr Christopher Delaney from St Mary of the Angels, following his decades in residence. It was late in 2011 that Canon Kerrisk suffered his stroke (leading to his death in April 2012), causing pastoral responsibility for Holy Family Parish to be entrusted to the priests resident at St Mary's. 2011 therefore saw a reduction from four priests to two. With the arrival of Fr Nicholas in 2018 the number of priests rose to three for a short period, until the retirement of Monsignor Maguire in 2019 and the resultant changes. Just ten years after the departure of Fr Christopher, the summer of 2021 will bring a reduction to one resident priest. Whatever else may happen, this fact alone should lead us all to realise that there will need to be many changes in the coming months and beyond. Many priests across the Archdiocese serve more than one parish, however, the combined congregations of St Mary's and Holy Family make it the largest unit – other than the nine church conglomeration in Newport which is served by four resident priests plus one other. I do not intend to deliver any firm proposals at this stage for there are still some ingredients to be revealed. I will be consulting our two deacons in the near future regarding their contributions and responsibilities. The entire Archdiocese is contemplating our emergence from the pandemic. All parishes will be considering the positive and negative implications of our recent experiences. Here, as elsewhere, it will not be a matter of turning the 'on-switch' with the expectation that everything will simply be as it was before. Many beloved and faithfully practising parishioners have died over the past year. Here, as elsewhere, when we finally return to a state of affairs resembling our previous norm, we will also notice the loss of significant numbers as a result of simple lapsation from regular practice. The future holds many challenges but we must see this moment of transition and readjustment as yet another opportunity for renewal. I will need your support and inspired contributions as we face that future together. I have many ideas and plans which I look forward to sharing with you over the coming year and I look forward to hearing your ideas and perspectives. We entrust our two parishes to the power of God's grace and we earnestly invoke the intercession of our patrons.

St Mary of the Angels – Pray for us.

St Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family – Pray for us.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St Mary's:
28th February - £461.85
CAFOD Lenten Family Fast - £325.00
St Mary's Standing Orders per week amount to £ 600.00

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family:
28th February - £227.00
CAFOD Lenten Family Fast - £289.05
Holy Family Standing Orders per week amount to £ 250.00

Thank you for your generosity in support of the White Flower Appeal.

WHY NOT GIFT-AID ALL YOUR PARISH DONATIONS?

COPIES OF 'THE UNIVERSE' ARE ON SALE AND AVAILABLE FOR £2.40

CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST DAY

IT IS STILL POSSIBLE TO DONATE ONLINE AT cafod.org.uk/give

It is also possible to donate via text – text Lent to 70460 to donate £10. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you would like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see the privacy policy at cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice.

New boilers at Holy Family Church

I am happy to report that a new set of boilers have been installed at Holy Family. We delayed the work from last year as we awaited news of grant applications that were undertaken on our behalf by the Archdiocesan Development Officer. This process has yielded £2500. This sum was most welcome but I have to inform you that the total cost amounts to £26,280. Both our parishes have significant funds on deposit and so we are able to deal with such expenditure. Having said this, it is opportune to point out that there are a number of repair and development projects that will soon require further significant capital expenditure. During the period of the pandemic, our parishioners have continued to contribute generously to parish funds through the various options now available. However, our income is probably 30-40% below its norm. I am as always appreciative of the fact that many families are facing financial uncertainties. We will need to be careful and prudent with our parish resources, taking account of the fact that our parish plant is extensive. With regard to the installation of the boilers, I wish to express my thanks to Monsignor Maguire for facilitating access, and I extend my thanks to Phil Smith for coordinating the whole process.

A NOTE FROM DEACON MAURICE

'REACHING OUT': Many thanks to all who have made donations over the last few weeks and to all our volunteers who have enabled us to provide food parcels, hampers, children's toys and food vouchers to around 100 families in need across West Cardiff over the Christmas period. We are now continuing this weekly food distribution programme for which we need ongoing funding of around £500 monthly so please continue to help if you can with money or food donations or both. Perhaps you may be able to make a regular weekly or monthly donation of £5, £10 or £20 - or more or less, by Standing Order? If you are willing and able to contribute with a one-off donation or on a more regular basis please contact me on 07747038274 or email: mfscanlon@hotmail.co.uk or Neil O'Toole on 07860647367 or email: neilgot@me.com Thanks for your ongoing generosity in these troubled times. God bless you all and keep safe and patient for just a few more months!



