

In place of your own parish news, this week this page is given to the following presentation about Sunday Mass times.

**Sunday Mass Times** In the Archbishop's letter of March 4<sup>th</sup> to announce that Fr Keith Evans was leaving Lampeter and not being replaced with a resident priest, he said there would be need for discernment around the Sunday Mass times in this new make-up of parishes due to overlapping Mass times. At the current moment in our family of parishes, when one priest is sick or takes annual leave, we need to book and pay for a supply priest. As well as being an expense to the parish, it also means that a parish with two priests (which is unusual in this diocese) is booking up supply that a parish with only one priest therefore cannot access. It also means that we are unable to offer our services to the diocese to add to the supply bank, since both of us are celebrating Sunday Masses at the same time. For these reasons, I believe it's important to change the Sunday Mass times. Many thanks to those who have been praying for this intention, and to those who have suggested their own ideas. The following is the timetable I think is the most sustainable for the foreseeable future. I would intend that we consider these changes for the next three Sundays (Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>, next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>); following that period, a final decision would be made and published on May 26<sup>th</sup>; and then the new Mass times would take effect a month later on the weekend of Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup>. **I therefore invite your comments** any time until Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> on the following new times:

- Saturday 4pm: Holy Cross, Aberaeron
- Saturday 6pm: Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lampeter
- Sunday 9am: Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth
- Sunday 11am: Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth (with a minibus)
- Sunday 6pm: Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth

#### Aberystwyth

The current 8.30am Mass has about 30 people attending, and the 10am Mass has about 160 people attending. The squeeze on the car park between these two Masses is significant, and potentially dangerous. In pushing the 8.30am Mass to 9am, and the 10am to 11am, my hope is that the morning attendance of nearly 200 people would become more naturally spread across the two Masses. Because of this new arrangement, the two morning times mean that one priest couldn't physically get to Aberaeron or Lampeter for an additional Sunday morning Mass.

Another 70 people tend to come to the 6pm Vigil Mass. In moving this Mass to Sunday evening instead, it means there is an opportunity for those who are away or otherwise unavailable in the morning, to fulfil their Sunday obligation. I would also suggest that the monthly Welsh Mass (currently 8.30am on the first Sunday), moves instead to the Sunday 6pm slot – this would enable people to travel from further afield, and the possibility for some social time afterwards.

#### Aberaeron

I have suggested that the 12.30pm Sunday Mass moves to 4pm on a Saturday. Since there is no slot on a Sunday morning for one priest to get to Aberaeron, this Mass needs either to be in an evening or an afternoon. Some parishioners attending Aberaeron do not like travelling in the dark; furthermore an afternoon slot may work better for tourists and for those needing to access public transport for Mass.

#### Lampeter

Since there is no other slot for a morning Mass with the tightness of the Aberystwyth setup, the options are either Saturday evening or Sunday evening. Since a priest would already be going south to Aberaeron on a Saturday, it makes sense for him to go across to Lampeter for a second Vigil Mass. Also, the arrangement with the Polish Mission is already well-established for the Polish Mass to take place on Sunday at 6pm – so a Vigil Mass avoids a clash with that.

## Catholic Parishes of Aberystwyth and Lampeter Plwyfi Catholig Aberystwyth a Llanbedr Pont Steffan

**Welsh Martyrs Church**      **Holy Cross Church**      **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
Piercefield Lane, Aberystwyth, SY23 1RX    Victoria Street, Aberaeron, SA46 0DA    Pontfaen Road, Lampeter, SA48 7BS

**Parish Priest | Offeiriad Plwyf** Fr Matthew Roche-Saunders | [matthew.roche-saunders@menevia.org](mailto:matthew.roche-saunders@menevia.org)

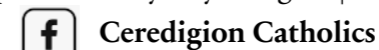
**Assistant Priest | Offeiriad Cynorthwyol** Fr Gregory Beckett | [greg.beckett@menevia.org](mailto:greg.beckett@menevia.org)

**Parish Office | Swyddfa Plwyf** 01970 617159 | 07481 250934 | [aberystwyth@menevia.org](mailto:aberystwyth@menevia.org) | [lampeter@menevia.org](mailto:lampeter@menevia.org)

**Safeguarding Representative | Cynrychiolydd Diogelu (Aberystwyth)**

Tess Truss | [tesstruss@gmail.com](mailto:tesstruss@gmail.com) | 07792 001608

**Online | Ar-lein** [www.parishofaberystwyth.org.uk](http://www.parishofaberystwyth.org.uk) | [www.catholicchurchlampeter.org](http://www.catholicchurchlampeter.org)



