



**Priory Church of Our Lady and St Michael, Abergavenny**  
**Eglwys y Priordy Ein Harglwyddes a Mihangel Sant, y Fenni**  
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 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch](https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch)  
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 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 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent.**



<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Sunday 1<sup>st</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="https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch">www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch</a> </p>
<p> <b>Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> February – St. Peter Damian.</b>            9.30am Rosary for Life.  <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Hodges Family.</b>            (No confessions or exposition today.)  <b>5.30pm Mass in Llanarth Church—Peter Cunningham Davies RIP</b>            (Please note later mass time today.)         </p>
<p> <b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent.</b>  <b>*8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Hodges Family</b>  <b>*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Simon Hunt RIP &amp; Eileen Nuttall RIP.</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.  <b>*6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Giovanna Cavalli, Luica Basini Gazzi &amp; Maria Pia Ghisi.</b> </p>
<p> <b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – St. Polycarp.</b>  <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Robert Duggan RIP.</b>            5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.         </p>
<p> <b>Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February – .</b>  <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Senedd Vote.</b>  <b>5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church.</b> </p>
<p> <b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February –</b>            No mass today. 5.00pm Evening Prayer. 5.30pm Bible Group.         </p>
<p> <b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February –.</b>  <b>12.00noon Mass in OLSM Church – Hans Hochenrider – Sick.</b>            1.00pm Lunch Club.  <b>2.00pm and 7.00pm Lent Group in Presbytery.</b>            5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.         </p>
<p> <b>Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February – CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY.</b>  <b>*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church –</b>            4.45pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.  <b>5.15pm – Stations of the Cross in OLSM Church.</b>            6.00pm Faith Group. 7.00pm Confirmation Course meeting.         </p>
<p> <b>Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February –.</b>            9.30am Rosary for Life.  <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Hodges Family.</b>            10.45am Confessions &amp; Exposition.  <b>5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church—Margaret Hargaden, Noel 7 Celia Ward.</b> </p>
<p> <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March –2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent.</b>  <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for CAFOD.)</b>  <b>*8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Alan &amp; Roy Ockenden.</b>  <b>*10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Rowland Iestyn Daniel RIP.</b>            5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.  <b>*6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Reg &amp; Eileen Jones, Eileen &amp; Vincent Greene – anniv.</b> </p>

**Mass Reflection:**

In today's Liturgy, the destiny of the human race is told as the tale of two "types" of men—the first man, Adam, and the new Adam, Jesus. Paul's argument in the Epistle is built on a series of contrasts between "one" or "one person" and "the many" or "all." By one person's disobedience, sin and condemnation entered the world, and death came to reign over all. By the obedience of another one, grace abounded, all were justified, and life came to reign for all. This is the drama that unfolds in today's First Reading and Gospel. Formed from the clay of the ground and filled with the breath of God's own Spirit, Adam was a son of God, created in His image. Crowned with glory, he was given dominion over the world and the protection of His angels. He was made to worship God—to live not by bread alone but in obedience to every word that comes from the mouth of the Father. Adam, however, put the Lord his God to the test. He gave in to the serpent's temptation, trying to seize for himself all that God had already promised him. But in His hour of temptation, Jesus prevailed where Adam failed—and drove the devil away. Still, we sin after the pattern of Adam's transgression. Like Adam, we let sin in the door when we entertain doubts about God's promises, when we forget to call on Him in our hours of temptation. But the grace won for us by Christ's obedience means that sin is no longer our master. As we begin this season of repentance, we can be confident in His compassion, that He will create in us a new heart. As we do in today's Psalm, we can sing joyfully of our salvation, renewed in His presence.

