Priory Church of Our Lady and St Michael, Abergavenny
Eglwys y Priordy Ein Harglwyddes a Mihangel Sant, y Fenni

Parish Priest: Father Matthew Carney OSB ☎ (01873) 851051 Mobile: 07402 979597
The Presbytery, 10 Pen Y Pound, ABERGAVENNY NP7 5UD
Email: fr.matthew@live.co.uk or matthew.carney@rcadc.org
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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 19th July 2026 – 16th Sunday of the Year.

Saturday 18th July – Sunday 26th July 2026.
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 most days on
www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch

Saturday, 18th July – Memorial of the BVM.
9.30am Rosary.
10.00am Mass in OLSM Church - Maureen Ockenden.
10.45am Confessions, exposition & Benediction.
5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – For a successful operation.

Sunday 19th July, 16th Sunday of the Year.
***8.00am Mass in OLSM Church** - Sick of the Parish.
***10.00am Mass in OLSM Church** – For a successful operation.
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
***6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church** – Gilbert Rice RIP.

Monday 20th July –.
10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Anne Widdercomb RIP.
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

Tuesday,21st July –
10.00am Mass in OLSM Church –.
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
6.00pm Evangelisation Group. (5.30pm Exposition in Church.)

Wednesday 22nd July - St. Mary Magdalen.
10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church – Pat Harris RIP.
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
5.30pm Bible Group.

Thursday 23rd July – St. Brigid of Sweden..
12.00Noon Mass in OLSM Church -
1.00pm Lunch Club. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.

Friday, 24th July –
10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Chris & Angela Jones, William Jonathion RIP.
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
6.00pm Faith Group.

Saturday, 25th July – St. James, Apostle.
9.30am Rosary.
10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Joseph Walmsley RIP.
10.45am Confessions, exposition & Benediction.
5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church –.

Sunday 26th July, 17th Sunday of the Year.
***8.00am Mass in OLSM Church** - Sick of the Parish.
***10.00am Mass in OLSM Church** – Chris Williams
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
***6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church** – Pacini & Berzolla Families, Gilbert Rice RIP.

Mass Reflection:

God is always teaching His people, as we hear in today's First Reading. And what does He want us to know? That He has care for all of us; that though He is a God of justice, even those who defy and disbelieve Him may hope for His mercy if they turn to Him in repentance. This divine teaching continues in the three parables that Jesus tells in the Gospel today. Each describes the emergence of the kingdom of God from the seeds sown by His works and preaching. The kingdom's growth is hidden like the working of yeast in bread; it's improbable, unexpected, as in the way the tall mustard tree grows from the smallest of seeds. Again, this week's readings sound a note of questioning: Why does God permit the evil to grow alongside the good? Why does He permit some to reject the Word of His kingdom? Because, as we sing in today's Psalm, God is slow to anger and abounding in kindness. He is just, Jesus assures us—evildoers and those who cause others to sin will be thrown into the fiery furnace at the end of the age. But by His patience God is teaching us that above all He desires repentance and the gathering of all nations to worship Him and to glorify His name. Even though we don't know how to pray as we ought, the Spirit will intercede for us, Paul promises in today's Epistle. But first, we must turn and call upon Him. We must commit ourselves to letting the good seed of His Word bear fruit in our lives. So, we should not be deceived or lose heart when we see weeds among the wheat—truth and holiness mixed with error, injustice, and sin. For now, He makes His sun rise on the good and the bad (see Matthew 5:45). But the harvest draws near. Let's work so that we might be numbered among the righteous children—who will shine like the sun in the kingdom of the Father.

Collection totals for Sunday 12th July

1st Collection	£122.79
Gift Aid	£249.00
Sea Sunday – Stella Maris.	£445.70
Automated credits (May 2026)	£4385.33
Contactless Card Reader	£170.00

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.

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

CALVARY RESTORATION –. The works to restore the Calvary have now been commissioned and should begin in the first week of August. Cost £30k.

BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting Wednesday 22nd July 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 – Meets next on Sunday 20th September at 11.45am in the centre. Minutes of the March meeting available on the parish website and on the notice board at the back of Church.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, meets next on Monday 24th August 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.*

SPUC SPONSORED WALK – If you offered Sponsorship for the SPUC South Wales sponsored walk, members of our Life grouo will be outside mass this weekend to collect the amounts.

