

15<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF MERTHYR TYDFIL

*Worshipping together*

St Aloysius, Chestnut Way, Gurnos, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 9SB

St Benedict's, Merthyr Vale CF48 4RF

St Mary's, Pontmorlais West, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8RG

St Illtyd's, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 3BT

PRIEST IN CHARGE :FATHER FRANCIS ONU MSSCC TEL: 01685 723336. Mobile 07376610747

ASSISTANT PRIEST :FATHER MORGAN OPARA MSSCC

Deacon: Rev. GARTH TASKER 07939 310176

<b>Response to the Psalm:</b> <i>Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!</i>	<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b> Alleluia! Alleluia! <i>I, thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.</i> Alleluia!	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.merthyrcc.co.uk">www.merthyrcc.co.uk</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:merthyr@cardiffmenevia.org">merthyr@cardiffmenevia.org</a> <b>Tel:</b> 01685 723336
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**A Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel,**

defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

We will be holding penitential services on a Saturday morning at 11.30 in St Mary's Church starting on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January and continuing each week.

<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>Vigil - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A</b>	
4.30pm	St Benedict's	Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee; Imelda O'Sullivan; Stephen Fryzer;	
6.30pm	St Aloysius	Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Patricia Buckley; Coleman Family;	
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A</b>	
9.30 am	St Illtyd's	Phillip Morgan (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv); Jack and Keith O'Connell; Tina Fitton;	
11.30am	St Mary's	Ron Morgan. Bernard McCormack, Paul and Stuart Bartz; Olive McCormack; Louise Hopkins; David Craze and Family;	
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>			
10.00 am	St Illtyd's	People of the Parish	
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>The 7 Founders of the Order of Servites</b>	
10.00 am	St Mary's	Special Intention	
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>Ash Wednesday – Mass Times</b>	
10.00 am	St Mary's	10.00 am	St Benedicts
12.00 noon	St Illtyd's	Tina and Gavin Fitton	7.00 pm
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>			
10.00 am	St Mary's		
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>			
10.00 am	St Illtyd's	Stephen Fryzer; People of the Parish	
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>		<b>Vigil – First Sunday of Lent - Year A</b>	
4.30 pm	St Benedicts	Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee;	
6.30	St Aloysius	Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Patricia Buckley; Guido Fulgoni; Elvira Fulgoni; Giovanna Fulgoni; Gina Dukes;	
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>		<b>First Sunday of Lent - Year A</b>	
9.30 am	St Illtyd's	Rhian and Mark Moran (30 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv ); Peter Rafferty; Mrs Elizabeth Brogden (Cronin);	

11.30 am	St Mary's	Ron Morgan. Bernard McCormack, Paul and Stuart Bartz; Olive McCormack; Margaret Mary Jones (Anniv); Mary and Leonard Davies;
<b>INFANT BAPTISMS</b>		<i>Registration for Infant Baptisms will take place after Sunday Mass at St Illtyd's and St Mary's. Baptisms will then take place after mass on a Saturday at St Illtyd's and on a Sunday at St Mary's.</i>

**Please remember in your prayers:** Peggy Vaughan, Tony Crawford, Beryl & David Keefe, Steven Denton Thomas, Teresa Jones, David Lewis; Veronica Rowlands; Paula Williams; Linda Sproles; Sylvia Williams, Jimmy Llewellyn; Ann Evans; Mary Wade; Marlene Chambers; Phillip James; Gerald Harrington. Dennis Preece; Sheila Duffield; Josie Egan; Paddy Sullivan; Helen Golden;

**Requiescat in pace:** Olive McCormack; Kieron Butler; Collette Rees; Kevin McCarthy;

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

### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR -A**

The readings for this Sunday remind us to follow God's commandments with our whole hearts. The first reading tells us that we must choose between good and evil. God lets us decide, but our choices have consequences. The second reading teaches that God's wisdom is greater than human wisdom. The gospel shows Jesus explaining the law. He does not remove it but calls us to live it fully. It is not enough to follow rules on the outside. We must also have love and goodness in our hearts.

St Illtyd's Lottery 8 <sup>th</sup> February	St Mary's Lottery 8 <sup>th</sup> February
Numbers; 1, 3, 7, 9 No Winner:	Numbers; 9, 13, 17, 22 No Winner
Next Draw 15 <sup>th</sup> February (£1250)	Next Draw 15 <sup>th</sup> February (£5550)

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross will be held at St Mary's, St Illtyd's and St Benedict's at 7.00 pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

### **EUCARISTIC MINISTER**

Recollection for all Eucharistic Ministers will be held at the Father Carroll Centre on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm.

### **AN EVENING OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT**

HCPT Group 102 are proud to present an evening of musical entertainment starring Dowlaus Male Voice Choir, BCA Bishop Hedley Campus choir & soloist Louise Wood. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at St. Illtyd's Church, Dowlaus. Doors open at 6:00pm & the concert will begin at 6:30pm. Entry is £10 to be paid on the door. We look forward to seeing you there for a wonderful evening!

### **FOOD BANK**

Thank you for your continued support of the Food Bank.. The food bank are looking for the following items;-Tinned carrots, tinned meat, tinned fruit, tinned soup, tinned tomato, tinned rice pudding, long life milk, long life fruit juice, jams, mashed potato, cooking sauces, pot noodles, dog food.

### **ST ILLTYD'S EASTER RAFFLE**

St Illtyd's Easter Raffle. Tickets available soon for our Chocolate themed raffle with proceeds going to our repainting fund for church and Fr Carroll Centre. Donations of Chocolates in any form - Easter eggs, bars or boxes - appreciated.

### **BLESSED CARLO ACRUTIS – WE WILL ROCK YOU**

Congratulations to all the staff and pupils involved in the spectacular production of the stage show 'We Will Rock You' which played to packed houses at the Bishop Hedley Campus last week. It was described by proud parents as 'A triumph!'

### **ST ILLTYD'S 180<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

St Illtyd's will celebrate its 180th Anniversary in July 2026. We will mark the event with a Mass of thanksgiving and other events to mark this milestone and to do this we need your help. Should any Parishonners wish to assist please contact Fr Francis, Deacon Garth or Ann-Marie Lloyd.

### **DIGITAL GIVING**

Please note that the Digital Giving Terminals at St Illtyd's and St Mary's are fully operational. They is very simple to use. You can Gift Aid donations from the Terminals by entering your details ONCE only.

### **ST ALOYSIUS CHURCH HALL**

St Aloysius Church Hall will be returned to us by SVP on 1st March. It is an excellent facility which will be put to good use.

### **CANDIDATES FOR RECEPTION INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

We are delighted to share with our parish communities that twelve candidates are currently preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil Mass. This sacred journey of faith is guided by the Holy Spirit and supported by our Parish Family. They will take part in the Rite of Election with His Grace, Archbishop Mark . Please keep them in your prayers, that they may be strengthened in faith and filled with grace.