



**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](mailto:fr.matthew@live.co.uk) or [matthew.carney@rcadc.org](mailto:matthew.carney@rcadc.org)  
 Website: [www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk](http://www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch](https://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 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.**



<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Sunday 29<sup>th</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>
<b>Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March – Passing of St. Benedict.</b> 9.30am Rosary for Life. <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Belmont Community.</b> 10.45am Confessions & Exposition. <b>5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Eileen Nuttall RIP.</b>
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent -</b> * <b>8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish.</b> * <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Carmelina Lenza RIP.</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer. 11.45am Parish Council Meeting. * <b>6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Giovanna Cavalli, Maria Cavalli, Carolina Fulgoni.</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March –</b> NO MASS TODAY – SORRY. 5.00pm Evening Prayer <b>7.00pm Lent Penitential Service.</b>
<b>Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March –</b> <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Bernard Hayward RIP.</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 6.00pm Evangelisation Group.
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Solemnity of the Annunciation.</b> <b>10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church – Margaret Herbert RIP.</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer. <b>6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Catenian Circle.</b>
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March –</b> <b>12.00noon Mass in OLSM Church – Eileen Nuttall RIP</b> 1.00pm Lunch Club. 2.00pm Lent Group. 5.00pm Evening Prayer
<b>Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March</b> * <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – William Jonathon &amp; Angela Jones RIP.</b> 4.45pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. <b>5.15pm – Stations of the Cross in OLSM Church.</b> 6.00pm Faith Group.
<b>Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March –</b> 9.30am Rosary for Life. <b>(No confessions or Exposition today.)</b> <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church –</b> <b>5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Margaret Hargaden, Celia &amp; Noel Ward RIP.</b>
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday.</b> * <b>8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish.</b> * <b>10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Carmelina Lenza RIP.</b> 5.00pm Evening Prayer * <b>6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Giovanna Cavalli, Maria Cavalli, Carolina Fulgoni.</b>

**Mass Reflection:**

As we draw near to the end of Lent, today's Gospel clearly has Jesus' passion and death in view. That's why John gives us the detail about Lazarus' sister, Mary—that she is the one who anointed the Lord for burial (see John 12:3, 7). His disciples warn against returning to Judea; Thomas even predicts they will "die with Him" if they go back. When Lazarus is raised, John notices the tombstone being taken away, as well as Lazarus' burial cloths and head covering—all details he later notices with Jesus' empty tomb (see John 20:1, 6, 7). Like the blind man in last week's readings, Lazarus represents all humanity. He stands for "dead men"—for all those Jesus loves and wants to liberate from the bands of sin and death. John even recalls the blind man in his account today (see John 11:37). Like the man's birth in blindness, Lazarus' death is used by Jesus to reveal "the glory of God" (see John 9:3). And again like last week, Jesus' words and deeds give sight to those who believe (see John 11:40). If we believe, we will see—that Jesus loves each of us as He loved Lazarus, that He calls us out of death and into new life. By His Resurrection Jesus has fulfilled Ezekiel's promise in today's First Reading. He has opened the graves that we may rise, put His Spirit in us that we may live. This is the Spirit that Paul writes of in today's Epistle. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will give life to we who were once dead in sin. Faith is the key. If we believe as Martha does in today's Gospel—that Jesus is the resurrection and the life—even if we die, we will live. "I have promised and I will do it," the Father assures us in the First Reading. We must trust in His word, as we sing in today's Psalm—that with Him is forgiveness and salvation.

<b>Collection totals for Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	£143.50
Gift Aid	£125.45
Automated credits (January 2025)	£3463.33
Contactless Card Reader	£120.00
<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>LENT GROUP – 2pm This Thursday in the Presbytery, no evening meeting this week.</b>	
<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Fridays of Lent, 5.15pm.</b> <b>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.</b>	

**BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting this Wednesday 25<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.

**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** – This 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.

**FAITH GROUP** - meeting again on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm.

**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, 11 Young people have been enrolled on the course. (11 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 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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:** 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 – Margaret Herbert, 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 this 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. 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/>

**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.

**MARGARET HERBERT RIP** – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Herbert of the Llanarth parish who died last Monday – Funeral Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 12noon, Llanarth Church. **TBC**

**NO MASS ON MONDAY** – This week, Fr. Matthew at St. Albans school all day, involved in interviews.

**FOOT WASHING** – Volunteers needed for foot washing on Holy Thursday-see Fr. Matthew.