

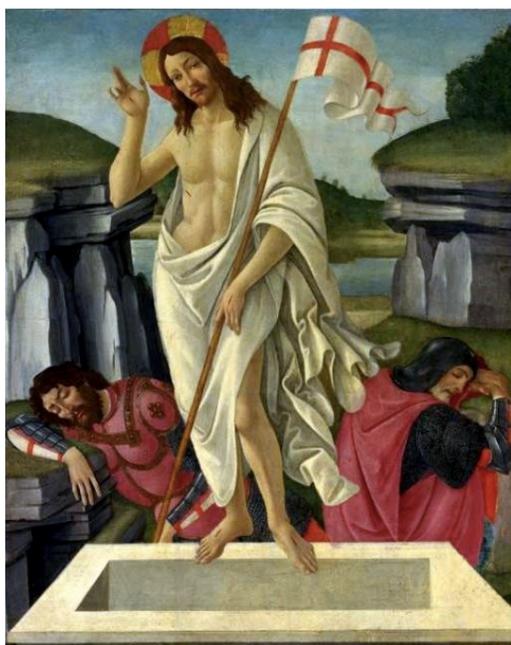
RECENTLY DIED

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

Mrs Kathleen Evans R.I.P. – The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's on Friday 14th May at 12.00.p.m.



Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.



Request for prayers

Please pray for Mrs Doreen Utley, a parishioner of St Mary of the Angels, who is critically ill.

Please pray for Mrs Patricia Sullivan, a parishioner of Holy Family, who is critically ill.

Parish Contacts

The Priory 67 Talbot St. Canton, Cardiff
CF11 9BX 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

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

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, Sharon Dobson, Patricia Sullivan.

St Mary's: Fr Christopher Delaney, Bethan Williams, Jean Allen, Madison Lane, Marian Lamb, Nadasiri Ifada, Cecily Hughes, James Church, Anthony Jackson, Tom Hopkins, Margaret Griffiths, Joanne Coakley, Helen Ward, Doreen Utley, Carina Foster, Ben Foster, Maria Sullivan, Mary D'Alpa, John Barry, Phyllis Shannon.

Holy Family & St Mary of the Angels

Keyston Rd, Fairwater CF5 3NP

Kings Rd, Canton CF11 9BX

2nd-9th May 2021 Fifth Sunday of Easter Cycle B

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31.

Our Eastertide readings from the Acts of the Apostles thus far have concentrated our attention on how the first Christian community had to confront opposition from the Jewish authorities in Jerusalem. Today we listen to the transition from fear to confidence. It is not surprising that the Apostolic Community in Jerusalem was sceptical regarding their reaction to and reception of Saul/Paul. Saul had been instrumental in the death of Stephen and was then sent to Damascus to persecute the 'Christians' there. Now he returns to Jerusalem, in the company of Barnabas. At first the Community shunned Saul/Paul out of fear, "they could not believe he was really a disciple." Barnabas had to intervene, explaining Saul's/Paul's conversion and his subsequent proclamation of the Risen Lord. Saul/Paul then began to preach fearlessly in Jerusalem. The Apostles, Peter and John, had displayed courage when they had addressed the Sanhedrin, now it was the turn of Barnabas and Saul/Paul. Having preached the Good News to the Hellenists (the Jews of the Diaspora and the Gentiles), Saul/Paul faced the threat of a conspiracy to kill him. We hear of how he was taken to safety in Caesarea and from there onward to Tarsus. From this point, far from succumbing to fear and timidity, the Apostolic Community grew in confidence. Now as then, the Church must be fearless in preaching the truth revealed in Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the Divine Word made Flesh. The only fear we acknowledge is "the fear of the Lord", that is living in awe of 'The Truth' whilst we are "filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit."

Psalm 21.

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

I John 3:18-24.

