



Priory Church of Our Lady and St Michael, Abergavenny
Eglwys y Priordy Ein Harglwyddes a Mihangel Sant, y Fenni
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 Facebook: www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch
 St Michael's Centre ☎ (01873) 857750
 Our Lady and St. Michael's School ☎ (01873) 735080
 Deacon: Rev Dr Andreas Erhardt ☎ (01873) 855078
 Safeguarding reps: William & Evelyn Duggan ☎ (07581) 168719.
 Dial-a-Mass Service ☎ (01873) 777190
Sunday 1st February – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time.



Saturday 31st January – Sunday 8th February 2025. All Church services live streamed at www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk <u>If you do not wish to appear in the livestream broadcast do not sit in the front 3 rows of the Church. For Holy Communion if you do not wish to appear on the livestream please see Fr. Matthew before mass.</u> Evening Prayer at 5pm most days on www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch
Saturday, 31st January – St. John Bosco. 9.30am Rosary for Life. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Godden Family. 10.45am – Confessions, exposition and Benediction. 5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church– Margaret Watkins RIP & Peter Cunningham Davies RIP
Sunday 1st February – 4rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. . *8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – John Joliffe. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Daniel McGill RIP. 11.45am PAC Meeting in Centre. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. *6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Elizabeth Coopey RIP.
Monday 2nd February. PRESENTATION OF THE LORD. DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED/RELIGIOUS LIFE. *12.00Noon Mass in OLSM Church, to be celebrated by Archbishop Mark. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 5.00pm Syro-Malibar Rite Mass in Church.
Tuesday, 3rd February. St. Blaise. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sue Forder RIP. (Yr 3 Class Mass & with the traditional blessing of throats.) 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
Wednesday 4th February – *10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church – Peter Cunningham Davies RIP. 5.30pm Bible Group.
Thursday 5th February – St. Agatha. 12.00noon Mass in OLSM Church – Michael Hargreaves RIP. 1.00pm Lunch Club. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
Friday, 6th February – St. Paul Miki & Companions. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Joan & Tom Power 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 6.00pm Faith Group.
Saturday, 7th February – Memoria of the BVM. 9.30am Rosary for Life. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Godden Family. 10.45am – Confessions, exposition and Benediction. 5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church –Peter Cunningham Davies RIP
Sunday 8th February – 5rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mission Appeal at all masses today. . *8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Spec Int & Private Int-(Th's.) 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. *6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – People of the Parish.

Mass Reflection:

In the readings since Christmas, Jesus has been revealed as the new royal son of David and Son of God. He is sent to lead a new exodus that brings Israel out of captivity to the nations and brings all the nations to God. As Moses led Israel from Egypt through the sea to give them God's law on Mount Sinai, Jesus too has passed through the waters in baptism. Now, in today's Gospel, He goes to the mountain to proclaim a new law—the law of His Kingdom. The Beatitudes mark the fulfillment of God's covenant promise to Abraham—that through his descendants all the nations of the world would receive God's blessings (see Genesis 12:3; 22:18). Jesus is the son of Abraham (see Matthew 1:1). And through the wisdom He speaks today, He bestows the Father's blessings upon "the poor in spirit." God has chosen to bless the weak and lowly, those foolish and despised in the eyes of the world, Paul says in today's Epistle. The poor in spirit are those who know that nothing they do can merit God's mercy and grace. These are the humble remnant in today's First Reading, taught to seek refuge in the name of the Lord. The Beatitudes reveal the divine path and purpose for our lives. All our striving should be for these virtues—to be poor in spirit; meek and clean of heart; merciful and makers of peace; seekers of the righteousness that comes from living by the law of Kingdom. The path the Lord sets before us today is one of trials and persecution. But He promises comfort in our mourning and a great reward. The Kingdom we have inherited is no earthly territory but the promised land of heaven. It is Zion where the Lord reigns forever. And, as we sing in today's Psalm, its blessings are for those whose hope is in the Lord.

