

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOSEPH'S, PORT TALBOT & ST PHILIP EVANS, CWMAVON**

A PARISH OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CARDIFF-MENEVIA - CHARITY NUMBER 1177272



Parish Priest: Very Rev. Canon Barry English

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**1ST MARCH - 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**THE WORD THIS WEEK:**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. PSALM 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 12:1-4A

The call of Abram, the father of the People of God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 33 (32)

RESPONSE: May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

SECOND READING

2 TIMOTHY 1:8B-10

God calls and enlightens us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.  
From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: "This is my beloved Son, listen to him".  
Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

MATTHEW 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

"The Transfiguration was the manifestation of His glory, and the light shone upon the disciples as a prelude of the divine radiance which would be revealed to them at the end of time."

- St. Gregory Nazianzus, Oration 42: On the Transfiguration of Christ

## PARISH NOTICES

### LENT AT ST JOSEPH'S

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Here's what's on offer at St Joseph's this Lent.

**Walk With Me Booklets** – These booklets contain the readings and reflections for the season of Lent. They are a wonderful help for us to reflect on the Word of God during this time. They are available from the back of Church at the cost of £1.

**Thursday morning Masses:** Following the success of the early Masses during Advent, Mass will be celebrated at 8am every Thursday morning during Lent in addition to the 10am Mass. This Mass will be followed by a simple breakfast in St Joseph's Hall.

**Confessions:** In addition to our usual confession times – 11-12 at St Joseph's and 4:45-5pm at St Philip Evans, the sacrament will also be celebrated from 5pm-6pm before the Saturday evening Mass at St Joseph's. If you would like to go to confession outside of these times, speak to a priest and they will be happy to oblige.

**Stations of the Cross:** The Stations of the Cross originate in Jerusalem, where pilgrims would walk the path that Jesus would have taken to Calvary and paused at various moments to meditate on what had happened. The devotion was brought to Europe in an adapted form and it was St Francis of Assisi who popularised the Stations of the Cross that we know today. The Stations will be prayed each Friday at St Joseph's at 7pm.

**Lenten Alms:** Almsgiving is one of the great pillars of our Lenten devotion. If you would like to give alms, there is a green box by the cross at St Joseph's and a basket at St Philip Evans.

**Lenten Station Mass:** There is an ancient tradition of the Church where the Pope would celebrate Mass at different Churches (stations) during the season of Lent. In this Archdiocese, the Archbishop does the same. We are invited to join him at our Deanery Station Mass which will be held at Holy Cross, Gendros, Swansea on Thursday 5th March at 7pm.

**The Clydach Passion Play: The Road to Calvary:** We are happy to announce that St Joseph's will host the Clydach Passion play. The play will take place here at St Joseph's on Friday 6th March at 7pm. Tickets are available to purchase from the sacristy after Mass for £5 with proceeds going to support the work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP).

**The Passover Meal:** It has been a long standing tradition at St Joseph's to celebrate a Passover Meal in the run up to Holy Week. In doing so, we get a glimpse into Jewish life and what it may have been like in that upper room. It's also a lovely moment for us to come together as a parish. The meal will be held on Monday, 30th March at Blanco's Hotel. 6.15pm arrival for a 6.30pm start. 2 course lamb carvery for £10. There will be a sign up sheet after weekend Masses next week and if full payment can be had by the week after that would be great. Our thanks to the staff of Blanco's for being so welcoming.

### CAFOD – FAMILY FAST DAY

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There are envelopes for CAFOD at the back of the Church for those who wish to support them with their Lenten Alms. Your generosity is much appreciated.

## PARISH NOTICES

### ST JOSEPH'S INFANT SCHOOL – APPLICATIONS FOR NURSERY WELCOME

St Joseph's Catholic Infant School Governing Body are currently accepting applications for our Nursery for September 2026. If you have a child or know a child who will be three before September 2026 contact the school for an application.

Also, if you are aware of family or friends who may be interested in giving their child an education rich in catholic ethos, please encourage them to contact the school on Tel: 01639 882579

### ST JOSEPH'S JUNIOR SCHOOL – ESTYN REPORT

St Joseph's Junior School are still accepting applications for September 2026. To read their inspection report, please follow this link: <https://estyn.gov.wales/app/uploads/2025/12/Inspection-report-St-Josephs-Catholic-Junior-School-2026.pdf> If you would like to have a conversation or arrange a visit, please get in touch with the school on 01639 769743 or via email at: [office@stjosephsjunior.npt.school](mailto:office@stjosephsjunior.npt.school)

### ASSISTED DYING BILL – LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MOTION – UPDATE

Following the narrow approval of the Legislative Consent Motion in the Senedd on Tuesday, Archbishop Mark O'Toole has issued this statement:

“The vote in the Senedd in which a majority have indicated support for assisted suicide being available through the NHS is deeply disappointing. The situation in other countries shows that the safeguards do not hold up. This is a very sad day for the most vulnerable in Wales.”

We continue to pray that life will be protected from conception until natural death.

### GROWING IN FAITH

The Growing in Faith group continues on Tuesday at 6.30pm. All are most welcome.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

An ecumenical service for the annual World Day of Prayer will be held at Tabernacle Chapel, Tabernacle Road, Cwmavon on Friday 6th March at 2.30pm. All most welcome.

### FAMILY MASS – SUNDAY 8TH MARCH

Next Sunday Mass will be animated by our school children. All are most welcome.

## ST JOSEPH'S HALL THIS WEEK

### Monday 2nd March

10:00am	Craft Club
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### Tuesday 3rd March

6.30pm	Growing in Faith
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### Wednesday 4th March

After the 9.30am Mass	Coffee Morning
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### Sunday 8th March

After the 10:00am Mass	Coffee Morning
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**LITURGIES THIS WEEK**  
 (ALL LITURGIES AT ST JOSEPH'S UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)

**Saturday 28th February**

5:00pm (Cwmavon)	Vigil Mass: Robin Millard
6:00pm	Vigil Mass: Una O'Neill

**Sunday 1st March**                      **1ST SUNDAY IN LENT**

8:30am	Holy Mass: Denis Coonan
10:00am	Holy Mass: People of the Parish

**Monday 2nd March**                      **ST DAVID, BISHOP, PATRON OF WALES**

10:00am	Holy Mass: Private Intention
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**Tuesday 3rd March**

10:00am	Holy Mass: Anniversary: Mary O'Callaghan
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**Wednesday 4th March**

9:30am	Holy Mass: Archbishop McGrath RIP
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**Thursday 5th March**

8:00am	Holy Mass: Private Intention
10:00am	Holy Mass: Patrick Daley RIP

**Friday 6th March**

10:00am	Holy Mass: Bishop James Hannigan RIP
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross

**Saturday 7th March**

11:00am-12:00pm(St Joseph's)	Confessions
4:45pm - 5:00pm (Cwmavon)	Confessions
5:00pm-5:45pm (St Joseph's)	Confessions
5:00pm (Cwmavon)	Vigil Mass: Archbishop Peter Smith RIP
6:00pm (St Joseph's)	Vigil Mass: Denis Rees

**Sunday 8th March**                      **3RD SUNDAY IN LENT**

8:30am	Holy Mass: Wanda Galek, Dariusz Kolasa, Władysław Tomków
10:00am	Holy Mass: People of the Parish