"My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk but something real and active." St John leads us to the embrace of the two essential elements of faith: that we believe in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and that we love one another as he told us to. This must not be understood merely as some form of loose allegiance. When we embrace the name of Jesus, we must embrace the entirety of the truth he revealed. The world will often criticise the Church for imposing guilt upon the human condition, but such an attitude reflects a refusal to acknowledge sin at all. The human conscience must be informed, must be enlightened, must be engaged with what God has revealed. Guilt in the wake of sin is not a false sociological construct. "Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him." The Holy Spirit alone enables us to strive for and to capture authentic integrity. "We know that he (Christ) lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us."

John 15:1-8.

Last week we reflected upon Christ through the image of the 'Good Shepherd'. Today we are presented with the image of Christ as the 'True Vine'. Our relationship with, our dependence on, Christ is not a matter of institutional affiliation. Our allegiance to him must be intimate and integral. "As a branch cannot bear fruit all my itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me." As the sap of a plant penetrates to the furthest tendrils, so the Holy Spirit permeates and inspires the entire Mystical Body of Christ. If we are to remain 'in Christ' we must allow ourselves to be subject to pruning. This is an experience that will involve suffering. Throughout the diversity and complexity of life, our conscience must be subject to the scrutiny of the Holy Spirit. This scrutiny will not crush our identity but will refine it, bringing us to the freedom of true Christian maturity.

Holy Family Masses

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter (2nd May)

6pm Vigil Mass Sharon Dobson

11am Louise Macpherson

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter (9th May)

6pm Vigil Mass Dan & Mary Fitzmaurice

11am Michael McMahan

St Mary's Masses

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter (2nd May)

10am Sam Cross

12pm Thanksgiving (Calma Family)

6pm Bernard O'Hanlon

Monday: Sts Philip and James, Apostles (3rd May)

9.30am Ron Williams

12.15pm Coulson Family Intentions

Tuesday: The English Martyrs (4th May)

9.30am Intentions of the Holy Father

12.15pm

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday: St Asaph (5th May)

9.30am Angeline & Phillippe Anselmo Calma

12.15pm

Thursday, 5th Week of Eastertide (6th May)

9.30am Bella & family

12.15pm

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday, 5th Week of Eastertide (7th May)

9.30am Holy Souls

12.15pm

Saturday, 5th Week of Eastertide (8th May)

12.15pm

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter (9th May)

10am Lawrence & James Tobin

12pm George & Mary Phillips

6pm Thomas Hyde RIP

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).

Confessions on Saturday 10am to 11am. Access to the children's liturgy room via the side gate.

Feasts of the Week

Monday 3rd May. The Feast of St Philip and St James, Apostles.



Saint Philip, the Apostle, was a native of Bethsaida in Galilee. Philip was called to service by the Lord just one day after Peter and Andrew. It was Philip who persuaded Nathaniel (Bartholomew) to follow the Lord. At the feeding of the 5,000, Philip pointed out that the disciples had insufficient resources to provide for the multitude. In works of art Philip is often depicted holding pieces of bread. When a group of Greeks wanted to speak with Jesus, they first approached Philip for an introduction. It was Philip who asked Jesus

to reveal the Father and Jesus replied: “To see me is to see the Father.” In the post-resurrection era, Philip undertook his mission in the Roman Province of Phrygia, in Asia Minor. Tradition places his burial place at Hierapolis in Phrygia.

Saint James the Less (as distinct of Saint James the Great, son of Zebedee and brother of Saint John) was the son of Alphaeus. His mother, Mary, was either a sister or a close cousin of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Being a cousin to Jesus and, in accordance with Jewish custom, he was sometimes referred to as a brother of the Lord. Saint James is identified as the author of the Epistle of James, written at some stage between the years 57 and 62 AD. This text provides a great exhortation on the practicalities of Christian living. In the post-resurrection era, when the Apostles began to disperse in order to proclaim the Gospel to all nations, James remained in Jerusalem as leader of the community. Whilst visiting Jerusalem, Saint Paul consulted James regarding the Gospel message and how to conduct the mission. History provides accounts of how Saint James was martyred for the faith after condemnation by the Sanhedrin in the Spring of 62 AD. He was probably stoned to death, but some traditional iconography depicts him being beaten with a fuller’s club.

Tuesday 4th May. Feast of the English Martyrs.