Collection totals for Sunday, 25 th January.	
1 st Collection	£153.50
Gift Aid	£142.50
Lepra Appeal.	£441.50
Automated credits (December 2025)	£3643.83
Contactless Card Reader	£95.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – If you would like to a set of Offertory Envelopes, let Fr. Matthew or Colin Prosser know. CONTACTLESS CARD READER now available in Church. Thank you to all parishioners who now make direct bank payments to the parish. Please do consider doing this. Our bank details are: NatWest – Belmont Abbey Mission CIO - Our Lady & St. Michael's No. 1 Account no. 60708778 Bank Sort Code: 53-50-41.	
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Christian Meditation Group – The meditation group continues to meet, info from Deirdre on 07789 404041. BELMONT ABBEY - All services livestreamed from Belmont Abbey belmontabbey.org.uk/online-streaming	
ARTS & CRAFTS CLUB – Come and join us for painting, knitting and natter and all kind of craft activities – Fridays after the morning mass in the centre. Tea and coffee provided for a small donation.	
LEPRA APPEAL- Thankyou for your generosity to the appeal for the charity "lepra" last weekend, nearly £450 was donated. Thankyou.	
MISSION APPEAL – The annual Mission appeal takes place next weekend. This year the appeal is being made on behalf of the Comboni Mission Fathers, also known as the Verona Fathers	

BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting Wednesday 28th January at 5.30pm. Email Fr. Matthew for the invite.

ABERGAVERNNY FOODBANK - The donation point for Abergavenny Foodbank is in the church porch. Your continued support by donating items to the food bank is appreciated. The SVP coordinate the transfer of items. The manager of Abergavenny food bank is asking for volunteers to help out at the food bank. for more info visit: <https://abergavenny.foodbank.org.uk>

PARISH COUNCIL – The next Parish Council takes place on Sunday 1st February at 11.45am in the centre. **PAC MINUTES** – Minutes of the October and the December PAC meeting on the website and on the notice board.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, meets next on Monday 2nd March at 6m in the Presbytery.

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH – Every Saturday morning (10.45am), we have Exposition and Benediction for the intentions of growing our parish and reaching out to those no longer in Church.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - We tackle poverty in all its forms by providing assistance to people in need. Many thanks with your help with our recent campaigns to help those in need in the community. President Monica Chidgey is walking 100km of the Camino in April to raise funds for the Society visit https://www.justgiving.com/page/monica-chidgey-5?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL. We are also repeating the Lenten Jam-Jar appeal this year to raise funds. For further information on SVP visit: <https://www.svp.org.uk> contact: presidentg050512@svp.org.uk, or Fr Matthew.

CATENIAN ASSOCIATION If you are interested in joining us contact Jim Cronin 01873 854498 or jimcronin1@hotmail.com

EVANGELISATION GROUP – Meets next on Tuesday 10th February at 6.00pm. beginning in Church with exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament from 5.30pm-parishioners are very welcome to join us for this time of prayer.

HEALING SERVICE: The monthly Service of prayers for healing next takes place in the Abbey Church, Belmont, Hereford at 6.45pm on Friday, 6th February 2026 led by Fr Michael Clothier from the Community of Saint Gregory the Great. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions will be available. All are most welcome.

FEAST OF CANDLEMASS - PRESENTATION – Once again this year the parish will be playing host to the religious of the Archdiocese this Monday 2nd February, the Day of Prayer for Consecrated life. Mass at 12noon to be celebrated by Archbishop Mark, followed by lunch in the centre.

SAFEGUARDING Parishioners are reminded that if they have any safeguarding concerns, regarding the care of children, young people or vulnerable adults they should contact our safeguarding reps - Willie and Evelyn Duggan on (07581) 168719 or Fr. Matthew.

ARCH (ABORTION RECOVERY CARE HELPLINE) Struggling after abortion? You are not alone. Give us a call - ARCH (Abortion Recovery Care Helpline): 0345 603 8501 info@archtrust.org.uk

Life Charity Pregnancy matters. Need to talk? Call free 0808 802 5433 - we are here to listen.

