



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 30th August 2026 – 22nd Sunday of the Year.



Saturday 29th August – Sunday 6th September 2026. All Church services live streamed at www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk <u>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.</u> Evening Prayer at 5pm most days on www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch
Saturday, 29th August – Beheading of John the Baptist. 9.30am Rosary. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Kath Pritchard RIP. 10.45am Confessions, exposition & benediction. .5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Michael Powell RIP.
Sunday 30th August – 22nd Sunday of the Year. *8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Maureen and Bill Phillips, John Ingles & John Lewis.. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish. 3.00pm David Lewis Pilgrimage – Usk. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. *6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Alessandro Malnati RIP & Ian Coyle RIP.
Monday 31st August – St. Aidan. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Keith Taylor. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
Tuesday, 1st September – Season of Creation begins. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Chris & Angela Jones, William Jonathon RIP. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
Wednesday 2nd September 10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church – Michael Powell. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook
Thursday 3rd September – St. Gregory the Great 12.00Noon Mass in OLSM Church – Kath Pritchard RIP. 1.00pm Lunch Club. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook.
Friday, 4th September - Dedication of Abbey Church. No morning mass today. 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 6.00pm 1st Friday-Prayers for Vocations. 7.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – For Vocations. Celebrant-Fr. Matthew Roche Saunders – Dioc Voc'S Director.
Saturday, 5th September – St. Teresa of Calcutta. VISION OF THE NATIONAL PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND THE RELICS OF ST'S JACINTA & FRANCISCO. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – See separate timetable for the days devotions. 6.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Michael Powell RIP. (Later Mass time today.)
Sunday 6th September – 23rd Sunday of the Year *8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Roy & Alan Ockenden RIP. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Glynn & Mary Owen 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. *6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Alessandro Malnati RIP.

Mass Reflection: 22nd Sunday. Today's First Reading catches the prophet Jeremiah in a moment of weakness. His intimate lamentation contains some of the strongest language of doubt found in the Bible. Following God's call, he feels abandoned. Preaching His Word has brought him only derision and reproach. But God does not deceive—and Jeremiah knows this. God tests the just and disciplines His children through their sufferings and trials. What Jeremiah learns is what Jesus states explicitly in today's Gospel. To follow Him is to take up a cross, to deny yourself—your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His Gospel. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we have to join ourselves to the Passion of Christ, to offer our bodies—our whole beings—as living sacrifices to God. By His Cross, Jesus has shown us what Israel's sacrifices of animals were meant to teach: we owe to God all that we have. God's kindness is a greater good than life itself, as we sing in today's Psalm. The only thanks we can offer is our spiritual worship, giving our lives to the service of His will. Peter doesn't yet get this in today's Gospel. As it was for Jeremiah, the cross is a stumbling block for Peter. This is our natural temptation, as well: to refuse to believe that our sufferings play a necessary part in God's plan. That's how people think, Jesus tells us today. But we are called to the renewal of our minds—to think as God thinks, to will what He wills. In the Mass, we once again offer ourselves as perfect and pleasing sacrifices of praise. We bless Him as we live, confident that we will find our lives in losing them, that with the riches our souls will be satisfied.	
Collection totals for Sunday 23rd August	
1 st Collection	£183.99
Gift Aid	£147.00
Automated credits (July 2026)	£3591.83
Contactless Card Reader	£135.00
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.	
Retreats and Events at Belmont Abbey -The retreats and events calendar can be found at www.belmontabbey.org.uk/event-listings	
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	
LLANOVER HOUSE GARDEN – Open Sunday 6 th September 11-4 pm. £8 Entrance.	

BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting Wednesday 2nd September at 5.30pm, e-mail Fr. Matthew for a zoom 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 – 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 9th November at 6pm 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.

