



**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](http://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 15<sup>th</sup> March – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.**



<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025.</b> <b>All Church services live streamed at</b> <a href="http://www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk">www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk</a> <b>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.</b> <b>Evening Prayer at 5pm most days on</b> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch">www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch</a>
<b>Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March.</b> 9.30am Rosary for Life. <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – People of the Parish. 10.45am Confessions & Exposition. <b>5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church</b> – John Critchley RIP, Eileen Nuttall RIP.
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - LAETARE SUNDAY.</b> <b>*8.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Sick of the Parish. <b>*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Christine & Tracy Shaw, Charles James – recovery. 5.00pm Evening Prayer <b>*6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Giovanna Cavalli, Meri Ricci & Delfina Fulgoni.
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March –</b> <b>9.00am Mass in OLSM Church –</b> <b>(Early Mass time today.)</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer
<b>Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March – St. Patrick.</b> <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – (Year 3 Mass.)</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – St. Cyril of Jerusalem.</b> <b>10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church</b> – Sick of the Parish. 5.00pm Evening Prayer. 5.30pm Bible Group.
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March – St. Joseph.</b> <b>12.00noon Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Eileen Nuttall RIP 1.00pm Lunch Club. 2.00pm Lent Group. 5.00pm Evening Prayer <b>7.30pm Rise Theatre Passion Play in OLSM Church.</b>
<b>Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – William Jonathon & Angela Jones RIP. 4.45pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. <b>5.15pm – Stations of the Cross in OLSM Church.</b> 6.00pm Faith Group.
<b>Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March – Passing of St. Benedict.</b> 9.30am Rosary for Life. <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – People of the Parish. 10.45am Confessions & Exposition. <b>5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church</b> – Eileen Nuttall RIP.
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent -</b> <b>*8.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Sick of the Parish. <b>*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Charles James – recovery. 5.00pm Evening Prayer <b>*6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church</b> – Giovanna Cavalli, Maria Cavalli, Carolina Fulgoni.

**Mass Reflection:**

God's ways of seeing are not our ways, we hear in today's First Reading. Jesus illustrates this in the Gospel as the blind man comes to see and the Pharisees are made blind. The blind man stands for all humanity. "Born totally in sin," he is made a new creation by the saving power of Christ. As God fashioned the first man from the clay of the earth (see Genesis 2:7), Jesus gives the blind man new life by anointing his eyes with clay (see John 9:11). As God breathed the spirit of life into the first man, the blind man is not healed until he washes in the waters of Siloam, a name that means "Sent." Jesus is the One "sent" by the Father to do the Father's will (see John 9:4; 12:44). He is the new source of life-giving water: the Holy Spirit who rushes upon us in Baptism (see John 4:10; 7:38–39). This is the Spirit that rushes upon God's chosen king David in today's First Reading. A shepherd like Moses before him (see Exodus 3:1; Psalm 78:70–71), David is also a sign pointing to the good shepherd and king to come—Jesus (see John 10:11). The Lord is our shepherd, as we sing in today's Psalm. By His death and Resurrection He has made a path for us through the dark valley of sin and death, leading us to the verdant pastures of the kingdom of life, the Church. In the restful waters of Baptism He has refreshed our souls. He has anointed our heads with the oil of Confirmation and spread the Eucharistic table before us, filling our cups to overflowing. With the once-blind man we enter His house to give God the praise, to renew our vow: "I do believe, Lord." "The Lord looks into the heart," we hear today. Let Him find us, as Paul advises in today's Epistle, living as "children of light," trying always to learn what is pleasing to our Father.

Collection totals for Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	£142.70
Gift Aid	£138.00
Automated credits (January 2025)	£3463.33
Contactless Card Reader	£130.00

**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](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.  
**FEAST OF ST. BENEDICT** – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, is the Feast of the Passing of St. Benedict. Please keep the Belmont monastic community in your prayers.  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Fridays of Lent, 5.15pm.  
**PASSION PLAY THIS THURSDAY 7.30PM** – Performed by Rise Theatre, adults £5, young people free, tickets available at the door. Rise theatre is a professional theatre company delivering original exciting Christian theatre. Their Passion Play for 2026 is a one hour journey through the key Gospel moments

**BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting this Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 5.30pm. Email Fr. Matthew for the invite.**

**ABERGAVENTNY 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 22<sup>nd</sup> March 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 Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 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 visit [https://www.justgiving.com/page/monica-chidgey-5?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](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](mailto:jimcronin1@hotmail.com)

**EVANGELISATION GROUP** – Meets next on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 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.

