



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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 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 7th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent.



Saturday 6th December – Sunday 14th 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, 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 Rabaiotti, Columba & Giovanni Pacini, Giovanna Cavalli .**

Monday 8th December – Immaculate Conception.

***9.30am Mass in OLSM Church – Alan Ockenden RIP.**

(Please note earlier mass time.)

6.30pm Schools/Parish Choir Service – Booked Ticket only.

Tuesday, 9th December.

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

6.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

Wednesday 10th December – St. John Roberts.

10.00am Mass in OLSM Church - Terry Foster RIP.

(No Mass in Llanarth today.)

6.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. No Bible Group.

Thursday, 11th December – St. Damasus.

10.00Noon Mass in OLSM Church – Frances Reidy RIP.

(Please note earlier mass time today.)

1.00pm Lunch Club. 6.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

Friday, 12th December – Our Lady of Guadalupe.

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

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

Saturday, 13th December – St. Lucy. 9.30am Rosary for Life.

12.00Noon Mass in OLSM Church – Mary Josephine Lay RIP.

(Archbishop Mark O'Toole.)

5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Lynn RIP.

Sunday 14th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent.

GAUDATE SUNDAY. (Collection for Xmas Flowers.)

***8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Frances Reidy RIP.**

***10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Charles Dorian Evans RIP, Daniel McGill RIP, Charles Dorian Evans RIP.**

Followed by Parish Christmas Lunch.

***6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Domenico Cavalli/Giovanna Cavalli, Guido Flugoni RIP.**

Mass Reflection:

“The kingdom of heaven is at hand,” John proclaims. And the Liturgy today paints us a vivid portrait of our new king and the shape of the kingdom He has come to bring. The Lord whom John prepares the way for in today's Gospel is the righteous king prophesied in today's First Reading and Psalm. He is the king's son, the son of David—a shoot from the root of Jesse, David's father (see Ruth 4:17). He will be the Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit (see 2 Samuel 23:1; 1 Kings 1:39; Psalm 2:2), endowed with the seven gifts of the Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. He will rule with justice, saving the poor from the ruthless and wicked. His rule will be not only over Israel—but will extend from sea to sea, to the ends of the earth. He will be a light, a signal to all nations. And they will seek Him and pay Him homage. In Him, all the tribes of the earth will find blessing. The covenant promise to Abraham (see Genesis 12:3), renewed in God's oath to David (see Psalm 89:4, 28), will be fulfilled in His dynasty. And His name will be blessed forever. In Christ, God confirms His oath to Israel's patriarchs, Paul tells us in today's Epistle. But no longer are God's promises reserved solely for the children of Abraham. The Gentiles, too, will glorify God for His mercy. Once strangers, in Christ they will be included in “the covenants of promise” (see Ephesians 2:12). John delivers this same message in the Gospel. Once God's chosen people were hewn from the rock of Abraham (see Isaiah 51:1–2). Now, God will raise up living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5)—children of Abraham born not of flesh and blood but of the Spirit. This is the meaning of the fiery baptism He brings—making us royal heirs of the kingdom of heaven, the Church.

Collection totals for Sunday, 30th November.

1 st Collection	£143.60
Gift Aid	£241.00
Automated credits (October 2025)	£4525.83
Contactless Card Reader	£167.00

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 ... £18 per person for a two course dinner. Menu sheets at back of Church, please give menu choices and payment to Elaine Bright.

PARISH/SCHOOLS CAROL SERVICE – This Monday 8th December 6.30pm, with students from our own parish school and St. Albans Schools. Ticketed event, book with Fr. Matthew.

FRAUDULENT E-MAILS – Some parishioners have received e-mails claiming to come from Fr. Matthew, please do not engage with them. Fr. Matthew will only use the e-mail addresses listed at the top of this bulletin.

BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting 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 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. 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 16th December 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.

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWSLETTER -The latest Archdiocesan Newsletter is now available to read online. This month's edition focuses on our prayers for the Holy Souls during November and the continuing Jubilee of Hope. Archbishop Mark reflects on how our prayers for the deceased express the bonds of love that continue beyond death. The newsletter includes updates on the Sisters of St Joseph's 375th anniversary, the Educator's Mass, next year's pilgrimage, the election of a new Abbess at Poor Clare Abbey, and upcoming events including Welsh Mass and an Advent Retreat. Archbishop Mark continues to urge opposition to the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill currently before the Senedd. Read the full newsletter by clicking this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2bn38xdf>

XMAS FLOWERS COLLECTION – Sunday 14th December.

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 12th December at 6pm.

SYRO – MALIBAR RITE MASS – To be celebrated monthly in our parish. Next mass TBC.

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.** **NEXT MEETING FOR CANDIDATES AND ANY YOUNG PEOPLE – FRIDAY 19th DECEMBER, 7PM IN THE CENTRE.**

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 at <https://rcadc.org/emmaus-encounter-advent-retreat/>

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 followed by a talk, adoration & confession. ALL ARE WELCOME

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

BELMONT MONASTIC RETREAT – This Monday 8th to Friday 12th December, Fr. Matthew will be at Belmont most of the week for the annual monastic retreat; therefore changes to some mass times, 9.30am on Monday, 10am on Thursday, and 12noon on Saturday.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH: 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, 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 Saturday 13th December from 2pm until 5.30pm, in the school hall. 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.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY – The Neville Hall chaplaincy has asked if we can provide any 2nd hand/good quality nightwear that patients can use – pyjamas, dressing gowns, bed jackets etc. Please bring to Church. **HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY CAROL SINGING** – Monday 22nd December, am & pm, meet in Neville Hall chapel at 9.30am or 1.30pm, then singing on the wards. Poster at back of Church.

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.)

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE – with a number of priests to hear confessions, Monday 15th December 7pm in OLSM..