WORLD YOUTH DAY – SUMMER 2027. for anyone interested between ages of 18 and 30, info from Fr. Matthew or see poster at back of Church or go to youth@cardiffmenevia.org

ASSISTED DIEING BILL -There will be a Second Reading and vote in the House of Commons for the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life Bill) on 11 September. As Catholics, we oppose this legislation in principle as it attacks the innate dignity of every person. It is also very poorly written and gives no safeguards to healthcare staff, nursing homes, or hospices all of whom will be pressured to implement the bill if the legislation is passed. I encourage all Catholics to write to their MP. The Bishops' Conference has produced has a scannable QR code, available on its website at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/>. On the page, there are various resources, copies of statements and guidance on writing to your MP, +Mark, Archbishop of Cardiff-Menevia.

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

Tintern Sung Vespers - An Ecumenical Service to mark the Feast of The Holy Cross. 3.00pm Sunday 13th September amongst the monastic ruins of this famous Cistercian monastery. Speaker FrBrendan Thomas OSB, Abbot of Belmont, singers The Monks of Belmont Abbey and Newport Cathedral Choir. Please bring a folding chair and umbrella. Entrance and parking.

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 Monday 7th September 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

EVANGELISATION GROUP – Meets next Tuesday 22nd September at 6.00pm. Exposition in Church from 6pm.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP) – We tackle poverty in all its forms by providing practical support and assistance to people in need. Thank you to everyone who has supported our recent campaigns and helped those in our local community. We are delighted to share that **Monica has raised a fantastic total of £4,132 for the SVP through her Camino pilgrimage.** We extend our sincere thanks everyone who sponsored and supported her efforts. There will be a **collection point in the church porch next weekend** for the return of **SVP National raffle tickets and money.** Thank you for your continued generosity and support. Visit: <https://www.svp.org.uk> Contact: presidentg050512@svp.org.uk

ST. ALBANS HIGH SCHOOL IN PONTYPOOL - is seeking individuals from our parish community who may feel called to serve as Foundation or Parent Governors. Foundation and Parent Governors play a vital role in supporting the Catholic ethos and vision of the school. They work with other governors and school leaders to help shape the strategic direction of the school, ensure high standards of education, and promote the spiritual development and wellbeing of all pupils. . No prior governance experience is necessary, as training and support are provided. Anyone wishing to be considered must be a practising Catholic and will need to be nominated by your Parish Priest. If you are interested in exploring this opportunity further, please speak to Fr. Matthew

KATH PRITCHARD RIP – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kath Pritchard who died last Tuesday. May she rest in peace. Requiem Mass Friday 11th September 12noon.

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 Tedesco, Chris O'Connell, Winnie and Stan Herbert. **Please also pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently – Kath Pritchard, Michael Powell RIP, Gilbert Rice, Jean O'Sullivan, Vincent McCarthy, Joseph Walmsley, Pat Harris, Fr. Jason Jones, Tracy Shaw, Anne Greene, and all those whose anniversaries**

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA
Next 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

DIOCESAN SEMINARIAN – We welcome Ashley McNally to the parish, seminarian of the Archdiocese for a parish placement. He will be with us for about 4 weeks.

1st FRIDAY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – This Friday 4th September from 6-7pm there will be prayers for Vocations, ending with mass at 7pm. Each 1st Friday such prayers are held in a church of the Archdiocese, it is our turn on 4th September, especially with the Diocesan Seminarian Ashly McNally being on placement here.

ST, DAVID LEWIS PILGRIMAGE - SUNDAY 30th AUGUST. The annual pilgrimage in honour of St David Lewis will take place this Sunday 30th August beginning with Evening Prayer and Benediction at St David Lewis Church, Usk at 3.00pm. This will be followed with a walking pilgrimage to the place of execution and then onto the grave of our local martyr.

GLOBAL PRAYER WEEK – ABERGAVERNNY BAPTIST CHURCH –Praying Night and Day from 6th-13th September. To get involved ring Ang on 07854 267323. Poster at back of Church.

MONASTIC EXPERIENCE WEEKEND - At Belmont Abbey, for those interested in the religious life, 18th- 20th September – contact Fr. Andrew on brandrew@belmontabbey.org.uk, also poster at back of Church.