



Priory Church of Our Lady and St Michael, Abergavenny
 Eglwys y Priordy Ein Harglwyddes a Mihangel Sant, y Fenni
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 The Presbytery, 10 Pen Y Pound, ABERGAVENNY NP7 5UD
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 Website: www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk
 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 30th November – 1st Sunday of Advent.



Saturday 29th November – Sunday 7th December 2025.

YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025.

“Pilgrims of Hope.”

All Church services live streamed at

www.olsm-abergavenny.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 on

www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch

Saturday, 29th November – Memorial of the BVM.

9.30am Rosary for Life.

10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Private Intention & Nov Lists.

10.45am Confessions, Exposition & Benediction.

5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Chris Shaw & Family, Nov

Sunday 30th November – 1st Sunday of Advent.

***8.00am Mass in OLSM Church** Linda Anne O'Connor RIP & Marion Lowe RIP & Nov Lists.

***10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Charles Dorian Evans RIP;** Williams, Jones & Crook Families; Ring & Taylor Fam's & Nov Lists. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

***6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Frances Reidy RIP & Nov Lists.**

Monday 1st December – St. Andrew.

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

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook

5.00pm Syro-Malibar Rite Mass in OLSM Church.

6.00pm Finance Committee.

Tuesday, 2nd December.

***10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Derrick Matthews RIP.**

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

Wednesday 3rd December – St. Frances Xavier.

9.00am Mass in OLSM Church - Sick of the Parish.

(No mass in Llanarth today.)

Thursday, 4th December – St. John Damascene.

12.00 Noon Mass in OLSM Church – Frances Reidy RIP.

1.00pm Lunch Club. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

Friday, 5th December

10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – William & Elsie RIP.

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

6.00pm - Faith Group

Saturday, 6th December – St. Nicholas.

9.30am Rosary for Life.

10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Alan Ockenden RIP..

10.45am Confessions, Exposition & Benediction.

5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – People of the Parish.

Sunday 7th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent.

***8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Alan and Joan Ockenden**

***10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Victor Strevens RIP,** 11.45am PAC Meeting in Centre.

***6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Luisa Fulgoni, Eddie Rabaïotti, Columba & Giovanni Pacini, Giovanna Cavalli .**

Mass Reflection:

Jesus exaggerates in today's Gospel when He claims not to know the day or the hour when He will come again. Christ occasionally makes such overstatements to drive home a point we might otherwise miss (see Matthew 5:34; 23:9; Luke 14:26). His point here is that the exact "hour" is not important. What is crucial is that we not postpone our repentance, that we be ready for Him—spiritually and morally—when He comes. For He will surely come, He tells us—like a thief in the night, like the flood in the time of Noah. In today's Epistle, Paul too compares the present age to a time of advancing darkness and night. Though we sit in the darkness, overshadowed by death, we have seen arise the great light of our Lord who has come into our midst (see Matthew 4:16; John 1:9; 8:12). He is the true light, the life of the world. And His light continues to shine in His Church, the new Jerusalem promised by Isaiah in today's First Reading. In the Church, all nations stream to the God of Jacob, to worship and seek wisdom in the House of David. From the Church goes forth His word of instruction, the light of the Lord—that all might walk in His paths toward that eternal day when night will be no more (see Revelation 22:5). By our Baptism we have been made children of the light and day (see Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5–7). It is time we start living like it: throwing off the fruitless works of darkness, rejecting the desires of the flesh, and walking by the light of His grace. The hour is late as we begin a new Advent. Let us begin again in this Eucharist. As we sing in today's Psalm, "let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." Let us give thanks to His name, keeping watch for His coming, knowing that our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

Collection totals for Sunday, 23rd November.

1 st Collection	£107.00
Gift Aid	£153.26
Red Wednesday Collection for ACN	£175.00
Automated credits (October 2025)	£4525.83
Contactless Card Reader	£217.00

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

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.

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH – On Sunday 14th December following the 10am Mass that day in the centre. £18 per person for a two course dinner,. Menu sheets at back of Church, please give menu choices and payment to Elaine Bright by 1st December. Only a very few places left.

PARISH/SCHOOLS CAROL SERVICE – Monday 8th December 6.30pm, with students from our own parish school and St. Albans Schools. Bookings closed, waiting list in operation.

BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting this Wednesday 17th December 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 this Sunday 7th December at 11.45am in the centre. **PAC MINUTES** – Minutes of the July PAC meeting on the website and on the notice board.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, meets next on Monday 1st December 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. This is supported by chants and hymns.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - We tackle poverty in all its forms by providing assistance to people in need. We are going to run our 'Cash for Coins' campaign during October and November: Donations of foreign and UK currency: coins and banknotes both current and obsolete can be left in labelled jar in the porch. Your continued help is always gratefully received. New members always welcome to join us. 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 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.

