

RECENTLY DIED

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

Mrs Kathleen Hoskins R.I.P. - The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Holy Family on Tuesday 17th August at 10.45am.

Mr Albert White R.I.P. - The Funeral Service will be celebrated at the Cardiff and Vale Crematorium on Thursday 19th August at 11.00am.

Mrs Kimberley Dainty R.I.P. - The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Holy Family on Friday 20th August at 9.45am.

Mrs Marissa Sheppard R.I.P. - The Funeral Service will be celebrated at St Mary's on Friday 3rd September at 12.30pm.



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: Catherine Driscoll, Kay & Paul Parris, Sheila Ferriter, Bernard Perry, Mary Bodman, Valentine, Collette Griffin, Vivian Miller, Brian Webster, Henry Fernandez, Hanna Marengi, Susanna, Martin, Chris Collins, Sharon Dobson, Joseph Stancombe.

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, Carina Foster, Ben Foster, Maria Sullivan, Phyllis Shannon, Mary D'Alpa, Patricia Sadka, Mary Williams, Donald Rees, Michael McLoughlin.

AN EXTRACT FROM TODAY'S PREFACE

For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people; rightly you would not allow her to see the corruption of the tomb since in her own body she marvelously brought forth your incarnate Son, the Author of all life.

THE SOLEMN DEFINITION OF THE DOGMA OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY WAS PROMULGATED BY POPE PIUS XII ON THE 1ST NOVEMBER 1950 – THE CULMINATION OF THE DOCTRINE PROFESSED FROM THE ORIGINS OF APOSTOLIC TRADITION. "IT IS A TRUTH REVEALED BY ALMIGHTY GOD THAT THE IMMACULATE MOTHER OF GOD, MARY EVER VIRGIN, WHEN THE COURSE OF HER LIFE ON EARTH WAS FINISHED, WAS TAKEN UP BODY AND SOUL INTO HEAVEN."

Parish Contacts

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Parishes of St. Mary's and Holy Family
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Monsignor Canon John Maguire

Retired Priest in Residence at Holy Family

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

15th – 22nd August 2021 Feast of the Assumption (Cycle B)

Readings for the Assumption of the BVM

Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10.

The Book of Revelation falls into the category of apocalyptic literature. The book was written when the Church was experiencing severe and extensive persecution. It offers encouragement to the faithful through dramatic imagery and a set of prophecies. The promise of the symbolic and imaginative language provides the reassurance that the Church would survive all the persecutions inflicted by Imperial Rome. Today's text provides a vision of a woman – the image primarily applies to the Church and only in a secondary sense applies to the role of Mary. The woman (the Church) is persecuted by the forces of evil (the dragon). The woman is afflicted by anguish as she struggles to bring the Messiah and the 'new age' to birth in the midst of the world. Having said this, we can rightly declare that because Mary is Mother of Christ she is also Mother of the Church (the Mystical Body of Christ). Mary should be seen as representative of the Church, for she was the first disciple of her Son and is the most perfect member of the Church. Mary bore the Messiah, the Christ, and surrendered herself entirely to his service. The Church is able to see her vocation fulfilled in the life of Mary. Mary is a model for the Church, for we must all bring Christ to birth in our lives. "Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying out in the pangs of child-birth."

Psalm 44.

On your right stands the Queen, in garments of gold.

I Corinthians 15:20-26.

Christ is described as the second Adam. Through his resurrection from the dead, Christ is the founder of the new humanity and he is the guarantee of our resurrection. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary proclaims that Mary is the first to fully share in the victorious triumph of Christ. Eastern theological tradition declares that Mary did not strictly die and promulgates her 'dormition'. Western theological tradition is not ill-at-ease with declaring that Mary experienced death, with her death understood not as a consequence of any personal sin but as her transition to glory, the transition her own Son experienced when he died on the Cross.

"Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep."

"Death came through one man (Adam) and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man (Christ)."

Alleluia. Alleluia!

Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!

Luke 1:39-56.