In Wales we still celebrate the Feast of the Six Canonized Welsh Martyrs and their English Companions on October 25th. May 4th was formerly the celebration of the Beatified Martyrs of England and Wales but now is the celebration of all the Canonized and Beatified Martyrs of England. The feast recalls the sacrifice of our fellow citizens for the integrity of the Catholic faith, particularly in defence of the sacrifice of the Mass and the authority of the Vicar of Christ.



Wednesday 5th May. Memoria of St Asaph.



Saint Asaph was a bishop in North Wales who probably died in the early years of the seventh century. Asaph was a disciple of Saint Kentigern and was possibly related to Saint Deiniol. Asaph first laboured at Llanasa, in what we identify as Flintshire, and was later nominated as bishop of Llanelyw, now known as St Asaph’s.

An image of the resurrection and an insight into eternal life taken from the Chronicles of Narnia by C.S.Lewis. Some attempt to ridicule the experience of faith, depicting it as a restriction or a constriction of our very humanity. The opposite is true. The experience of heaven - the experience of eternal life in the presence of God – will take us to depths beyond understanding and will be expansive beyond imagination.

About half an hour later – or it might have been half a hundred years later, for time there is not like time here – Lucy stood with her dear friend, her oldest Narnian friend, the Faun Tumnus, looking down over the wall of that garden, and seeing all Narnia spread out below. But when you looked down you found that this hill was much higher than you had thought: it sank down with shining cliffs, thousands of feet below them and trees in that lower world looked no bigger than grains of green salt. Then she turned inward again and stood with her back to the wall and looked at the garden. “I see,” she said at last, thoughtfully. “I see now. This garden is like the Stable. It is far bigger inside than it was outside.” “Of course, Daughter of Eve,” said the Faun. The further up and the further in you go, the bigger everything gets. The inside is larger than the outside.” Lucy looked hard at the garden and saw that it was not really a garden at all but a whole world, with its own rivers and woods and sea and mountains. But they were not strange: she knew them all. “I see,” she said. “This is still Narnia, and, more real and more beautiful than the Narnia down below, just as it was more real and more beautiful than the Narnia outside the Stable door! I see ... world within world, Narnia within Narnia ...” “Yes,” said Mr Tumnus, “like an onion: except that as you continue to go in and in, each circle is larger than the last.”

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMMES

I will continue to contact the parents of candidates during the coming week to inform them of dates for meetings at St Mary of the Angels and at Holy Family during May. It is likely that the celebrations will take place in October.

MASS INTENTIONS

There are a number of Mass intentions available at the moment, particularly for weekday Masses. Why not take this opportunity to have a Mass said for a family member or simply a private intention?

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
REMINDE OURSELVES HOW ESSENTIAL IT IS TO GRANT MERCY
IF WE EVER EXPECT TO RECEIVE MERCY.

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.

QUOTATION FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1776 The Moral Conscience.

Deep within his conscience man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey. Its voice, ever calling him to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sounds in his heart at the right moment ... For man has in his heart a law inscribed by God ... his conscience is man's most secret core and his sanctuary. There he is alone with God whose voice echoes in his depths.

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 REGINA CAELI

Regina caeli, Laetare! Alleluia. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia. Resurrexit sicut dixit; alleluia. Ora pro nobis Deum; alleluia.

Joy fill your heart, O Queen most high, alleluia! Your Son who in the tomb did lie, alleluia! Has risen as he did prophesy, alleluia! Pray for us, Mother, when we die, alleluia.

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.

RETURNING TO MASS

The Spring Plenary Session of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales took place between the 19th and 22nd of April. The bishops engaged with their sequence of meetings via internet connection. The Conference issued a document entitled 'The Day of the Lord'.

The bishops reflected upon the creative and diverse methods employed in parishes to maintain contact and sustain outreach during the lockdowns. Although we cannot predict the exact pace of our emergence from pandemic restrictions, the bishops encourage reflection on how we face the challenge of encouraging parish communities back to the practice of the faith. "It is the Eucharist, the celebration of the Mass, that makes the Church; and it is the Church, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes the Eucharist.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the lifeblood of the Church. It requires our active participation and, to be fully celebrated, our physical presence. At this moment, then, we need to have in our sights the need to restore to its rightful centrality in our lives the Sunday Mass, encouraging each to take his or her place once again in the assembly of our brothers and sisters.

