

25th January 2026

Third 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

Response to the Psalm: <i>The Lord is my Light and salvation</i>	Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! <i>Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom and healed every affliction among the people</i> Alleluia!	Website: www.merthyrcc.co.uk Email: merthyr@rcadc.org Tel: 01685 723336
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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

Saturday 24th January		Vigil – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
4.30pm	St Benedict's	Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee;
6.30pm	St Aloysius	Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Patricia Buckley;
Sunday 25th January		Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
9.30 am	St Illtyd's	Betty and Tom Summers Irene Budding; Patricia O'Connor; Joseph and Florence McDonald;
11.30am	St Mary's	Ron Morgan. Bernard McCormack, Paul and Stuart Bartz; Ceri and Grahame Vaughan; Thanksgiving and The Sullivan and Ronan Families; Mary William and Colin Hughes; Olive McCormack;
Monday 26th January		Sts Timothy and Titus, Bishops
10.00 am	St Illtyd's	Marion Lee (10 th Anniv)
12.30 pm St Mary's		REQUIEM MASS – OLIVE McCORMACK
Tuesday 27th January		St Angela Merici, Virgin
10.00 am	St Mary's	
Wednesday 28th January		St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor
10.00 am	St Mary's	Elaine Harman (Anniv);
Thursday 29th January		
10.00 am	St Mary's	Carol Payne (Anniv)
11.30 am ST Illtyd's		REQUIEM MASS – JAMES MICHAEL KEHELY
Friday 30th January		
10.00 am	St Illtyd's	Maurice Nelson (RIP Anniv);
Saturday 31st January		Vigil – Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A
4.30 pm	St Benedict's	Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee;
6.30	St Aloysius	Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Patricia Buckley;
Sunday 1st February		Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A
9.30 am	St Illtyd's	Timothy Moran; Olive McCormack (RIP);
11.30 am	St Mary's	Ron Morgan. Bernard McCormack, Paul and Stuart Bartz; Louise Hopkins; Cliff, Bess and Carl Preece; Clive and Jason Watkins; Roy Davies and Family; John Morgan and Families; Lynnette Thomas; Olive and Bernard McCormack; James Michael Kehley;
INFANT BAPTISMS		<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; Dennis Hynes; Agnes Healy; Mary Theresa Fitton; Tommy Rees; John Sidney Waldron; James Michael Kehely; Olive McCormack; Kieron Butler; Collette Rees;

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR -A

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us that God brings light into darkness. We hear the words of Isaiah about a people who once lived in gloom but now see light. This reading shows us that God does not leave us alone. He is near, even in hard times.

In the Gospel, Jesus begins preaching and calling his first followers. He brings light to Galilee, a place people often forgot. He tells them to turn their lives around and follow him. His message is simple but clear: the kingdom of heaven is close.

Saint Paul also speaks to the early Church. He tells them to stop fighting and focus on Jesus. It is a good reminder for us today. We belong to Christ, not to any group or leader.

St Illtyd's Lottery 18th January	St Mary's Lottery 18th January
Numbers 6, 9, 13, 14 No Winner:	Numbers; 7, 10, 13, 22 No Winner
Next Draw 25 th January (£1175)	Next Draw 25 th January (£5400)

SPONSORED WALK FOR HCPT 102

On the 14th February Kevin Canavan along with friends will be walking from St David's Metropolitan Cathedral , Cardiff to St Illtyd's Church, Merthyr Tydfil a total of 27 miles in support of HCPT Group 102 who take children with additional learning needs and disabilities to Lourdes each year for a life changing pilgrimage.. These trips rely entirely on donations and every penny helps make this incredible experience possible . Please support this cause . Your generosity will help bring joy, healing and hope. Buckets will be placed at the back of churches, there is a QR code to scan or donations can be given to me or Caitlyn Budding ,or via the link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DnF8DxtM8/>

HCPT GROUP 102 CURRAY NIGHT

A fundraising curry night in aid of HCPT Group 102's 2026 pilgrimage to Lourdes. Saturday 31st January. 7:00pm in the Fr Carroll Centre. Tickets are £10 (include entry, curry, rice & sides). Fully licenced bar, raffle & music! This event is ticket only. Please contact Caitlin on 07855718175 to purchase your tickets before 26th January. We look forward to seeing you there!

ST ILLTYD'S ROSARY PRAYER

Would you like to help lead our Rosary prayer each Sunday? If you can, come to St Illtyd's 20 minutes before Mass begins. Please contact Kevin Canavan to join our rota.

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.

BATTERY RECYCLING

Boxes are available at the back of each church so that parishioners can recycle batteries.

CRIB OFFERINGS

There is still time to apply for a share of this year's **Crib Offerings**, which support projects working with people experiencing homelessness or poverty.If you are running an existing project, or have an idea you are trying to get off the ground, we invite you to submit a short description outlining: what your project does (or hopes to do), and what funding or support you are seeking.Please email your proposal by **31 January 2026** to **caritas@cardiffmenevia.org**, using the subject line "**Crib Offering Bid**".

Successful projects will be awarded funding from this year's Crib Offerings

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.