We today listen to the account of the Visitation. Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth is an act of mercy. Mary's whole being is disposed to service. At the Annunciation, Mary wholeheartedly gave herself to the providential will of God. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary teaches us that our redemption is applied to our entire being, body and soul. Our entity, our identity, is not merely an ethereal spirit but an 'animated' body. We are called to the sanctification of the body and the soul. Because God has created all that exists, the material is not intrinsically evil and must be dedicated to all that is good. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary teaches us that Christ has sanctified and elevated the material order.

Holy Family Masses

Sunday: Assumption of the BVM (15th August)

6pm Vigil Mass People of the Parishes

11am Jheremay Dalet (Anniversary)

Tuesday: (17th August)

10.45am Funeral Mass for Mrs Kathleen Hoskins

Thursday: (19th August)

9.30am Felix & Agnes Macpherson

Friday: (20th August)

9.45am Funeral Mass for Mrs Kimberley Dainty

Sunday: 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (22nd Aug.)

6pm Vigil Mass Bill Huntley (Anniversary)

11am Mrs Isabel Clifford RIP

(Sacrament of Baptism during Mass)

St Mary's Masses

Sunday: Feast of the Assumption of the BVM (15th August)

10am Constance W Lynch & dec'd family members

12pm Mary & Panayioti Angelopoulos RIP

1.30pm Sacrament of Baptism

6pm Intentions for the Thomas Family

Monday: Weekday in Ordinary Time (16th August)

9.30am Intentions of the Holy Father

Tuesday: Weekday in Ordinary Time (17th August)

9.30am Ann & Walter

Wednesday: Weekday in Ordinary Time (18th Aug.)

9.30am DWA & DR Utley

Thursday: Weekday in Ordinary Time (19th Aug.)

12.15pm Shirley Fardy

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday: St Bernard, Abbot and Doctor (20th August)

9.30am Simon Stedman

Saturday: St Pius X, Pope (21st August)

12.15pm Anne Regan RIP

Sunday: 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (22nd August)

10am Maria & Sotiri Psaila

12pm Mrs Betty Murphy (Recovery)

6pm Margaret Harper RIP

The Angelus and Prayer During the Day live-streamed at 12pm daily.

Evening Prayer live-streamed at 7pm daily except Sundays.

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.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

966. Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of all Christians.

972. After speaking of the Church, her origin, mission and destiny, we can find no better way to conclude than by looking to Mary. In her we contemplate what the Church already is in her mystery on her own 'pilgrimage of faith', and what she will be in the homeland at the end of her journey. There, 'in the glory of the Most Holy Trinity', 'in the communion of all the saints', the Church is awaited by the one she venerates as Mother of her Lord and as her own mother.

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.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Friday 20th August – Memoria of St Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church.



Bernard was born in 1090 into the privileges of Burgundian nobility at the castle of Fontaines near Dijon, the third son of Tescelin Sorrel. He was sent to a college at Chatillon-sur-Seine for his early education, taught by diocesan canons. He was renowned for his charm, wit, learning and eloquence. Over these natural abilities there developed a sincere piety which included a spirit of profound self-recollection.

Following the death of his mother, Bernard resolved to enter the newly established Cistercian Order, an institute dedicated to a more austere application of the Benedictine Rule (Bernard would often criticise the 'Black' Benedictines for their laxity). He persuaded a number of his brothers and some of his friends to follow his path into religious life. In 1113 Bernard presented himself, together with thirty-one other young noblemen, to the Abbot at Citeaux. The Monastery of Citeaux was in danger of decline but the influx of new members began the process of its renewal. It would be Bernard's abilities and influence that fostered this renewal. Following the completion of his novitiate, Bernard offered his first profession in 1112. The Abbot eventually sent Bernard and twelve other monks to establish a new community, that which would become the Abbey of Clairvaux.

Bernard was appointed Abbot and he commenced the work that would make him the most conspicuous spiritual figure of the twelfth century. At first, he was too severe in the discipline he imposed upon his new community. He learned from these mistakes and the community began to thrive. He established a number of daughter houses, including here in Wales at Whitland (1140) and Margam (1147). Wales would see others established just a little later, among them Llantarnam, Tintern and Strata Florida.