We face the task of seeking to nurture the sense of Sunday as 'a weekly gift from God to his people', and something we cannot do without; to see Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed."

CONGREGATIONAL ACCESS TO WEEKDAY MASSES

During the week commencing Monday 17th May, coinciding with national changes to COVID-19 restrictions, it is my intention to allow access to two weekday Masses. The pattern would be access to 9.30am Mass on Tuesdays at St Mary of the Angels and access to 9.30am Mass on Thursdays at Holy Family.

This constitutes a first step towards a return to full access, as and when the practicalities permit.

Press On!

A Life in the Spirit Seminar by Cardiff Cathedral

Join us at 7pm each week with a Guest Clergyman. Zoom Link ID : 868-571-167
Password: cathedral

Session 5 (6th May 2021) Receiving the Holy Spirit

Session 6 (13th May 2021) Keep Growth, Press On!

Session 7 (20th May 2021) Transformation – Be His Witness

REMINDER NOTICE REGARDING SETTLEMENT SCHEME FOR EUROPEAN CITIZENS.

EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who were living in the UK before 31st December 2020 have until 30th June 2021 to apply to the Settlement Scheme. Those who do not apply are at risk of losing their right to live and work in the United Kingdom. Access to such services as healthcare could also be denied. It should be noted that the requirements of this scheme do not apply to Irish citizens.

Information can be referenced on the following websites:

1.U.K.Government.

www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families

2.European Commission

www.eurights.uk/what-you-need-to-know

3.The Charity 'Settled'.

www.settled.org.uk

44 begin the New Archdiocesan Programme!

The Diocesan Evangelisation Commission is pleased to announce that 44 parishioners and clergy from parishes across the Archdiocese began the new Evangelisation Programme on Wednesday, April 21st. We had more applications than we could take on the first run as 44 was our optimum number and applications are still coming in. A second run of the Programme has now been arranged to accommodate the continuing interest. The dates will be Tuesday, September 28th, October 5th, 12th and 19th, and November 2nd, 9th and 16th 2021.

The Programme is open to all parishioners and clergy across the Archdiocese. It is a seven-week programme, running for one and half hours via Zoom on one evening a week. The Programme will remind participants of the Great Commission and the basic Gospel message. It will cover a rudimentary history of the early church and will consider important messages from recent papal papers, how to give witness testimonies, evangelise non-church going Catholics with practical approaches and tools for building a parish team to evangelise.

The Genesis Mission will be an important follow-on activity offered to participants, providing the necessary skills for successful encounters. For more information and to register for the second run of the Programme, please email Madeleine Walters at madeleine.walters@rcadc.org

St Francis RC Primary School

in Wilson Rd, Ely, Cardiff require a
Deputy Headteacher from September 2021.

Applications close on Friday 14th May.

See the school's website <https://www.stfrancisprm.cardiff.sch.uk>
for full details.

*** Archbishop's Food Voucher Scheme.

The third round of applications for this scheme closed on 2nd April. Twenty nine Schools and eleven Parishes have applied for a total of £36,610.

A total of £127,251 has now been distributed through this scheme thanks to the generosity of various donors and charities.

The issue of food poverty will remain with us well into the future, not least as a result of the economic impact of the pandemic. Donations to this important work can still be made through

www.rcadc.org/donations

*** Combined Project between the Archdiocese and the S.V.P.

The Archdiocese of Cardiff is working with the Society of St Vincent de Paul (National and Local) to create an outreach centre at the former church of St Clare's, near Ely Bridge. The Archdiocese is providing the building and its site with the S.V.P. investing a significant amount to upgrade the premises so that a variety of services can be offered to various groups of the vulnerable and needy. A full pastoral plan will be published once the preliminary works are completed. Deacon Maurice Scanlon and Mr Christopher Jones, Diocesan Projects Manager and a parishioner of St Mary of the Angels, are key figures in progressing the scheme. Let us keep this project at the heart of our prayers.