SPUC – RIGHT TO LIFE For updates on the fight to protect unborn life and life nearing its end, sign up for updates from SPUC and/or RIGHT TO LIFE at: <https://righttolife.org.uk/> <https://www.spuc.org.uk/>

FAITH GROUP - meeting again on Friday 30th January at 6pm.

SYRO – MALIBAR RITE MASS – To be celebrated monthly in our parish. Next mass Monday 2nd February at 5pm.

GRANGE HOSPITAL – *The Catholic Chaplain to the Grange Hospital is Fr. Peter McClaren, available on 07561 469343.*
CARDIFF HEATH HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY – 029 2184 3230

CONFIRMATION COURSE - will begin later this year, dates TBC. Candidates need to be in year 8 or above.

Next meeting Friday 27th February at 7pm in the centre. The Confirmation has now been confirmed as Sunday 21st June at 10am.

Legislative Consent Motion on Assisted Suicide Bill - As the Senedd prepares to debate, this Tuesday, whether to give legislative consent to Westminster's Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, Archbishop Mark and Bishop Peter Bignall have issued a letter to express their deep concern about legalising assisted suicide in Wales. International experience shows that where assisted suicide is legalised, eligibility criteria expand over time and subtle pressure is placed on those who are elderly, disabled, or who fear becoming a burden. True compassion means accompanying those who suffer and ensuring no one feels abandoned, not ending life. They urge Members of the Senedd to withhold consent and focus on strengthening palliative care. **This Monday 26th January, those who can are asked to observe a day of fasting in solidarity with the vulnerable. Please also engage respectfully with your Member of the Senedd to make your voice heard on this important decision for Wales.**

Please go to for info on how to contact members of the Senedd <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/oppose-assisted-suicide-in-wales/> Copies of the Bishops letter are available in Church and on the parish website and video on facebook page.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE – Is this coming Tuesday, at the 10am mass there will be the traditional blessing of throats.

MICHAELS MATES – PARENTS AND CHILDRENS GROUP – Meets next on Wednesday 18th February in St. Michaels Centre from 10.30am-12noon.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH: Eileen Nuttall, Jim Brookes, Chris Woodhouse, Mario Malnati, Kris Williams, Tom and Eileen Thompson, Mervyn Elias, John and Muriel Brand, Joan Stone, Sarah Louise Coleman, Mary Jones, Michael Keohane, Keith Taylor, Jeremy Proctor, John and Michael Hargaden, Chris and Tracy Shaw, David Johnstone, Maria Tedesco, Brigid Malnati, Chris O'Connell, Ann Green, Winnie and Stan Herbert.
Please also pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently – Michael Hargreaves, Elizabeth Coopey, Peter Cunningham Davies, Fr. John Phillips and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PETER CUNNINGHAM DAVIES RIP – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Cunningham Davies who died recently. May he rest in peace.

PRIESTS FOR TOMORROW REPORT. Annual report posted on the parish noticeboard and on the website.

MICHAEL HARGREAVES RIP – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Hargreaves who died recently. Service at the Gwent Crematorium this Thursday 5th February at 2pm.

RISE THEATRE – PASSION PLAY – Rise Theatre will be performing a passion play in Church on Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm. More info to follow.

BAPTISM – Congratulations to Finola Rose Kennedy, daughter of Liam and Molly, who was baptised last Saturday.

1st HOLY COMMUNION COURSE – 7 Children have been enrolled on the course,

Human Dignity: The Catholic Vision and Why it Matters. The next of our Horizons of Hope talks will be given by **Professor John Loughlin** on the principles of Catholic Social teaching, and how they impact on the many moral challenges in our world today. At The Chapterhouse, Belmont Abbey Saturday, 21 February 2026 10am-12.30pm. All welcome! Poster at back of Church.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF MENEVIA. Safeguarding Cafe - Thursday 26th February, 11am till 1pm, Our Lady of the Angels, Oak Street, Cwmbran, NP44 3LT – Poster at back of Church.

ELIZABETH COOPEY RIP, Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Coopey who died in hospital last Thursday. Requiem Mass on Monday 2nd March at 1pm.