



Priory Church of Our Lady and St Michael, Abergavenny  
Eglwys y Priordy Ein Harglywyddes a Mihangel Sant, y Fenni  
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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch](https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch)  
St Michael's Centre [\(01873\) 857750](tel:01873857750)  
Our Lady and St. Michael's School [\(01873\) 735080](tel:01873735080)  
Deacon: Rev Dr Andreas Erhardt [\(01873\) 855078](tel:01873855078)  
Safeguarding reps: William & Evelyn Duggan [\(07581\) 168719](tel:07581168719)  
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**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.**

**All Church services live streamed at**

[www.olsm-bergavenny.co.uk](http://www.olsm-bergavenny.co.uk)

**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.

**Evening Prayer at 5pm most days on**

[www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch](https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch)

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> January – St. Frances de Sales.**

9.30am Rosary for Life.

**10.00am Mass in OLSM Church** – Roy & Alan Ockenden RIP.

10.45am – Confessions, exposition and Benediction.

**2.00pm Unity Service – St. Mary's Priory.**

**5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church** – Peter Cunningham Davies RIP

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**WORLD LEPROSY DAY - APPEAL FOR LEPROA.**

• \*8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish.

\*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Alan Hutchison RIP.

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

\*6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Elizabeth Coopey RIP.

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January – St's Timothy & Titus.**

**DAY OF FASTING & PRAYER – In support of the vulnerable.**

\*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Doris & John Basham.

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January – St. Angeli Merici.**

**11.00am Mass in OLSM Church** – Sue Forder RIP.

(Later mass time today, Year 5 & 6 Class Mass.)

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January – St. Thomas Aquinas.**

\*10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church – Peter Cunningham Davies RIP. 5.30pm Bible Group.

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January –.**

No mass today.

1.00pm Lunch Club.

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

**Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> January.**

\*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Ron Dew RIP.

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 6.00pm Faith Group.

**Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> January – St. John Bosco.**

9.30am Rosary for Life.

**10.00am Mass in OLSM Church –**

10.45am – Confessions, exposition and Benediction.

**5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church** – Peter Cunningham Davies RIP

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February – 4<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

• \*8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish.

\*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.

### Mass Reflection:

Today's Liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history. Isaiah's prophecy in today's First Reading is quoted by Matthew in today's Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David. Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity (see 2 Kings 15:29; 1 Chronicles 5:26). It marked the beginning of the kingdom's end. The Davidic empire finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile (see 2 Kings 24:14). Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God's salvation. Jesus today fulfills that prophecy—announcing the restoration of David's kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall. His gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations—symbolized by the "Galilee of the Nations." Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be "fishers of men," gathering people from the ends of the earth. They are to preach the

### Collection totals for Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> January.

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	£151.47
Gift Aid	£228.00
SPUC White Flower Appeal.	£532.45
Automated credits (December 2025)	£3643.83
Contactless Card Reader	£115.00

**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 on most Monday's, at 11am, info from Deirdre on 07789 404041.

**BELMONT ABBEY** - All services livestreamed from Belmont Abbey [belmontabbey.org.uk/online-streaming](http://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.

**USK PARISH – FOOD KITCHEN.** In the Abergavenny branch of Waitrose, one of the local projects that could benefit from the Waitrose Community Matters scheme is the Usk Food Kitchen. The Usk Food Kitchen is an initiative that is based in Catholic Church Hall in Usk. On Tuesday and Thursday each week volunteers from the local area provide 50 hot meals for those in need. The Kitchen is entirely funded by charitable donations. A donation from the Waitrose scheme would be most welcome. The size of the donation from Waitrose is based on the number of votes gained by each individual project. Votes are made by putting green tokens which can be collected from the till areas into the Community Matters box found at the store's door. The scheme gaining the most votes receives £1500, the scheme with the next highest total receives £1000 and the other project receives £500.

**BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 5.30pm. Email Fr. Matthew for the invite.**

**ABERGAVENNY 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~~ **1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. New members always welcome to join us our quest to fight poverty in our community. 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](mailto:jimcronin1@hotmail.com)

**EVANGELISATION GROUP** – Meets next Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 6.00pm, beginning in Church with exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament-parishioners are very welcome to join us for this time of prayer.

**LEPRA APPEAL** – This Sunday we are holding an appeal to support the work of the charity Lepra, today also being World Leprosy Day. Lepra works to support the many victims of leprosy in our world. Displayed at the back of Church is a poster giving info on the work of Lepra at the St. Joseph's leprosy centre in Indore, India. Lepra built the hospital in 1998, and thousands of sufferers have been cared for there. Over more than 100 years Lepra has commissioned research to help develop new healthcare programmes, to deliver better detection, treatment and support mechanisms. Early detection and treatment is crucial in preventing life changing disabilities. Lepra works extensively in India and Bangladesh to treat and support the sufferers of this terrible disease. Lepra is asking us to consider donating £25, which funds the treatment of one sufferer. Poster at back of Church.

**TUESDAY** – This week, later mass at 11.00am, which will also be a school mass for Years 5 and 6.

**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](mailto: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 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 6pm.

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

**GRANGE HOSPITAL – The Catholic Chaplain to the Grange Hospital is Fr. Peter McLaren, available on 07561 469343.**

**CARDIFF HEATH HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY – 029 2184 3230**

**CONFIRMATION COURSE** - will begin early next year, dates TBC. Candidates need to be in year 8 or above.

**Next meeting TBC.** The Confirmation has now been confirmed as Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 Bignal 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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.](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/oppose-assisted-suicide-in-wales/)

**FEAST OF CANDLEMASS -**

**PRESENTATION** – Once again this year the parish will be playing host to the religious of the Archdiocese on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, the Day of Prayer for Consecrated life. Mass at 12noon to be celebrated by Archbishop Mark, followed by lunch in the centre.

**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 on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm.

**NO MASS ON THURSDAY** – No mass on Thursday this week, Fr. Matthew at Belmont for a meeting.

**SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL** – Thank you for your generosity to the Collection for the Society of the protection of the Unborn Child – £532. 45 was given.

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

**BAPTISM** – Please pray for Finola Rose Kennedy, daughter of Liam and Molly, who is being baptised next Saturday.

**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER** – The Archdiocese is looking to recruit a safeguarding officer, Fr. Matthew has info on the role or at <https://rcadc.org/vacancy-safeguarding-officer/>

**ELIZABETH COOPEY RIP**, Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Coopey who died in hospital last Thursday.

**1<sup>st</sup> HOLY COMMUNION COURSE** – 7 Children have been enrolled on the course, the re-arranged 3<sup>rd</sup> session of preparation is this Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 3.45pm in school.