

8th March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent – 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

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| Response to the Psalm: <i>O that today you would listen to his voice'Harden not your Hearts'</i> | Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. Lord, you are indeed the saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. | Website: www.merthyrrc.co.uk Email: merthyr@cardiffmenevia.org Tel: 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

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| Saturday 7th March | | Vigil – Third Sunday of Lent - Year A |
| 4.30pm | St Benedict's | Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee; |
| 6.30pm | St Aloysius | Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Patricia Buckley; Guido Fulgoni; Mrs Elvira Fulgoni; Mrs Giovanna Fulgoni; |
| Sunday 8th March | | Third Sunday of Lent – Year A |
| 9.30 am | St Illtyd's | Gavin Fitton; Nancy Moran; Pat Price; |
| 11.30am | St Mary's | Ron Morgan; Olive Mary McCormack; Bernard Walter McCormack; Nola Lakaris; David Banford; Mostyn Price; Sister Ray; Mary O'Shea; Louis and Nancy Connolly; |
| Monday 9th March | | |
| 10.00 am | St Illtyd's | |
| 11.45 | ST BENEDICT'S | FUNERAL SERVICE – MARTIN STEPHENS |
| Tuesday 10th March | | BCA – St Aloysius School Mass |
| 10.00 am | St Aloysius | |
| Wednesday 11th March | | BCA – St Mary's School Mass |
| 10.00 am | St Mary's | Lilian O'Connell (101 st Birthday): |
| 11.30 am | ST MARY'S | REQUIEM MASS – ANN EVANS |
| Thursday 12th March | | |
| 10.00 am | St Mary's | Stephen Fryzer: |
| Friday 13th March | | BCA – St Illtyd's School Mass |
| 9.30 am | St Illtyd's | |
| 10.45 am | ST ILLTYD'S | FUNERAL SERVICE – MARY ROBERTS |
| Saturday 14th March | | Vigil – Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year A |
| 4.30 pm | St Benedicts | Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee; Marjorie Collins; Stephen Fryzer; |
| 6.30 | St Aloysius | Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Patricia Buckley; Dinny and Joan O'Leary; |
| Sunday 15th March | | Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A |
| 9.30 am | St Illtyd's | Patricia Williams (Lee) (Wedd Anniv Mothers Day); Margaret Gillespie (Mothers Day); Mary Ann Mariano; Mely Padua; |

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|------------------------|-----------|---|
| 11.30 am | St Mary's | Ron Morgan. Olive Mary McCormack; Bernard Walter McCormack; Pat O'Brien (Mothers Day); Mary O'Shea; Thomas and Julia Simcock; |
| INFANT BAPTISMS | | <i>Registration for Infant Baptisms will take place after Sunday Mass at St Iltyd's and St Mary's. Baptisms will then take place after mass on a Saturday at St Iltyd'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; Mary Wade; Marlene Chambers; Phillip James; Gerald Harrington. Dennis Preece; Sheila Duffield; Josie Egan; Paddy Sullivan; Helen Golden;

Requiescat in pace; Collette Rees; Kevin McCarthy; Mark Burns; Pat Price; Terry O'Keefe; Martin Stephens; Ann Evans; Mary Roberts; Brian Hagerty;

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A

The Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Lent is about Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at a well. She is surprised that He talks to her, because Jews and Samaritans did not get along. Jesus tells her about "living water" that gives real life. He also tells her things about her life that only she would know. She begins to believe that He is the Messiah. This Sunday teaches us that Jesus came for everyone, not just a few people. He knows us and still wants to talk to us. He offers us new life, even if we have made mistakes. Lent is a good time to think about what we are really thirsty for in life. Jesus is the only one who can give us what we truly need.

| St Iltyd's Lottery 1st March | St Mary's Lottery 1st March |
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| Numbers; 6, 15, 16, 19 No Winner: | Numbers; 2, 13, 15, 20 No Winner |
| Next Draw 8 th March (£1325) | Next Draw 8 th March (£5700) |

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held at St Mary's, St Iltyd's and St Benedict's each Friday through Lent at 7.00 pm

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER – CHANGE OF TIME

Recollection for all Eucharistic Ministers will be held at the Father Carroll Centre on Sunday 8th March at 2.00 pm.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to one of our Parishioners Lilian O'Connell, who will be 101 years young on Wednesday 11th March.

ST MARY'S EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle sheets are available today The draw will take place after Mass on 26th March. Donations of CHOCOLATE PRIZES would be appreciated.

SPUC APPEAL

We collected a total of £464.83 for the recent appeal on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.

KEVINS SPONSORED WALK

On behalf of HCPT Group 102, we would like to extend our deepest thanks to all those involved in Kevin's walk from Cardiff to Merthyr. A special thank you to Kevin for the fantastic organisation. Thanks to everyone's generous donations they raised an amazing £1345 for HCPT Group 102 and for that we are extremely grateful.

INTENTIONS FOR THE GROTTTO

If anyone has any intentions, they would like HCPT Group 102 to take to the Grotto in Lourdes this Easter please give them to any of our helpers in Mass or email them to group102@hcpt.org.uk. Please get your intentions to us before Good Friday (April 3rd) as we will be leaving for Lourdes the following day. Thank you all for your support this year. We will keep you all in our prayers.

ST PATRICK DAY FUNDRAISER

We will be holding a St Patrick's Day Fundraiser on Saturday 14th March at 7pm at the Fr Carroll Centre. Irish Stew, Music, Bar and good Craic.

Please attend if you can. It was great fun last year. Tickets are £10 from Jane Shankland, 07899 953898.

**ST. MARYS
CHURCH 2026
EASTER
RAFFLE
MAIN PRIZES
EASTER
HAMPER
AND OTHER
CHOCOLATE
PRIZES**

**20p A
LINE**

DRAW TAKES PLACE SUN 26 MARCH 2026

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**Sellers
name**