**CONVERTS** – Please keep in your prayers Ffion Lowri Ewers preparing for Baptism and Sophie Mulcahy preparing for reception into the Church this Easter. Once again they are being presented to parishioners this Sunday,

**LENT GROUPS** – meeting this Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, in the presbytery meeting room at 2pm, no evening meeting this week. We will be using the material supplied by the Archbishop in his recent pastoral letter,"

**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE** – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7pm, with a number of priests from Belmont available for confessions.

**FR. MATTHEW AWAY** – From Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, to Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April; as well as the usual Caribbean Cruise, he will be celebrating the wedding of his nephew-Harry, at Belmont Abbey. Fr. Jonathon from Belmont will be supplying in the parish.

**MONDAY MASS TIME** – At the earlier time of 9am, Fr. Matthew at St. Albans school.

**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/>

**SYRO – MALIBAR RITE MASS** – To be celebrated monthly in our parish. Next mass Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm.

**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** - Timetables have been sent to all those registered on the course, 2<sup>nd</sup> formal session this Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March, following the 10am mass. 11 Young people have been enrolled on the course. 9 young people attended the Archdiocese youth event at Belmont Abbey last Saturday.

**REAL EASTER EGGS** – Which celebrate the real meaning of Easter available on the piety stall for £5.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICE TIME LEAFLETS** – are available at the back of Church, giving times of the Holy Week services, please take some and distribute to family and friends.

**Retreats and Events at Belmont Abbey** - Belmont are now organizing retreats and day events again including a series of **Lent Tuesdays: “Witnesses to the Faith”** from 10am to 3pm at The Chapterhouse. The retreats and events calendar can be found at [www.belmontabbey.org.uk/event-listings](http://www.belmontabbey.org.uk/event-listings) and will be updated through the year.

**SVP and CAFOD Work Experience** - The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 21st – 26th June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, but priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. Applications close on the 6th April. contact [KeziaH@svp.org.uk](mailto:KeziaH@svp.org.uk).

**GOOD FRIDAY – WALK OF WITNESS**, Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 10am, outside Tesco. Ending with a short service in St. Mary's Priory, then Stations in OLSM @12NOON

**EASTER CARDS** – Available on the Piety Stall at the back of Church, priced £5/pack

**BERNARD HAYWARD RIP** – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bernard Hayward who died recently. Memorial service in Llanarth Church, Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 12noon.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH:** Margaret Herbert, Charles James, Nicholas Murphy, 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 – Bernard Hayward, Robert Charles Duggan, Eileen Nuttall, Gaynor Fitzpatrick, Michael Hargreaves, Elizabeth Coopey, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.**

**MASS FOR THE FEAST OF OSCAR ROMERO TUESDAY 24th MARCH, 12.45PM - CARDIFF CATHEDRAL.**

"A celebration for young people across the Archdiocese." Talk and Q&A after mass with Clare Dixon, Co Chair of the Romero Trust.

**1<sup>st</sup> HOLY COMMUNION COURSE** – 7 Children have been enrolled on the course, next session Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 9am in the centre.

**HARVINGTON HALL TRIP – SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY**, Adults £15, kids and young people free. Leave by coach 9am, returning for 5pm, Tours of Hall and Mass and free time. 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion children and Confirmation candidates are encouraged to come, along with their families. Sign up sheet at the back of Church.

**SPUC – ABORTION PROPOSALS** - The House of Lords is currently debating an extreme amendment to the Governments Crime and Policing Bill, which would allow women to self-induce their own abortions for any reason, and at any time up until birth. The last chance to remove the amendment will be at the Report stage, expected to be on the 11<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> March. To use the SPUC’S online tool to write to members of the House of Lords go to <https://spuc.org.uk/campaign/abortion-decriminalisation/>

**DEANERY STATION MASS** – Our parish will be holding the Deanery Station Mass, to be celebrated by Archbishop Mark on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm.

**CATHERINE SIMONS RIP**- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Catherine Simons, the mother of Fr. Richard Simons, former Parish Priest, who died recently in Cumbria.

**FAITH GROUP** - meeting again on Friday 20th March at 6pm.