5<sup>th</sup> May 2024 | Sixth Week of Easter | Year B | Weekday Year II

Times of Holy Mass and other events   Amserau'r Offeren a ddigwyddiadau eraill		Mass Intention   Bwriad
	WM Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth   HC Holy Cross, Aberaeron L Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lampeter   UC Aberystwyth University Faith Space	
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup> May</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter Chweched Sul y Pasg  <i>Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians</i>	Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass (WM) ( <i>Confessions 5.15pm</i> ) 8.30am Holy Mass (WM) 10am Holy Mass (WM) 10am Holy Mass (L) 12.30pm Holy Mass (HC) <b>4.30pm Msza Świąta po polsku   Mass in Polish (WM)</b>	<i>November Lists</i> <i>Priest's intention</i> <i>Deceased of the Gorman family</i> <i>People of the Parish</i> <i>Private intention (SR)</i> <i>Priest's intention</i>
<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	6pm Holy Mass (WM)	<i>November Lists</i>
<b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	6pm Confession   6.30pm Holy Mass (UC)	<i>Sheila Gardener RIP</i>
<b>Wed 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	9am Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions 10am Holy Mass (WM) <b>6pm Vigil Mass of the Ascension (L)</b>	<i>Samantha Sayers &amp; Paul Woodfield RIP</i> <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May</b> Ascension of the Lord Difiau Dyrchafael	<b>7.30am Holy Mass of the Ascension (WM)</b> 9.30am Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions <b>10.30am Holy Mass of the Ascension (HC)</b> <b>7pm Holy Mass of the Ascension (WM)</b>	<i>Clare Hughes RIP</i> <i>November Lists</i> <i>Holy Father's intentions</i>
<b>Fri 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	5pm Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions 6pm Holy Mass (WM)	<i>November Lists</i>
<b>Sat 11<sup>th</sup> May</b> St Beuno	9.30am Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions 10.30am Holy Mass (WM)	<i>November Lists</i>
<b>Sun 12<sup>th</sup> May</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter Seithfed Sul y Pasg  <i>World Communications Day</i>	Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass (WM) ( <i>Confessions 5.15pm</i> ) <b>8.30am Offeren yn Gymraeg   Holy Mass in Welsh (WM)</b> 10am Holy Mass (WM) 10am Holy Mass (L) 12.30pm Holy Mass (HC) <b>4.30pm Msza Świąta po polsku   Mass in Polish (L)</b>	<i>Thanksgiving (Gillian Bunn)</i> <i>Dewi Gwynne RIP</i> <i>People of the Parish</i> <i>November Lists</i> <i>Vocations to the Priesthood</i> <i>Priest's intention</i>
Sunday Plate Collection   Casgliad y Sul: 14.4.2024 £437.40 (A) 21.4.2024 £550.25 (A) £95.90 (L) 28.4.2024 TBC (A) £90.90 (L) <i>Many thanks for your generosity, diolch yn fawr am eich haelioni!</i>		

**Solemnity of the Ascension** This Thursday we celebrate the fortieth day of Easter – the day on which Jesus ascends to be with his Father in heaven. The psalmist proclaims, *‘The Lord goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast!’* A day of great joy for us, which begins the Pentecost novena. The feast of the Ascension is a **holy day of obligation**, which means getting to Mass at one of the four opportunities unless that’s impossible. Please see the timetable for the times (noting that the Vigil Mass is in Lampeter at 6pm on Wednesday).

**Pentecost Novena** The word ‘novena’ meaning nine days of prayer, originally came from the experience of Our Lady and the apostles locked in the upper room between the Lord’s Ascension and the day of Pentecost – their nine days of prayer have been taken as a model of prayer for disciples when praying about a particular intention. It’s a really good thing to make something of this novena. Maybe you could consider each day one of the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control**. Come Holy Spirit, come!

**Children’s Liturgy** There will be no Children’s Liturgy during 10am Mass on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May or Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Children’s Liturgy will be replaced by a Family Mass at 10am on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, and then again on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**Pilgrimage to Cardigan** The annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of the Taper takes place next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May, led by Bishop Peter Brignall of Wrexham. We’ll take the minibus from Aberystwyth after 10am Mass (time of departure TBC) – please contact Madeleine (07866 626519) if you’d like a seat (£10 each). We’ll happily stop at the bus stop in Aberaeron.

**Priest Training Fund** Many thanks for your generous donations to this fund, which raised **£467.36** in the parish of Aberystwyth. The collection for the Fund will be taken this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May in Lampeter.

**Sick visits** Are you aware of someone in the parish of Aberystwyth or Lampeter who is not receiving pastoral visits at home, who would like to? Feel free to email your parish email address to request such a visit.

**Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians** This take place this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May. In western Europe most Catholics are part of the ‘Latin Church’ – but there are 23 other rites in the global Catholic Church, such as Syro-Malabar, which many of our parishioners from southern India are part of. These 24 Churches all look to the Pope as their point of unity, although their liturgical worship often looks very different. Many of these Churches within the Catholic Church are heavily persecuted for their faith, even today. Today is a good opportunity to pray for peace and for freedom of religion, and to pray for those who persecute us. We also think of our brothers and sisters in the Orthodox Churches – we pray we may be one with them again very soon. Many Orthodox Christians will be celebrating Easter this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, and so we think especially for our Ukrainian friends who worship in our own parish – щасливого Великодня!

**World Communications Day** We mark this day next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May, on the theme ‘Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication’. The Holy Father has announced recently he’ll be travelling to the G7 Summit in southern Italy in June, offering an intervention in the session devoted to artificial intelligence. This is an area to be aware of, as computers become more intelligent and become entrusted with more and more human tasks. The Holy Father said in his message for next Sunday, ‘this time in history... risks becoming rich in technology and poor in humanity’. Let’s keep this intention in our prayers. **There will be a second collection** next weekend for the work of communications in the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. The lead for communications at the Bishops’ Conference is Bishop John Arnold of Salford – you can read his message on the notice board at the back of church.

**Pentecost** In two weeks’ time we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Many people refer to this as the ‘birthday of the Church’, since without the power of the Holy Spirit we remain dormant and tempted to look inwards. To recall how the apostles spoke in many different languages on that first Pentecost, we’ll celebrate the different languages in our parish during the bidding prayers – do you speak another language? Would you be happy to read a bidding prayer that day? This will only work if you put yourself forward! Please get in touch with Fr Matt if so. With great joy we also look forward to the baptism of Adam Hughes during the 10am Mass in Aberystwyth that day.

**Our Father Talk Series** Our thanks to Dr Caroline Maybury for a beautiful exploration of how the art of iconography can teach us about the Kingdom of God. Neuadd Goffa became unavailable due to polling the following day, so many thanks to Enid for enabling an eleventh-hour switch to Ysgol Padarn Sant! Please put **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May** in your diaries for our next talk, on the line ‘Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.’ This will be 6.30-8.30pm at Neuadd Goffa.

**Aberystwyth Parish Website** The contract for our current website expires soon, and so we’re in the process of making a new website which will be ready to go live in the next few weeks. While we wait for that, the current URL will take you to a temporary site, which will have the main information from the current page. You can continue to use the same URL as advertised above ([www.pariahofaberystwyth.org.uk](http://www.pariahofaberystwyth.org.uk)).

**Welsh Martyrs Sacristy** Just a reminder that ten minutes before each Sunday Mass (from 5.50pm on Saturday, and from 8.20am and 9.50am), the only people in Welsh Martyrs sacristy are the priest, the altar servers, the adult supervisor, and the Children’s Liturgy leaders preparing their materials. This ensures a sacred space for the preparation of the Mass. It is also part of our safeguarding protocols to allow the children to change in privacy. Parents, please ensure that your children arrive ten minutes before Mass if they’re serving at the altar, so that jobs can be given out. If you need something in those final ten minutes, please speak to the Welcome Team at the door.

**Job Advert** Catholic education in Pembrokeshire has changed recently. The four primary schools have been organised into two Federations of Catholic Schools, each to be looked after by one Executive Head and Governing Body. The federations are now Milford Haven-Fishguard; and Haverfordwest-Tenby. This latter one, the Mary Immaculate and St Teilo’s Catholic Primary Schools Federation, is recruiting to appoint a permanent Catholic Executive Headteacher for September 2024. Closing date for applications is 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Contact Paul White at [education@menevia.org.uk](mailto:education@menevia.org.uk).

**Online Listening Session** As the period of listening draws to a close on the question of unifying the two dioceses of Cardiff and Menevia, there is a final opportunity open to all to attend an online session from your own home, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May from 10am-12noon. It will be identical to the in-person events – but it’s a chance for those to attend who couldn’t make it in person. To register for this event, please scan the QR code next to this message, or go to [rcadc.org/register-for-our-online-listening-sessions](http://rcadc.org/register-for-our-online-listening-sessions).



**Youth Residential** organised by the Youth Council of Menevia and Cardiff: July 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> in St Davids, Pembrokeshire, for £250 to cover everything – we’ll spend some days away walking, praying, eating and having fun. This event is for teenagers aged 14-18 from across our dioceses. If you’d like to go but don’t have the funds, please get in touch.

**Donations** If you’d like to donate to the mission of Aberystwyth parish, you can do so via the parish website or using this QR code. Many thanks for your generosity.



**Food Bank Donations** Collection points are in each church porch. Recent needs include:

**Aberystwyth:** tinned baked beans and sausages, tinned meatballs, tinned ravioli, tinned curry, jam.  
**Aberaeron:** grateful for whatever you can give.

*Diolch yn fawr! Many thanks!*