<b>Collection totals for Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February.</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	£138.36
Gift Aid	£171.00
Automated credits (December 2025)	£3643.83
Contactless Card Reader	£123.00
<b>OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – If you would like to a set of Offertory Envelopes, let Fr. Matthew or Colin Prosser know.</b> <b>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 &amp; St. Michael's No. 1 Account no. 60708778 Bank Sort Code: 53-50-41.</b>	
<b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</b>	
<b>Christian Meditation Group – The meditation group continues to meet, info from Deirdre on 07789 404041.</b>	
<b>BELMONT ABBEY - All services livestreamed from Belmont Abbey <a href="http://belmontabbey.org.uk/online-streaming">belmontabbey.org.uk/online-streaming</a></b>	
<b>ARTS &amp; 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.</b>	
<b>CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY – This Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, then collection for CAFOD next Sunday, envelope attached to this newsletter.</b>	
<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Fridays of Lent, 5.15pm.</b> <b>EILEEN NUTTALL RIP – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Nuttall, who died recently. May she rest in peace.</b>	

**BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting this Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 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 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. President Monica Chidgey is walking 100km of the Camino in April to raise funds for the Society 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 this Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 6.00pm, 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.

**ELIZABETH COOPEY RIP**, Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Coopey who died in hospital last Thursday. Requiem Mass on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 1pm.

**RITE OF ELECTION** – This Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, during the 10am mass we will be presenting to the parish those preparing to be received into the Church and baptised at Easter. Ffion Lowri Ewers preparing for Baptism and Sophie Mulcahy preparing for reception into the Church. Then in the afternoon they will be attending the Archdiocesan Rite of Election in Cardiff

**LENT GROUPS** – Will be meeting this year on the Thursdays of Lent at 2pm in the presbytery meeting room and also at 7pm the same day. We will be using the material supplied by the Archbishop in his recent pastoral letter, which had the theme “Heart to Heart.” Beginning Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**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 27<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm.

**SYRO – MALIBAR RITE MASS** – To be celebrated monthly in our parish. Next mass Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 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** - Timetable have been sent to all those registered on the course, first formal session on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March, following the 10am mass. **Introductory meeting for candidates and parents this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in the centre.**

**ARCHDIOCESAN TEENAGERS DAY RETREAT** - ages 13-18. Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March @ Belmont Abbey. Info at back of Church. Confirmation candidates are encouraged to attend this day.

**Legislative Consent Motion on Assisted Suicide Bill.** Archbishop Mark and Bishop Peter Bignall have recently issued a letter to express their deep concern about legalising assisted suicide in Wales.. They urge Members of the Senedd to withhold consent and focus on strengthening palliative care. **The Senedd will be vetoing on this issue on the 24<sup>th</sup> February. Please continue to pray for the rejection of this motion and if able, to 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.**

**PARISH/SCHOOL MASS** – The 10am Mass next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, will be a joint parish-school mass, with school children taking on many of the roles in Church-reading especially. (St. David's Day will be celebrated on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March in Church.)

**ROBERT CHARLES DUGGAN RIP** – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Robert Charles Duggan, who died recently, his Funeral Service Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 12.30pm.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH:** 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 – Robert Charles Duggan, Eileen Nuttall, Gaynor Fitzpatrick, Michael Hargreaves, Elizabeth Coopey, Peter Cunningham Davies, Fr. John Phillips and all those whose anniversaries occur at this**

**RISE THEATRE – PASSION PLAY** – Rise Theatre will be performing a passion play in Church on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. For ages 11+ Tickets £5 for adults, youth free. 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, Cana, the calling of Peter, the passion, set to a contemporary soundtrack. Poster at back of Church and info on the parish facebook page. Tickets available from Fr. Matthew, in person or be e-mail. Online booking system at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatreonline](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatreonline)

**1<sup>st</sup> HOLY COMMUNION COURSE** – 7 Children have been enrolled on the course, next session this Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 9am in the centre.

**ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF MENEVIA. Safeguarding Cafe** - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 11am till 1pm, Our Lady of the Angels, Oak Street, Cwmbran, NP44 3LT –

**HARVINGTON HALL TRIP – SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY**, Adults £10, 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. Please act now to stop this barbaric proposal. To find out more and to use the SPUC'S online tool to write to members of the Hosue of Lords go to <https://spuc.org.uk/campaign/abortion-decriminalisation/>

**NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY THIS WEEK-** Fr. Matthew at Belmont Abbey for a meeting.