69 boxes of food are now being delivered each week to very grateful families in the west of Cardiff through the Reaching Out project. The families send their thanks and appreciation.

Contributing to the Reaching Out Project

In order to facilitate the best possible accounting process, we would encourage you to direct all your contributions to the Reaching Out Project to the Holy Family parish account. I have had a meeting with Deacon Maurice on this matter and in order that the parish secretary can maintain an effective scrutiny of the funds being contributed, then the above suggestion provides the simplest remedy.



A Statement from the Catholic Education Service

The Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill currently before the Senedd will effectively remove the rights of parents as the first educators of their children. It will threaten the nature and purpose of Catholic schools as well as being an affront to devout Jews, Christians, Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims in Wales.

In the provisions concerning Human and Sex Education, the responsibility and privilege of parents to choose the right moment and language to discuss love and human sexuality with their children will be overridden by the imposition of a curriculum not in conformity with Christian teaching and that of many other faiths. The right of parents to remove their children from such classes will be removed.

The implications of this Bill places the right of the State before that of the parents of a child in such an important part of life. Should this ideologically driven Bill become law, it will remove the ancient freedoms and duties of parents in the education of their children. It would restrict freedom of conscience, freedom of expression, freedom of worship and conscientious objection. These are fundamental human rights which should be respected in a pluralistic society. They are not being upheld by this proposed legislation.

The assertion of power by Welsh Government in the lives of its citizens is not always malicious, but it cannot go unchallenged. The responses to the consultation on this Bill have been largely ignored. The First Minister of Wales and the Members of the Senedd need to be reminded very clearly that they were elected by us in order to represent us. We do not elect members of the Senedd to usurp our role as parents, grandparents and families. The rights and duties of parents are more significant than party view and politics. This abuse of government power cannot go unchallenged. If we remain silent, there will be no appeal.

ACT NOW AND URGE YOUR LOCAL MS TO REJECT THE CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT (WALES) BILL BY USING THE LINK BELOW:

<http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/welshparents?tmpl=component&print=1>

This link will take you to a pro forma from the Catholic Education Service, they will provide you with details of your local MS on the basis of your postcode. Individual letters registering your objection to this proposed legislation are better than copied circulars.

I have been made aware that the Welsh Government has accepted a number of amendments to their proposals. This acknowledgement of the problems we have been highlighting is most welcome. I would still encourage you to contribute to the Consultation as outlined in the statement from the CES. Their website will provide you with all necessary information regarding the Church's concerns.

Headteacher - Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School

Salary Range L31-L37 + Relocation Assistance Package of up to £8,000 for the right candidate

Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School in Bridgend are looking for a Headteacher with the energy, and vision to build on their significant achievements, continuing to raise standards within their caring, inclusive Catholic ethos.

They are seeking an experienced and inspiring leader to provide an environment where every single individual matters and where everyone has an opportunity to succeed. They have a strong commitment to ensuring that the learner is at the heart of everything they do. They are looking for a Headteacher who has the vision, skills, and partnership approach to allow all staff to realise their full potential.

Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School is a popular school located on a purpose-built site in Bridgend since 2011. There are 879 learners on roll, including a strong 6th form, with around 50% of learners from Catholic families. The school has positive relationships with the Archdiocese, the local authority, and the regional consortium.

They require a committed and practising Catholic to lead their inclusive school community, with a strong personal faith that will encourage others to live the school's mission and a positive attitude towards supporting the Welsh language, culture and history, and a distinctly Welsh curriculum and assessment strategy in Wales.

For more information about this exciting opportunity please contact our recruitment partner Emma Colvill whose details you will find on the last page of the candidate pack.

In addition, you will need to submit a supporting statement, detailing your track record, relevant experience, skills and competencies.

Please email your application to Emma Colvill

To apply for the position, please follow this link.

<https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/headteacher-bridgend-1405528>

Closing date: Monday, 15h March 2021

Shortlisting: Tuesday, 16th March 2021

Interviews: Thursday, 25th & Friday, 26th March 2021.

Start Date: September 2021