

30th March 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF MERTHYR TYDFIL

Worshipping together

St Aloysius, Chestnut Way, Gurnos, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 9SB  
St Illtyd's, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 3BT

St Benedict's, Merthyr Vale CF48 4RF  
St Mary's Pontmorlais West, Merthyr Tydfil Cf47 8RG

Parish Priest: CANON BARRY ENGLISH

Deacons: Rev. DAVID O'KEEFE 01685 375761 Rev. GARTH TASKER 07939 310176

<b>Response to the Psalm:</b> Taste and see that the Lord is good.	<b>Gospel Acclamation:</b> Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.merthyrrc.co.uk">www.merthyrrc.co.uk</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:merthyr@rcadc.org">merthyr@rcadc.org</a> <b>Tel:</b> 01685 723336
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Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March

4.30 pm St Benedict's  
Donegan; Michael Crotty;

6.30 pm St Aloysius

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March

9.30 am St Aloysius

Teresa Davies; Mary Ellen Foley; Kathleen Jones; Teresa Sheehan; The O'Sullivan Family; Doreen Gillespie; Jimmy Mullan;

11.30 am St Mary's

O'Brien; Brian and Kay Hodges; Margaret and Dave Jones; Ann and John Snell; John and Vera Strand; Martin Mulry;

Vigil :Fourth Sunday of Lent (C)

Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee; Patrick and Margaret; Michael and Mary

Bernard and Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Eileen Jones;

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Maria Davies (Mother's Day); Patricia Williams (Lee); Margaret Gillespie;

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March

10.00 am St Mary's

Fr William Isaac;

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

10.00 am St Mary's

Joe and Julie Sullivan

12.00 St Aloysius

FUNERAL SERVICE – MARY AND STANLEY JONES

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

10.00 am St Mary's

St Francis of Paola, Hermit

4.30 – 9.30 pm St Mary's

Fr. William Morris

Syro-Malabar Lenten Retreat

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

10.00 St Mary's

People of the Parish

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

10.00 am St Mary's

St Isidore, Bishop, Doctor

7.00 pm St Aloysius

Fr Paul Chidgey;

Stations of the Cross

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April

4.30 pm St Benedict's

Vigil :Fifth Sunday of Lent (C)

Bill Hughes; Claire Price; Pat Lee; Ronald and Terry Clifford;

6.30 pm St Aloysius

Bernard and Mary Corcoran; Jimmy Mullan; Tim and Ada Buckley;

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April

9.30 am St Aloysius

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Timothy Moran; Patricia Williams (Lee 4<sup>th</sup> Anniv); Tom and Julia Simcock; Pat, Kathleen and Rita Daley; Julian Aruldoss; Morris and Rees families; Patrick Pudotal; Christine & John Thomas (Diamond Wedding Anniv)

11.30 am St Mary's

Ron Morgan; Michael Hurley; Bernad McCormack; Paul and Stuart Bartz;

Louise Hopkins; Bess, Cliff and Carl Preece; Clive and Jason Watkins; Ceri and Grahame Vaughan;

Please remember in your prayers: Peggy Vaughan, Tony Crawford, Oliver McAleer, Beryl & David

Keefe, Steven Denton Thomas, Teresa Jones, Lisa Morgan Jones, David Lewis; Veronica Rowlands; Paula Williams;

Linda Sproles; Josie Egan, Sylvia Williams, Deacon David O'Keefe; Jimmy Llewellyn; Ann Evans; Maria Evans;

Ann Watkins; Mary Wade; Marlene Chambers.

Requiescat in pace: Mary Patricia Butler; Ann Morgan;; Martin Mulry; Kevin McSweeney; Mary Jones; Stan Jones; Jim Mullins ;Adrienne Kathleen Murphy; Patricia Buckley; Patricia Walker; Morgan Chambers

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

**St Illtyd's Lottery 23<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Numbers: 2, 4, 7, 10 No Winner

Next draw 30<sup>th</sup> March £3025

**St Mary's Lottery 23<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Numbers: 1, 5, 22, 24 No Winner

Lucky Dip: Anthony O Sullivan  
Next Draw 30<sup>th</sup> March £3250

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday of Lent is called *Laetare Sunday* (Rejoice Sunday). Anticipating Easter joy, today's readings invite us to rejoice by being reconciled with God through repentance and the confession of our sins and by celebrating our coming home to be with our loving and forgiving God.

Today's Gospel celebrates the joy of the prodigal son on his "*homecoming*" where he discovers his father's forgiving and overflowing love. It is also the story of the joy of a loving and forgiving father who celebrates the return of his prodigal son by throwing a big party in his honor, a banquet celebrating the reconciliation of the son with his father, his family, his community, and his God. At the same time, in his self-righteous elder brother's angry reaction to the prodigal's return, Jesus invites us to avoid self-righteousness and self-justification by imitating the repentant younger brother. Let us admit the truth that we are an assembly of repentant, sinful people, who are now ready to receive God's forgiveness, to experience Jesus' Personal Presence in the Holy Eucharist as our loving and forgiving God and so to love and forgive each other making, generous and lasting peace.

#### **CONFESSION**

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm in S Mary's , Father Robert James and Father John Kelly and myself will hear confessions.

#### **ST MARY'S GIFT AID ENVELOPES**

Envelopes for the new year, starting next week 6 April, are available at the back of church. Please discard any envelopes left over from the past year. If you would like to contribute using envelopes enabling the parish to claim tax back from the government please text or ring John Strand on 079496 23722.

#### **CANONISATION OF BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS**

If you are able to donate and support the selected pupils of our high school. Please do so via this link <https://gofund.me/326ead41>.

#### **RCIA**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults , (RCIA) is the rite through which adults are received into the Catholic Church. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic, please e mail Canon Barry on [merthyr@rcadc.org](mailto:merthyr@rcadc.org).

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Christine and John Thomas who celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

#### **EASTER MASS TIMES**

##### **THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL - MAUNDY THURSDAY**

ST BENEDICT'S 7.00 PM – Mass of the Lord's Supper

##### **FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – GOOD FRIDAY**

ST MARY'S 3.00 PM – Celebration of the Lord's Passion

ST ILLTYD'S 7.00 PM - Stations of the Cross

##### **SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - EASTER VIGIL**

ST ALOYSIUS 8.00 PM - EASTER SUNDAY VIGIL MASS

##### **SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – EASTER SUNDAY**

ST ILLTYD'S 9.00 AM

ST MARY'S 11.00 AM