



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
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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 8th March – 3rd Sunday of Lent.



<p>Saturday 7th March – Sunday 15th March 2025. 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</p>
<p>Saturday, 7th March – St's Perpetua & Felicity. 9.30am Rosary for Life. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Hodges Family & Dominic O'Boyle RIP. 10.45am Confessions & Exposition. 5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Eileen Nuttall RIP.</p>
<p>Sunday 8th March – 3rd Sunday of Lent. *8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Gaynor Fitzpatrick RIP, Rowland Iestyn Daniel RIP. 5.00pm Evening Prayer *6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Brigid Malnati & Family</p>
<p>Monday 9th March – St. Francis of Rome. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Kerry Thomas. 5.00pm Evening Prayer</p>
<p>Tuesday, 10th March 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Robert Duggan RIP. (Year 3 Class Mass.) 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 6.00pm Evangelisation Group.</p>
<p>Wednesday 11th March 10.30am Mass in Llanarth Church – Sick of the Parish. 5.00pm Evening Prayer. 5.30pm Bible Group.</p>
<p>Thursday 12th March 12.00noon Mass in OLSM Church – Elizabeth Coopey RIP. 1.00pm Lunch Club. 5.00pm Evening Prayer 2.00pm & 7.00pm Lent Group in Presbytery.</p>
<p>Friday, 13th March *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Eileen Nuttall RIP. 4.45pm Evening Prayer on Facebook. 5.15pm – Stations of the Cross in OLSM Church. 6.00pm Faith Group.</p>
<p>Saturday, 14th March. 9.30am Rosary for Life. 10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – People of the Parish. 10.45am Confessions & Exposition. 5.00pm Mass in Llanarth Church – Eileen Nuttall RIP.</p>
<p>Sunday 15th March – 4th Sunday of Lent - LAETARE SUNDAY. *8.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Sick of the Parish. *10.00am Mass in OLSM Church – Charles James – recovery. 5.00pm Evening Prayer *6.00pm Mass in OLSM Church – Giovanna Cavalli, Meri Ricci & Delfina Fulgoni.</p>

Mass Reflection:
 The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their hardships in the desert. Though they saw His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumbled and put God to the test in today's First Reading—a crisis point recalled also in today's Psalm. Jesus is thirsty, too, in today's Gospel. He thirsts for souls (see John 19:28). He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life. These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans. But Jesus was something greater than Jacob (see Luke 11:31–32). The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ (see 2 Kings 17:6, 24–41). They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerizim, not Jerusalem. But Jesus tells the woman that the "hour" of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth. Jesus' "hour" is the "appointed time" that Paul speaks of in today's Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock (see John 19:34–37). These waters are the Holy Spirit (see John 7:38–39), the gift of God (see Hebrews 6:4). By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, and the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down (see Ephesians 2:12–14, 18). Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism (see 1 Corinthians 12:13). In the Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst—as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob. In the "today" of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: "I am He," come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened?

Collection totals for Sunday, 1 st March	
1 st Collection	£164.55
Gift Aid	£496.00
Automated credits (January 2025)	£3463.33
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.	
CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY – Thankyou for your generosity to the CAFOD collection last Sunday, £628 was given.	
STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Fridays of Lent, 5.15pm.	

BIBLE GROUP - Next meeting this Wednesday 11th 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 22nd 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 this Monday 18th 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 funds for the Society

visit 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

EVANGELISATION GROUP – Meets this Tuesday 10th March 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.](#)

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 during the 10am mass.

LENT GROUPS – meeting this Thursday, 12th March, in the presbytery meeting room at 2pm & 7pm. We will be using the material supplied by the Archbishop in his recent pastoral letter,"

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

FAITH GROUP - meeting again on Friday 13th March at 6pm.

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

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 6th 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, first formal session this Sunday 8th March, following the 10am mass. 10 Young people have been enrolled on the course.

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

HOLY WEEK SERVICE TIME LEAFELTS – 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 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.

CARDIFF CATHEDRAL – *On Thursday 5th March the skulls of the Cardiff Martyrs, St Philip Evans and St John Lloyd will be visiting the cathedral and present for prayer and veneration from 10:00am - 4:00pm. 10:00am – Relics arrive at the cathedral, 11:00am – Holy Mass, 1:30pm – Prayer service with members of the Senedd and the International Prayer Breakfast (all are welcome to join in prayer for politicians and leaders throughout the world)4:00pm – Relics depart.*

GOOD FRIDAY – WALK OF WITNESS, Good Friday 3rd April, 10am, outside Tesco.

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 – Robert Charles Duggan, Eileen Nuttall, Gaynor Fitzpatrick, Michael Hargreaves, Elizabeth Coopey, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.**

RISE THEATRE – PASSION PLAY – Rise Theatre will be performing a passion play in Church on Thursday 19th 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 by e-mail. Online booking system at www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatreonline

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

HARVINGTON HALL TRIP – SATURDAY 16th MAY, Adults £15, kids and young people free. Leave by coach 9am, returning for 5pm, Tours of Hall and Mass and free time. 1st 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 11th or 17th 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/>

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

DEANERY STATION MASS – Our parish will be holding the Deanery Station Mass on Thursday 16th April at 7pm.