

**St Mary's Catholic Church
Monmouth
with
St Mary & St Michael, Llanarth**

(A parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. Registered No: 242380)

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2nd Sunday of Lent 8th March 2009

Pope St Leo the Great

What could be more firmly founded or more certain than God's word, revealed in the ringing tones of both Old and New Testaments in harmony? Here the teaching of the evangelists and the documentary evidence of ancient witnesses harmonize.

The one covenant thus reinforces the other. The signs which went before had promised Jesus under the veil of mystery. But now the blaze of the present glory has shed a dazzling light upon him. This is because, as Saint John says, 'The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.' In Jesus have been fulfilled the promise of the prophetic images and the purposes of the regulations of the law. By his presence he demonstrates the truth of prophecies, and by his grace makes possible the acts God has commanded us.

From The Office of Readings

Parish Life

Collections - Thank you for your generosity

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|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------|
| Monmouth W/E 1 st Mar | Loose £133.78 | Env. £275.50 | SO £210 |
| Llanarth W/E 1 st Mar | Loose £150.73 | Env - nil return | |

Easter Cards A supply of new Easter Cards are now available in the repository corner at the back of the church

Eucharistic Ministers - All new and current Eucharistic ministers please ensure that you have in your diaries to attend Mass at 8.00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, 9th April, for commissioning or re-commissioning for the coming year.

Cake Stall - Palm Sunday weekend 4th/5th April. We would like as many cakes as possible for the stall, enough for both masses. If you are able to help, please sign the form at the back of the church so that we have an indication of numbers. We'd be delighted if the youngsters of the parish could demonstrate their culinary skills by making something for the stall (with parents consent of course!). More details to come.

Parish Statistics - to keep our records up to date, if you are new to the parish please don't forget to complete a pink 'new parishioners' form' and hand it to Fr Nic. Thanks

Walk with me - A Lenten Journey of Prayer for 2009. These pocket sized books are on sale at only 50p each on the table at the back of church.

SPUC - sent a thank you letter for £351.76 collected recently by Monmouth & Llanarth communities. Paul Botto, SPUC Diocesan Organiser, informs us that David Davies (our MP) was one of only 3 Welsh MP's to vote against the Human Fertilisation & Embryology (HFE) bill - thank you David.

Coffee morning at Elizabeth Allcocks raised £50 for parish Funds. Many thanks.

CAMEO - had an excellent speaker last Tuesday in Nigel Hodges a forensic scientist. If you know of any speakers for future CAMEO meetings, please contact Lynne Derricott.

The 'Seder' Meal connects us with those Jewish traditions of Passover which Jesus himself shared and which he gives to us in his new, unique way. To gather for such a meal is to remember - and for the Jewish people that means to make present God's saving action. It means to express complete trust in God's purpose. And it means to give thanks. (Our word 'Eucharist' means literally 'Thanks -giving'). The Seder meal which we share annually does two things: it honours the story of our first 'fathers in faith' and it helps to nourish the roots of our own Eucharistic belief.

The Seder Supper is at Bridges **Friday 3rd April**. Don't forget to put your name on the sign up sheet soon. (Maximum of only 30 places)

Our faith - Lent & Easter

Before Lent, parishioners in both Monmouth and Llanarth helped to plan a programme which will begin after Easter. In Llanarth, sessions will alternate between 'Lectio Divina' led by Michael Woodward and 'A Journey with St Paul' led by Fr Nicholas. In Monmouth, Roger Ruston will help us to look at the account of creation contained in the book of Genesis.

During Lent, we are invited to join local study groups. In Monmouth a study group will meet each **Monday at 7.30pm- 9pm** in the Priory to study the Beatitudes,

In Llanarth, the weekly Lent talks given by Bishop Dominic Walker at Llanfair Kilgeddin Village Hall will continue on the remaining Mondays in March **7.30-8.30 pm**.

Each Friday in Monmouth, Stations of the Cross will alternate between our own St Mary's and the Anglican churches of St Mary's and St Thomas'.

Stations this Friday at 7pm in Monmouth

Thurs 19th Mar 7.30pm Service of the Word
(Followed by a short meeting for readers).

Thurs 26th Mar Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from morning Mass until 7.30pm Benediction (followed by a short meeting for special ministers of the Eucharist).

Farewell Get-together April 11th Open house at the Haemmerlis to wish them well for the future. More details to follow.

From the Notice Boards - see posters

Sat 14th Mar Conference a Llantarnam Abbey organised by CAFOD and the Justice and Peace and Integrity of Creation Network. "What Shall it Profit - Spiritual Hunger and Consumerism". Keynote speaker -Dr James Sweeney. Workshops and contributions from local schools. 9.45am -4pm followed by a Mass celebrated from 4.15pm. Further details from Frances David

Thurs 26th Mar CAFOD launch the next phase in its Climate Justice campaign at Cardiff University Catholic Chaplaincy. The evening will feature speakers from a CAFOD partner in Cambodia who will explain the impact that climate change is having on their local community and why we must act to limit carbon emissions.

Tues evenings Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies run. See poster

Newsletter items - Please contact Babs by **mid-day Thursday** for any items to be included.

Masses for this week 8th - 15th March 2009

Sunday 8th March 2nd Sunday of Lent

Saturday 7th Mar *Doug Miles* 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Monmouth

Sunday 8th Mar *People of the Parish* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth
 Private Intention 11am Mass in Llanarth

Mon 9th Mar *Blois Family Int* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth

Tues 10th Mar *Moira Drewett* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth

Wed 11th Mar *Bath Intention* 10.30am Mass in Llanarth

Thurs 12th Mar *Leligdowicz Int* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth

Fri 13th Mar *Special Intention* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth
 Stations of the Cross 7pm Monmouth

Sat 14th Mar *Maura Barker* 10.30am Mass in Monmouth

Sacrament of reconciliation 11am - 11.30am

Sunday 15th March 3rd Sunday of Lent

Saturday 14th Mar *Robin Arnold* 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Monmouth

Sunday 15th Mar *People of the Parish* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth
 JackWalsh 11am Mass in Llanarth

| Date | Eucharist Minister | Reader | Welcomer |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Sat 7 th Mar | Mrs Pat Hill | Mrs E Allcock | Mr & Mrs Keyton |
| Sun 8 th Mar | Mrs Frances David | Mr David Barry | Mrs Mary Boase |
| Sat 14 th Mar | Mrs L Derricott | Mr Sean Dunne | Mrs E Allcock |
| Sun 15 th Mar | Mrs Mary Boase | Mr Charles Boase | Mrs Frances David |

Let us remember and pray the members of our parish community who are not able to join us at Mass and those whose anniversaries occur at this time of year.