*** Emerging from the Pandemic.

Fr Bernard Sixtus represents the Catholic Church in Wales on the Welsh Government Places of Worship Task and Finish Group. Many Christian denominations and other religious groups are represented. The Welsh Government is as yet reluctant to provide guidance as to how and when restrictions will be lifted regarding places of worship. The U.K. Government has provided some indicators that will apply in England by the end of July. The purdah that is imposed as a result of the forthcoming elections here in Wales will further delay the issuing of such guidance. We await further clarity following the Election Day.

ELECTION DAY – THURSDAY 6th MAY

Whatever your personal political allegiance, Election Day provides us with an opportunity to exercise our civic duty and responsibility. Within a democracy we are entitled not only to express our opinions but to play a part in shaping public policies in service to the common good. Both Parish Halls will be employed as voting stations.

The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et Spes) from the Second Vatican Council, No 74, reminds us that “the political community exists for the common good: this is its full justification and meaning and the source of its specific and basic right to exist. The common good embraces the sum total of all those conditions of social life which enable individuals, families, and organizations to achieve complete and efficacious fulfilment.”

Please see below a letter from His Grace the Archbishop.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Every five years we are given the opportunity to make our voices heard in how we wish Wales to be governed. This will happen on 6 May when we shall elect members to the new Senedd. Even though the Church correctly stays out of party politics, Catholic Social Teaching is very clear of the moral duty of each person to participate in the democratic process for the Common Good of all.

A significant number of important issues are devolved to the Government of Wales. Amongst them are Economic Development, Tourism, Forestry, Fishing, Transport and Welfare Services. In addition, there are other devolved powers which have a direct impact on the Catholic community in particular.

The Catholic community is one of the largest religious denominations in Wales. It is essential that those elected and exercising devolved powers should know our views on how devolved policy matters affect us. Hence the importance of knowing where candidates stand on a variety of issues so that, as Catholic voters, we can make an informed decision when casting our vote.

Our recent campaign to protect Catholic Religious Education and the rights of parents has shown the real need for a greater dialogue between the Welsh Government and the Catholic community in Wales. Our contribution to the proposed curriculum legislation has proved the impact we can make when we speak with one voice regarding matters of concern.

To help you in this process, the Bishops Conference of England and Wales has produced an election document which has been sent to each candidate standing for election to the Senedd. The document outlines the work of the Catholic Church in Wales in five main areas: Education; Life Issues; Historic Churches; Health Care; The Environment. It also contains six main policy requests we are asking of those seeking election. We ask that each Catholic voter keeps these priorities in mind when casting your vote.

Finally, it is important to pray for all those seeking election and the heavy responsibilities those elected will have to bear.

We pray that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, God imparts His wisdom upon those seeking positions of authority in our governance.

We pray for all those members who will comprise the next Senedd and Government of Wales. May he guide their decisions so that they may act for the Common Good and work on the basis of human dignity and justice for all.

With every blessing,

The Most Rev. George Stack
Archbishop of Cardiff and Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Menevia

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St Mary's:

25th April - £381.87

Priest Training Fund - £560.05

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

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family:

25th April - £310.05

Priest Training Fund - £992.10

Holy Family Standing Orders per week amount to £ 250.00

MY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN SUPPORT OF THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE PRIEST TRAINING FUND.

WHY NOT GIFT-AID ALL YOUR PARISH DONATIONS?

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

GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR THE NEW FINANCIAL YEAR

Envelopes are available for collection in both parishes. Please collect them from the church if possible.