***From Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)* Article 18 Petition Appeal**

People around the world continue to suffer simply because of the faith they hold dear — facing discrimination, violence, imprisonment and even death. Their freedom to believe, worship and live out their faith is a basic human right, yet for millions it remains out of reach — and they need us to be their voice. That's why Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched its first-ever global religious freedom petition, calling on national governments and the United Nations to take urgent action to protect this fundamental right. At the heart of this campaign is Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees freedom of thought, conscience and religion — including the right to change one's belief and to practise it openly or privately. By signing, you are standing in solidarity with those who cannot speak freely for themselves and helping to send a powerful message that religious freedom must be protected everywhere, for everyone.

Go to the parish facebook page for the link to the petition.

SEA SUNDAY – STELLA MARIS. Thankyou for your genoristy to the collection for Stella Maris last Sunday, $440 was given.

HAPPY HOLIDAY – To all the staff, students and their families of our parish schools, as they begin their summer holiday this week.

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/

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

Retreats and Events at Belmont Abbey - The retreats and events calendar can be found at www.belmontabbey.org.uk/event-listings

EVANGELISATION GROUP – Meets next This Tuesday 21st July at 6pm.

BELMONT ABBEY OBLATES – open to RC, men and women who would like to associate themselves with the monastic community, following the Rule of St. Benedict in their own lives. Meetings 2nd Sunday of the month at 11.15am. Oblate Master-Fr. Jonathon-Jonathon@belmontabbey.org.uk

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.
visit: https://www.svp.org.uk contact: presidentg050512@svp.org.uk,

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWSLETTER – The latest edition of the Archdiocese newsletter is available on the parish website and hard copies at back of Church.

Help Support the Suffering Church – Become a Parish Appealer. Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is seeking passionate individuals to help raise awareness and support for persecuted Christians worldwide. As a Parish Appealer, you'll speak in parishes, share powerful stories, and inspire prayer and action.
Flexible roles (volunteer or part-time, with training provided) are available across several dioceses.
☞ Find out more or apply: acnuk.org/jobs
☞ Contact: alomadorozario@acnuk.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH: Sophie Mulcahy, Rose Arkle, Keith Taylor, June Power, Yvonne Nuttall, 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, Jeremy Proctor, John and Michael Hargaden, Chris Shaw, David Johnstone, Maria Tedescho, Chris O'Connell, Winnie and Stan Herbert. **Please also pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently – Gilbert Rice, Jean O'Sullivan, Vincent McCarthy, Joseph Walmsley, Pat Harris, Fr. Jason Jones, Tracy Shaw, Anne Greene, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.**

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA
On the weekend of 5th/6th September the World Apostolate of Fatima (England and Wales) is bringing to our parish the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue . All are invited to come and see this beautiful National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, with the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco. See www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE TO THE GRAVE OF JOHN KEMBLE – Sunday 23rd August, 3pm Welsh Newton Churchyard. Poster at back of f Church.

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FR. MATTHEW AWAY AGAIN!! On his annual leave, from Monday 3rd August, till Thursday 21st August-on yet another Carribean Cruise!!
Fr. Aji Antony OSB, a Keralese Benedictine monk from India will be supplying for Fr. Matthew from 6th – 11th August and then Fr. Jonathon as usual. Fr. Aji is spending some time at Belmont Abbey this summer, before returning to his studies in Rome. He is a member of the Sylvestro Benedictine Congregation.

We Believe: Festival of Catholic Life, 24 - 27 July 2026 - Join thousands of Catholics from around the UK for the annual We Believe festival. Discover the traditions, charisms, ministries and movements of the Catholic Church in the UK in the beautiful and historic setting of St Mary's College,
Oscott. https://www.webelievefestival.com

DIOCESAN SEMINARIAN – The parish will be welcoming one of the Diocesan Seminarians-Ashely McNally, for a parish placement. Ashley is studying in Rome, and has just completed his first year there. He will be with us from Monday 24th August for about 4 weeks.