Bernard wrote significant and influential spiritual works. His writings on the Incarnation and the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary are outstanding. He was approached on a number of occasions to become a bishop but refused them all. Although a Cistercian Abbot, Bernard became involved in many contemporary disputes. He was crucially influential in settling the dispute over the Papacy that involved Innocent II and Anacletus, Bernard properly and successfully siding with Innocent. Bernard also entered theological debate, severely criticising Peter Abelard. It was Bernard who obtained recognition for the new Order of Templars, writing their rule himself. Bernard was commissioned by Pope Eugenius III (elected in 1145 and a former pupil of Bernard) to promulgate the Second Crusade to regain control of the Holy Places. The expedition did not succeed and Bernard was heavily criticised but he pointed to the sins of the Crusaders as the cause of the failure.

He died on the 20th August 1153. At the time of his death on the 20th August 1153 there were over 700 monks at his Monastery at Clairvaux and over 500 Cistercian houses across Europe (50 in England and Wales). He was canonized by Pope Alexander III in 1174 and proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1830.

Saturday 21st August – Memoria of St Pius X, Pope.

The future Pope Pius X was born Giuseppe Sarto on the 2nd June 1835 at Riesi (Diocese of Treviso) near Venice. He was born into poverty. He displayed great intellectual and spiritual promise from his early childhood. Following his ordination to the priesthood in 1858 he achieved swift elevation on account of this combination of talents and virtues. He became Archpriest of Salzano in 1867; a Canon of the Diocese of Treviso, Chancellor of the Diocese and Spiritual Director of the Diocesan Seminary in 1875; Bishop of Mantua in 1884; Archbishop Patriarch of Venice and a Cardinal in 1893.



Following the death of Pope Leo XIII in 1903, Cardinal Sarto was elected to the Papacy assuming the name Pius X. His chosen motto was taken from the Letter to the Ephesians 1:10 - "To restore all things in Christ." Pope Pius X soon promulgated an instruction that called on adults celebrate a reception of Holy Communion more frequently and he declared that children should approach the Holy Eucharist from the age of seven. He encouraged liturgical renewal, a greater use of Gregorian Chant and classical polyphony.

Pius X set in motion the reform of Canon Law which led to the publication of the Code of Canon Law in 1917, during the pontificate of his successor. He also significantly reorganised the Roman Congregations. He fostered the application of the social teaching of his predecessor, inspiring the expansion of the worldwide organisation known as 'Catholic Action'. He confronted the errors of theological 'modernism' through his Encyclical Letter 'Pascendi' and his Decree 'Lamentabili'. He defended the Church in France from the prejudicial attacks of the secular State. Pope Pius X preferred to absorb severe state penalties and the loss of a great deal of property rather than accept state control of the Church. He worked tirelessly in striving to influence politicians across Europe in the hope of avoiding war. He died on the 20th August 1914, aware that his efforts in defence of peace were ignored. Many across the world wanted to see Pius X proclaimed a Saint soon after his death. He was eventually formally canonized by Pope Pius XII in 1954.

REFERENCE FOR CANDIDATES FOR RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

*** N.B. THERE WILL BE A MEETINGS FOR ST MARY'S CANDIDATES AND THEIR PARENTS AT ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CHURCH ON TUESDAY 31ST AUGUST AT 4.30pm.

*** N.B. THERE WILL BE A MEETING FOR HOLY FAMILY CANDIDATES AND THEIR PARENTS AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH ON WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER AT 4.30pm.

*** N.B. FIRST CONFESSIONS FOR CANDIDATES FROM ST MARY'S PARISH WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER – TIMES AND FORMAT TO BE ARRANGED.

*** N.B. FIRST CONFESSIONS FOR CANDIDATES FROM HOLY FAMILY PARISH WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY 2ND OCTOBER – TIMES AND FORMAT TO BE ARRANGED.

RETURNING TO MASS - 'THE DAY OF THE LORD'

“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.”

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.

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.

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.

THE RIGHT REVEREND THOMAS BURNS SM, BISHOP EMERITUS OF MENEVIA

As many of you will know, Bishop Tom took up residence in the former presbytery at St Anne's, Newport, following his retirement from Menevia in 2019. He has been approached by my former seminary, the Royal English College, Valladolid, Spain to assume the role of Spiritual Director for the community of students who are undertaking their propaedeutic year. He will assume this role for the academic year 2021-22 only. I ask you to keep Bishop Tom in your prayers as he embraces this unexpected challenge that ‘disturbs’ his retirement plans. I am sure he will enjoy the experience and I know that he is so very aware that it is always a privilege to play a part in the formation of our future priests. The college community of students will number over 20 in the coming academic year.

