8th November 2026 **Thirty Second Sunday of 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 MSS CC Mobile :07806967503

For you my soul us thirsting, O Lord, my God.	**Gospel Acclamation:** **Alleluia! Alleluia!** *Stay awake and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.* **Alleluia!**	**Website: www.merthyrrc.co.uk** **Email: merthyr@cardiffmenevia.org** **Tel: 01685 723336**

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 RECONCILLIATION
We will be holding penitential services on a Saturday morning at 11.30 in St Mary's Church

DEVOTIONS
During the month of October, the Rosary will be recited before each Mass weekdays and weekends. Also, there will be Mass at 7.00 pm at St Aloysius, every Tuesday, with Rosary at 6.30 and every Thursday with Adoration at 6.30 pm

Saturday 7th November		**Vigil – Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A**
4.30 pm	St Benedicts	Bill Hughes; Sheila Lewis; Bernard Donoghue; Veronica Molloy ; Claire Price; Wanda Quinlan (Anniv);
6.30 pm	St Aloysius	Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Patricia Buckley;
Sunday 8th November		**Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A**
9.30 am	St Illtyd's	Andrew and Nan Donovan; Gavin and Tina Fitton; Betty and Tom Summers; Patricia Williams (Lee); Irene Budding; Louise Hopkins (Anniv); Morris and Rees Families; William (Billy) Nelson;
11.30 am	St Mary's	Ron Morgan. Olive Mary McCormack; Bernard Walter McCormack; Paul and Stuart Bartz; Ceri and Graham Vaughan; Alice Lauretta Wilson; Pamela Jones; Frank and Annetta Spinneti;Pat and Patrick O'Brien; Ann Saunder;Louise Hopkins (Anniv); Ann Gittoes; Sheila Price; Michael Dacey; Gary Griffiths ;My wife and daughter(Private Intention); Una King;
Monday 9th November		
10.00 am	St Illtyd's	Mayo, Ron and Stephen Fealey; Ernest and Mary Galleozzie;
Tues day 10th to Thursday 13th November		**NO MASS**
Friday 13th November		
10.00 am	St Mary's	Bryan Gillespie (Anniv)
7.00 pm	**St Illtyd's**	**MEMORIAL MASS**
Saturday 14th November		**Vigil – Thirty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time–Year A**
4.30 pm	St Benedicts	Bill Hughes; Sheila Lewis; Bernard Donoghue; Veronica Molloy ; Claire Price;
6.30 pm	St Aloysius	Bernard & Mary Corcoran; Patricia Buckley; |Dinny and Joan O'Leary; Alan England;
Sunday 15th November		**Thirty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time –Year A**
9.30 am	St Illtyd's	Nancy and Ossie Jones; Nora Scannell; Philomena Pudota; Yvonne and John Lewis; Thanksgiving for all at St Illtyd's for your prayers and best wishes;
11.30 am	St Mary's	Ron Morgan. Olive Mary McCormack; Bernard Walter McCormack; Paul and Stuart Bartz; ; Alice Lauretta Wilson; Pamela Jones; Spinetti and Salisi Families; Rachel Mullins; Kerys Mahoney;Louis Connolly; Michael Pickett; Jimmy Mullins;
INFANT BAPTISMS		**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.**

Please remember in your prayers: 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; Dennis Preece; Josie Egan; Paddy Sullivan; Helen Golden; Katie Coughlin; Jennifer Lewis; Canon Mike Evans;Mary Morgan; Eddie Rees; Terry Donovan;

Requiescat in pace Howard Davies;Paul Protheroe; Michael Pickett; Fred Fyler; Amanda Field-Thomas (Nee Mandy Walsh);Handel Owen; Geraldine Jones; Sheila Scannell; Sheila Price; Gary Griffiths; Rosa Rogers;

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

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

The 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us to stay awake and ready. The readings speak about wisdom and watchfulness. Wisdom helps us make good choices. The psalm shows a deep desire for God. Saint Paul speaks of hope and trust in Jesus. The Gospel warns us to be prepared, like the wise virgins with oil for their lamps.

This Sunday calls us to take our faith seriously each day. We do not know when the Lord will come. We are asked to live with care, hope, and trust. Faith needs action, not delay. When we stay ready, we can welcome the Lord with joy and peace.

