

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

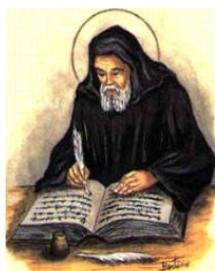
Monday 23rd May – Feast: The Dedication of the Metropolitan Cathedral of St David.

The Archdiocese of Cardiff celebrates the dedication of its Mother Church, where resides the Cathedra of the Metropolitan Archbishop. Following the Protestant Reformation, the term ‘Parish’ was not applied in the Catholic context across England and Wales until 1918. The places where Mass was celebrated were termed ‘Missions’. During the years of Recusancy, Mass had occasionally/periodically been celebrated in the small town of Cardiff by various priests who had to undertake an itinerant existence. The first priest since the Reformation to take up a planned permanent residence in Cardiff was one Fr Dwyer. He arrived at 131 Bute Street in March 1839, however, he very soon departed for another appointment. In July 1839 Fr Millea arrived to take charge of the Mission. He successfully arranged for the erection of the first post-reformation Catholic Church in Cardiff. The Church was to be dedicated to St David and was constructed at the south end of what would become David Street (the Motorpoint Arena currently occupies the site). Bishop Thomas Joseph Brown OSB, Vicar Apostolic of the Welsh District, opened the Church on Wednesday 14th October 1842. The continuing growth of the Catholic population led to the erection of a much larger Church on Charles Street which was opened in 1887. Bishop Brown’s successor in what had become the Diocese of Newport was Bishop John Cuthbert Hedley OSB. It was Hedley who prepared the ground for the establishment of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. The Pro-Cathedral of the Diocese of Newport had been the Benedictine Priory at Belmont. With the establishment of the Archdiocese in 1916, the Church of St David in Charles Street was raised to the status of a Metropolitan Cathedral (with Belmont Priory Church remaining as a Co-Cathedral until 1920 when Belmont became an Abbey in its own right). I will join my fellow Chapter Canons to celebrate Mass at the Cathedral for the feast of the dedication.



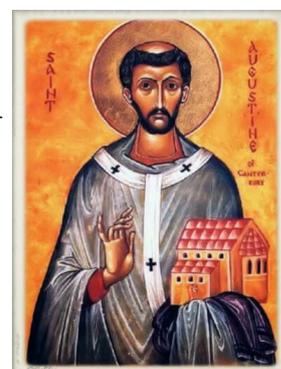
Wednesday 25th May – Memoria: St Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Bede was born near what is now Sunderland in the year 673 AD. He would become a Monk in the Monastery of Jarrow and is acknowledged as a biblical scholar and historian. Bede first studied under Benedict Biscop at Wearmouth and then by Ceolfrith at Jarrow. He was ordained to the priesthood around 703 AD. Bede described his ‘special delight’ was to learn, to teach and to write. Although he wrote many biblical works, Bede is best renowned for his ‘Ecclesiastical History of the English Peoples’ which was completed in the year 731 AD. Before his death in 735 AD, Bede worked furiously to finish his commentary on John’s Gospel. His death is described by Cuthbert as having been ‘perfectly contemplative’. Boniface highly praised his spiritual and academic contributions. His relics were moved from Jarrow to Durham in the eleventh century. From 1370 AD Bede’s relics have rested in the Galilee Chapel of Durham Cathedral. In 1899 Pope Leo XIII designated St Bede as a Doctor of the Church.



Friday 27th May – Memoria: St Augustine of Canterbury.

It was Pope St Gregory the Great who sent Augustine as a missionary to the Anglo Saxon peoples in 596. Augustine was a monk and later Prior of the Benedictine Monastery of St Andrew in Rome. Augustine was accompanied on his missionary journey by thirty-nine of his brethren. He paused in Gaul (France), somewhat reluctant to proceed but he received further encouragement from the Pope who arranged for him to be consecrated a bishop by the Archbishop of Arles. Upon landing at Ebbsfleet in Kent, Augustine was cautiously greeted by King Ethelbert of Kent, a pagan who exercised authority over much of what we identify as England south of the Humber. Ethelbert granted Augustine a house in Canterbury and gave permission for preaching to take place. Ethelbert’s wife, Bertha, was a Christian with connections to a royal family in Paris. Augustine eventually persuaded Ethelbert to accept baptism. By 601 many of Ethelbert’s subjects were also baptised. Augustine built a Cathedral in Canterbury and he established suffragan dioceses in Rochester and London. Augustine proceeded to expand his mission across England, which was then composed of a number of small regional ‘kingdoms’. Augustine also made contact with the Christian communities in Wales that had endured beyond the departure of the Romans. St Augustine died on the 27th May in either 604 or 605.



UPDATE ON PLANNING FOR THE SUMMER FAYRE

You'll remember we have a Summer Fayre Planned for the 18th June. Preparations continue, thank you to all those people who have volunteered their help. If anyone is free to help clear away after the event please let the Welcomers know at Mass, you would be very welcome at the end of the day to help.

In preparation to receive donations for the Fayre we have a number of dates and times when the Hall will be open, and people available, to receive your donations. Please note the slightly different times for Saturday and Sunday.

Dates and Times to Receive Donations for the Summer Fayre	Sat 28 th May	Sun 29 th May	Thur 2 nd June	Sat 11 th June	Sun 12 th June	Fri 17 th June
	10- 2pm	11- 2pm	10- 2pm	10- 2pm	11- 2pm	6-8 pm

Please try to make your donations on the earlier dates so that we can sort things ready for the day in good time. Please remember we would like new or items of good quality. We would be happy to receive Toiletries, Children's Toys and Books, Glassware, Jewellery, Handbags, Pictures and Picture Frames, Bric a Brac, Books, CD's and DVD's and Plants. We will also thankfully accept Raffle Prizes.

NEW VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED TO STAFF THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF SUNDAY MORNING REFRESHMENTS

One family have already volunteered to assist with the provision of refreshments following 10.00am Mass at St Mary's once the kitchen renovations have been completed. I would hope to arrange a monthly rota so that the responsibility can be shared. Please consider participating so that we regain an important opportunity for parish social interaction. Could volunteers please contact Deacon Elliot or myself.

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

There are a couple of places available in July for Defibrillator training, organised by the Archdiocese. Please contact us at canton@rcadc.org if you would be interested in attending. There are no further details at present.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St Mary's:
 15th May - Gift Aid £96.50 Loose - £650.54
 Final total Priest Training Fund - £3180.04

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

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family:
 15th May - Gift Aid £206.00 Loose - £194.15
 Final total Priest Training Fund - £921.53

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