CRUCIFIX IN HOLY FAMILY CHURCH HALL

Remarkably there was no crucifix in Holy Family Church Hall, a fact noticed by Merwyn and Perviz Clifford, who have very kindly donated a beautiful Celtic Cross.

REFERENCE FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

*** N.B. TWO MEETINGS FOR ALL CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES FROM BOTH PARISHES ARE NOW IN THE DIARY:

1. WEDNESDAY 25TH AUGUST, FROM 4.00pm TO 6.00pm, IN ST MARY OF THE ANGELS.
2. WEDNESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER, FROM 6.30pm TO 8.00pm, IN ST MARY OF THE ANGELS.

*** N.B. THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER AT 2.00pm.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

A homily for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

The Apostles, who had received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost in fulfilment of the Lord's promise, had power to complete the work of Baptism by the giving of the Holy Spirit, as we read in the Acts of the Apostles. When St Paul had laid his hands on certain people who had been baptized, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

The Bishops, as successors of the Apostles, possess the same power and, either in their own right or through Priests lawfully appointed to fulfil this ministry, they confer the Holy Spirit on those who have already been born again in Baptism.

Even if today the coming of the Holy Spirit is no longer widely made manifest by the gift of tongues, we know by faith that the Spirit, through whom the love of God has been poured into our hearts and through whom we are gathered in unity of faith and in diversity of callings, is received by us and is working invisibly to make the Church holy and one.

Dearly beloved candidates, the gift of the Holy Spirit, which you are about to receive, will be a spiritual seal, by which you will be conformed to Christ and will be made more fully members of the Church. For Christ himself, anointed by the Holy Spirit in the baptism he received from John the Baptist, was sent forth for the work of his ministry, to pour out on the earth the fire of the same Spirit.

Therefore, you who are already baptized will now receive the power of his Spirit and be signed with the cross on your foreheads. And so, you must always bear witness to his Passion and Resurrection before the world, so that your manner of life, as the Apostle says, may be in every place the pleasing fragrance of Christ. His Mystical Body, which is the Church, the People of God, receives from him diverse graces, which the same Holy Spirit distributes to individuals for the building up of that Body in unity and love.

Be living members of this Church, therefore, and, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, seek to serve all people like Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. And now, before you receive the Spirit, call to mind the faith which you professed in Baptism or which your parents and godparents professed with the Church.

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Do you renounce Satan, and all his empty promises? I DO.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? I DO.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father? I DO.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost? I DO.

Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting? I DO.

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

AMEN.

The Laying On of Hands

Dearly beloved, let us pray to God the almighty Father, for these, his adopted sons and daughters, already born again to eternal life in Baptism, that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them to confirm them with abundant gifts, and through his anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

The Bishop then lays hands on the head of each Candidate

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin: send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete; give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety; fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Anointing with Chrism

The Bishop inscribes the Sign of the Cross with Sacred Chrism on the forehead of each candidate as he says:

(Using the chosen Confirmation name of each Candidate) N., BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Candidate replies: AMEN.

The Bishop adds: PEACE BE WITH YOU.

The Candidate replies: AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

STATISTICS FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

Worldwide Causes of Death in 2020.

Cardiovascular Diseases: 18,000,000

Cancer: 10,000,000

Covid-19: 1,800,000

Other: 30,000,000

Abortion: 73,300,000

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

Celebrate the **Feast of the Assumption on August 15th** with this reflection by Amégée Olongo on a stained glass window designed by Evie Hone.

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/sacred-space/the-feast-of-the-assumption-a-reflection/>



Amégée Olongo is a member of the Living Stones Community, based at Farm Street Church in London. Living Stones (Pietre Vive) is an international mission of the Jesuits, forming young adults through intellectual and spiritual development on the art and architecture of historic churches.



A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM CAFOD

We have been asked by CAFOD to advertise some examples of how our donations are distributed. The following text highlights the needs of the Syrian people in the midst of their tragic conflict.