FROM DEACON MAURICE – UPDATE AND APPEAL FOR REACHING OUT

As you may be aware we have obtained funding from the SVP (London - £50k) and the Welsh Government (£25k) to refurbish the former St Clare's Church on Mill Road in Ely as a Vincentian Community Centre to provide help to those in need in our communities. This will form an important link between the SVP groups and all our volunteers in St Mary's, Holy Family and St Francis Parishes. The work is due to start in the next week or so and the projected time scale to completion is around 4 – 5 months. Our food distribution/food bank programme, which forms part of our 'Reaching Out' service, will move from Holy Family parish hall to this new community centre when refurbishment is complete and in addition we plan to open a charity shop for good quality clothing, a café/meeting room and facilities for counselling/support. This is an exciting and important development and we will need volunteers to help bring it to fruition. So please, please let me know if you would be willing/able to give a few hours of your time to take this important and exciting charitable project forward, remembering that more hands make light work. (mfscanlon@hotmail.co.uk or 07747038274).



Our food distribution work continues really well, so many thanks to all who have made donations so far and to all our volunteers who are enabling us to provide food boxes to 60-70 families on a weekly basis across Ely, Caerau, Canton, Fairwater and Pontcanna. 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 but improving times. God bless you all and keep safe and patient for just a little longer (hopefully).

ANNUAL COLLECTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PRIEST TRAINING FUND

Last Sunday, we hosted the annual collection in support of the Priest Training Fund. This collection was not taken last year due to the pandemic restrictions which required our churches to be closed. The Fourth Sunday of Easter is often termed as 'Good Shepherd' Sunday as the Gospel Reading relates how Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd. We currently have three seminarians in formation for the Archdiocese of Cardiff: Elliot Hanson in Rome, Dale Cutlan in London and Gwyn Jones who should be in Valladolid, Spain, but who is still resident with us at the Priory. The annual cost per seminarian amounts to over £20,000. N.B. Please take note of the text provided below by Gwyn. YOU MAY STILL CONTRIBUTE THIS WEEK IF YOU WISH TO.

ARTICLE BY GWYN JONES

We often hear people say at the moment that we are living in "Strange Times" as a result of the upheaval that the Global Pandemic has caused, and indeed it has changed our perceptions and whole way of life, none more so than undertaking Priestly formation at this time. Having been accepted to commence my formation as a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Cardiff in 2020, I began my studies at the Royal and Pontifical English and Welsh college in Valladolid in Spain in October 2020. Having been away from full time academic study for quite a number of years, and set against the backdrop of the pandemic, I began my studies in Spain on what is described as a Propaedeutic Year.

My days began with meditation in the college chapel at 7.00a.m. Spanish time, which made it 6.00a.m. United Kingdom Time! Morning Prayer then followed immediately after, followed by Mass. After Mass there would be lectures until Midday, then we had lunch, immediately followed by prayers for the Pope, then lectures would resume in the afternoon, we had around Two to Three hours private study periods before Evening prayer in the college chapel followed by our Evening meal, and our day would end around 10p.m. with the office of Compline. These were the main elements of our days, but there would often be other things like Exposition of the Blessed sacrament, Rosary recitation, Lectio Divina, and other devotional things.

My life in seminary continued in this pattern until December 2020 when all Seminarians returned home for the Christmas Holiday. I returned to the Presbytery at Saint John Lloyd church in Trowbridge here in Cardiff, which the Archdiocese has kindly made available for the use of Seminarians such as myself and the other two Seminarians, Elliott and Dale, as a kind of Base during holidays. I remained at the Presbytery in isolation due to covid restrictions, and the first day that I was able to come out of isolation, Wales returned to Lockdown!! As this situation continued, it became apparent that I would have to continue my studies and formation some other way.

Father Nicholas Williams, Vocations Director for the Archdiocese of Cardiff, and Canon Peter Collins, Parish Priest of St May's and Holy Family, kindly made some rooms available for my use in order for me to continue my lectures and seminars via Zoom, and where I have their ongoing support during my formation, together with the opportunity to be involved with the Liturgical life at both these churches under the current guidelines. I am still unable at this moment to return to Spain due to the Pandemic and the changes to travel requirements for United Kingdom residents since Brexit. Currently I am awaiting special permits and Visas etc, but I continue to daily access all my studies via Zoom, I complete all my written Tests and Essays etc via Zoom, and although this might seem to be an inconvenience, I thank our Gracious God for this opportunity to learn how to use Technology to better serve Him.