St Illtyd's Lottery 1st November	**St Mary's Lottery 1st November**
Numbers : 7, 10, 18, 24 No Winner:	Numbers; 1, 2, 4, 19 No Winner
Next Draw 8th November (£1800)	Next Draw 8th November (£7450)

NOVEMBER – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Please submit your 'November Dead List' to ensure that your deceased loved ones are remembered at Mass throughout the month of November. November Dead List envelopes are available at all our Churches.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

The annual Memorial Mass will take place on Friday 13th November at 7.00pm at St Illtyd's. Please come along to support and comfort those from our Parishes who have lost loved ones in the past year.

FOOD BANK- THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

All items of tinned, dried and bottled food are greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS PARISH LUNCH

A Christmas Parish lunch will take place on Sunday 6th December at Merthyr Town Football Club**.** There will be a two course lunch and the cost will be £23. Everyone is very welcome from all four churches. To book your place please see John Strand or text on 07949623722 or email strandmartyr@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2026

This year the Parish Committee and HCPT Group 102 are joining forces to host a Christmas Fayre for the whole family to enjoy. Sunday 29th November 2-4pm at St Aloysius Church Hall. There'll be Christmas stalls, refreshments & games for the children. We look forward to seeing many of you there! We have limited stalls available for £10 each. If you'd like to hold a stall, please contact Caitlin on 07855718175 or group102@hcpt.org.uk.

THANK YOU – FROM DEACON GARTH

Thank you to everyone who made a contribution to the "Retirement Collection" for me. I was genuinely surprised and humbled to be presented with this by Fr Francis recently, it was not expected. Serving the Church as a deacon has been a huge privilege for me and even though I've stepped back from ecclesiastical duties I'll be making the occasional guest appearance though I promise not to start a comeback tour. I will, of course, continue to be a Deacon and will keep you all in my prayers, thank you!

ABERFAN MEMORIAL CONCERT

The trustees of the Aberfan Memorial Fund have extended their immense gratitude and appreciation for the Concert held at ST Illtyd's. It was an extraordinarily moving event. We are immensely grateful to the Ebbw Vale Male Choir and to the talented musicians and technical team who gave their services freely to stage this wonderful event.

MORNING FOR READERS – DEANERY OF ST DAVID

Do you proclaim the Word of God at Mass, or would you like to? Readers aged 18 and over are warmly invited to a Morning for Readers at St David's Catholic College, Ty Gwyn Road, Cardiff CF23 5QD, on Saturday 14 November, 10.30am–12.30pm (registration and refreshments from 10am).The morning is free, but booking is essential: email christian.mahoney@cardiffmenevia.org.

MOTHERS DAY PRAYERS

Women of all ages and denominations who pray for children are invited to a Mothers Prayers day on Saturday 14 November with Mass at 10.30am at Welsh Martyrs Church, then continues at Penparcau Memorial Hall until 3.15pm, with speaker Mrs Maureen Goldsmith, National Coordinator of Mothers Prayers**Contact:** Nora Woodward, noracwoodward@gmail.com

RELICS OF ST GERARD MARJELLA

The Relics will be at Welsh Martyrs, Abergavenny on Friday 20th November with mass at 6,00pm with an opportunity to venerate the relics from 5.00pm . All are welcome

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

A mass celebrated by Archbishop George Stack will be held on Thursday 19th November at 6.00 pm at St Davids Metropolitan Cathedral,Cardiff.

CROSS OF WALES PROGRAMME

On 13 October, the Archbishop of Wales, the Most Revd Cherry Vann, entrusted the Cross to Archbishop Mark's care. Given by King Charles III to mark the centenary of the Church in Wales, the Cross carries a relic of the True Cross, the gift of Pope Francis, and is shared between the Church in Wales and the Catholic Church in Wales.

Highlights of the programme: Sunday 1 November - Mass for the Holy Souls, Archbishop's House Chapel

• Advent and Christmas - St David's Cathedral, Cardiff, including a Youth Event at St David's Sixth Form College (5 December) and the Carol Service at St Alban's, Splott (11 December)• Lent - Station Masses in each of our seven deaneries, and St David's Day at St David's Cathedral (1 March)

• Holy Week and Easter - St Joseph's Co-Cathedral, Swansea

ADVENT RETREAT

An Advent Retreat is to be held for Secondary School Pupils on Saturday 5th December 10.00am – 4.00pm, at St David's College, Cardiff. The cost is £10.00 with lunch included. Transport is available from select locations. Please register before 30th November at youth@cardiffmenervia.org.