10th Anniversary of the Syrian conflict – how your donations have helped the Syrian people

“Thanks to your donations, CAFOD has been helping people in Syria since the crisis began 10 years ago. Over 12 million people have left their homes, 5.6 million are refugees in neighbouring countries and within Syria, 13 million people need help. At the beginning, our focus was on delivering food and blankets through our local church partners. Then we started providing education, health and legal services, and helping people earn a living. Our latest projects are supporting children, lonely elderly people, helping women learn to read, and helping people restart their small businesses. We’ve always planned for the long term, standing alongside people who lost everything. None of this work would have been possible without your support of CAFOD.”



DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

We are still awaiting training dates for using the defibrillator. Please remember that you can put your name down for training whether you are a parishioner of Holy Family or St Mary’s.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*** Two Volunteer Administrative Assistants:

One two-hour slot on Tuesdays from 10.00.am to 12.00.pm and another two-hour slot on Thursdays from 10.00.am to 12.00.pm. These suggested times are flexible. Can you help?
I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO TWO PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED.
I WOULD STILL WELCOME OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO ASSIST.

*** Volunteer(s) to Administer the Piety Stall at St Mary’s:

The task would involve opening a stall for access to parishioners before and after 10.00.am Sunday Mass. It would involve ordering stock from our established wholesale suppliers in anticipation of needs – according to liturgical seasons, feasts and sacramental programmes etc. Can you help?

*** Volunteer to Administer the Parish Website:

Each parish within the Archdiocese is linked to a website provider (YOGI Communications) but I need someone with relevant skills who can update our parish website on a regular basis. There is much to discuss regarding ideas on the evolution of our website structure and content. If you are able to offer assistance then please contact me a.s.a.p.

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO THE PARISHIONER WHO HAS
VOLUNTEERED TO ASSIST WITH THIS PROJECT.

*** Parish Safeguarding Representatives (P.S.R.).

We already have Parish Safeguarding Representatives in St Mary of the Angels (Jack Meggitt-Phillips) and Holy Family (Ellery Hennessy), however, it would be most beneficial to recruit two more parishioners to work alongside them. This is particularly important with regard to St Mary’s as Jack is often away in London. If you think you are in a position to assist then please contact me. The role is principally administrative but does involve monitoring the implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures within the parish. This might appear to some to be too intimidating a responsibility, but it should be seen within the context of the P.S.R. assisting the Parish Priest in his overall responsibility for all safeguarding matters.

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO THE TWO PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE
VOLUNTEERED TO JOIN THE PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM.

*** Volunteer to Administer the Parish Safety Toolbox at St Mary’s.

The Archdiocese has adopted a computer system that addresses all health and safety issues and monitors the progress of implementation in each parish setting. I need someone with relevant computer skills to undertake this role at St Mary of the Angels. If you think you can help please contact me and I can provide further information on what is involved.

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO THE PARISHIONER WHO HAS
VOLUNTEERED TO ASSIST WITH THIS PROJECT.

Our live-streaming facility is now available again on the website. If the problem should arise again, please be aware that you can also access the service via the following link: <https://mcnmedia.tv/Camera/st-mary-of-the-angels>

Costs We have just paid our annual subscription, which amounted to £1,440.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St Mary's:
8th August - Gift aid £87.55 Loose £547.86

St Mary's Standing Orders per week amount to £600.00 of which 90% is gift aided.

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family:
8th August - Gift aid £90 Loose £140.25

Holy Family Standing Orders per week amount to £250.00 of which 95% is gift aided.

WHY NOT GIFT-AID ALL YOUR PARISH DONATIONS?

These are still unusual times and fewer than 50% of parishioners are currently attending Mass regularly. A large number of parishioners who use the gift aid envelopes are still absent, for a variety of reasons, and this explains to some extent the low proportion of gift aid donations in the weekly cash collections.

If you are a taxpayer, I would encourage you to consider joining the gift aid scheme, which gives a gain of 25% on all your parish contributions. Our current diminished income covers costs but no more so that in both parishes there has been no deposit gain to cover the inevitable backlog of repairs and ongoing capital expenditure. In September, I intend to provide an exact breakdown of the financial situation alongside a projection of essential works and other outgoings over the coming year.