1st HOLY COMMUNION COURSE – 7 Children have been enrolled on the course, next session of preparation on Sunday 14th December at 9am.

MONASTIC EXPERIENCE WEEKEND – a weekend for youNg men discerning a call to monastic life, Friday 9th-Sunday 11th January. For info contact Fr. Andrew at Belmont, brandrew@belmontabbey.org.uk. Poster at back of Church.

Stay Connected with the Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia - Each month, the Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia shares a monthly e-newsletter with the latest news, events, and updates from across our parishes and beyond. **Sign up today** at: <https://www.rcadc.org/newsletter>
ACN – Christmas Cards from Aid to the Church in Need are available at the back of Church. Also ACN gift items for Xmas on the piety stall.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY – The Neville Hall chaplaincy has asked if we can provide any 2nd hand/good quality nightwear that patients can us – pyjamas, dressing gowns, bed jackets etc. Please bring to Church.

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 this Friday 5th December at 6pm.

SYRO – MALIBAR RITE MASS – To be celebrated monthly in our parish. Next mass Monday 1st December 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 early next year, dates TBC. Candidates need to be in year 8 or above. **The Confirmation has now been confirmed as Sunday 21st June at 10am.**

DIOCESAN YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT –For those aged 18-35, here on Saturday 13th December, 9-5pm, Mass to be celebrated at 12noon by Archbishop Mark. Poster at back of Church and on facebook, register in advance.

OPPOSING ASSISTED SUICIDE IN WALES - Stand for Dignity and True Compassion in Wales – Please go to <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/oppose-assisted-suicide-in-wales/> for info on how to contact members of the Senedd. Link is also on our parish facebook page.

ARCHDIOCESAN ADVENT RETREAT - "God enters only his own rooms, where someone is always keeping watch for him..." - Father Alfred Delp SJ. St Joseph's, New Zealand Road, Cardiff are having an Advent Retreat on Saturday 20 December from 9.15 am – 12 noon. It will begin with Mass at 9.15 am followed by a talk. There will then be refreshments followed by Adoration (during which time there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)). The retreat will end with Benediction – ALL ARE WELCOME

LLANARTH PARISH CAROL SERVICE – Thursday 18th December 7pm.

WEDNESDAY MASS. At 9am, Not in Llanarth but in OLSM, because of a online meeting Fr. Mathew has to attend.

BELMONT MONASTIC RETREAT – From Monday 8th to Friday 12th December, Fr. Matthew will be at Belmont most of the week for the annual monastic retreat; therefore with an early morning mass most days.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH: Chris Woodhouse, Mario Malnati, Kris Williams, Tom and Eileen Thompson, Mervyn Elias, Triona Eveston, 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, Elizabeth Coopey, 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 – Derrick Matthews, Fr. Stephen Holdsworth OSB, Alan Ockenden & Andrew Neale, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and all those whose names are recorded on the November lists of the dead.**

"CHURCH FLOWER-ARRANGING TEACH-IN - The teach-in is free and everything needed provided but we ask that people attend both Saturdays and offer help reasonably regularly to decorate the church (usually Friday/Saturday). 2nd Session on Sat 13th Dec from 2pm until 5.30pm, in Church. Email amgraves@btinternet.com

Safe Spaces Support, Advice and Info Tel: 0300 303 1056 (answerphone available email: SafeSpaces@FirstLight.org.uk Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal, and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church.

The Middle Coming: Fr Michael Casey OCSO. For our next Horizons of Hope talk, a renowned Cistercian spiritual writer will talk about the interior landscape of spiritual experience: the quiet ways in which grace transforms the human heart. He is on a rare visit to the UK from Australia. **Saturday 13th December, 10.00am - 12.30pm** at The Chapterhouse, Belmont Abbey, Hereford.

RED BOXES – MISSIO – Could all those who have the Red Mission Boxes please return them to the sacristy as soon as possible, so that the annual return can be completed before Christmas.

THANKYOU - From Joan Ockenden and family for all the cards and messages of sympathy received after the death of Alan.

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES. Vigil Masses in OLSM on Wednesday 24th December at 6pm and 10pm. Morning mass on Thursday 25th at 11.00am. (Mass in Llanarth at 9am.)

PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY – Thursday 4th December 7pm, in Our Lady's, Newbridge, Fr. Matthew preaching.