NEW ELECTRONIC DONATION STATION AT ST MARY OF THE ANGELS

Our new electronic donation station is now operational at St Mary of the Angels. It is currently located within the entrance porch. The display screen offers clear instructions for use. You can make a donation securely either by the contactless method or by inserting your card and using your PIN.

A GIFT FOR FR NICHOLAS UPON HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE PARISHES

I am very grateful to all those in both parishes who have contributed to our collection for Fr Nicholas. This week and next week will be the last opportunities to contribute by placing your donation in an envelope that should be marked 'Gift for Fr Nicholas'.

N.B. THERE WILL BE A PRESENTATION TO FR NICHOLAS AFTER THE 10.00AM MASS ON SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST.

FROM DEACON MAURICE – 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).

BANK DETAILS FOR STANDING ORDERS

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

EXAUDI – A NEW INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY

I wish to highlight the launch of EXAUDI, a new international Catholic News Agency. It has been created as part of the Church's effort to promulgate a 'New Evangelisation' in the contemporary environment, particularly in response to the influence of atheistic secularism.

EXAUDI will seek to present information, opinion and analysis regarding the mission of the Church worldwide. Please reference the following website: <https://www.exaudi.org>

EMERGENCE FROM THE PANDEMIC RESTRICTIONS

HAVING CONDUCTED OUR OWN PARTICULAR PARISH RISK ASSESSMENTS, I CAN ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES:

1. PUBLIC ACCESS TO DAILY MASS.

Parishioners will have access to the celebration of daily Mass from Monday 16th August.

2. REMOVAL OF THE COMPULSORY TWO-METRE DISTANCE RULE.

The two-metre distance rule is no longer applicable, which means that once again we can accommodate a congregation according to the capacity of the building. All bench seating can now be used, though I would encourage parishioners to remain alert to the sensitivities of those who wish to maintain some distance.

3. CHANGES TO THE GENERAL CLEANSING PROTOCOLS.

It is no longer necessary to employ the machine cleansing protocol after each Mass. We will periodically use the machines for cleansing.

4. MAINTENANCE OF THE REQUIREMENT TO SANITISE HANDS AS YOU ENTER THE CHURCH.

It remains a requirement to sanitise your hands on arrival at the Church.

5. MAINTENANCE OF THE REQUIREMENT TO WEAR A FACE MASK.

It remains a requirement to wear a face mask in order to gain entrance to the Church.

6. MAINTENANCE OF THE REQUIREMENT TO RECEIVE THE SACRED HOST ON THE HAND.

It remains a requirement to receive the Sacred Host on the hand at Holy Communion.

7. MAINTENANCE OF THE RESTRICTIONS REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD.

There will be no distribution of the Precious Blood from the Chalice during Mass.

8. HOLY WATER.

There will be no reintroduction of holy water to the fonts at the entrance of our

9. SIGN OF PEACE.

We shall continue to offer a distanced gesture to fellow parishioners when we are asked to exchange the sign of peace during Mass.

10. USE OF HYMNALS AND MISSALS.

We will not yet distribute either hymnals or missals for communal use at Mass.

11. VIGILANCE REGARDING OUR OWN HEALTH AND OUR DUTY IN HELPING TO PROTECT THE WELL-BEING OF OTHERS.

We will all need to maintain the standards of best practice with regard to maintaining our own health and protecting the well-being of others. Our cohort of stewards have been offering guidance to parishioners since our Churches re-opened. The stewards will be operational this weekend but will not be on duty from Monday. We will all need to employ a degree of spatial awareness and discretion as we take our seats and as we move around the Church, particularly when processing to the Sanctuary to receive Holy Communion.

THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF OUR COHORT OF STEWARDS

I cannot fully express my gratitude to our cohort of stewards across both parishes who have served us so well over the past year. They have facilitated our ability to celebrate, week-in and week-out. I have previously advertised the expressed opinions of all the Funeral Directors who declared that our two parishes employed the best protocols and the best operational practices. I am particularly grateful to Fr Nicholas who did so much to establish our protocols in accordance with all the directives. I intend to treat our stewards to a celebratory meal at some stage in the near future.

HIP, HIP, HURRAH FOR OUR STEWARDS.