

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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3rd Sunday of Lent 15th March 2009

But this gift of the Commandments allows us to live in the present, in the here and now. What I have done in the past is past mending; what I will do in the future is a worry not worth the candle, for there is no way I can know what will happen next. But in this moment - and only in this moment - I am in control. This is the moment of choice, the moment when I decide whether I will plunge in the knife or not, take the treasure or not, begin to spin the liar's web or not. This is the moment when the past can be transformed and the future lit with radiance. And such a realization need bring neither regret nor anxiety but, if I keep the Commandments, true peace. But not the peace of death, not the peace of coming to terms with the Wheel. For in choosing what is right I am never more alive.

Thomas Cahill

Parish Life

Collections - Thank you for your generosity

Monmouth W/E 8 th Mar	Loose £195.25	Env. £259.00	SO £210
Llanarth W/E 8 th Mar	Loose £106.50		

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 on the notice board (Maximum of only 30 places)

Something New! From next week Mrs Pat Munday will produce the weekly newsletter. Please don't forget to let Fr Nic have sight of any items for inclusion in the newsletter before passing them over to Pat. Many thanks.

From the SVP: Vincentian Family petition on behalf of asylum seekers

<http://www.svp.org.uk> (*The Vincentian Family: As well as the SVP itself, a number of organisations - e.g. the de Paul Trust - have evolved from the Society, working in partnership to address issues of poverty and injustice. Today, members of the Vincentian Family are giving help and support to asylum seekers in every diocese in England and Wales.*)

The Vincentian Family intend to present to the House of Commons a petition concerning the new **Immigration, Borders and Citizenship Bill** currently going through Parliament. The petition asks the House of Commons to ensure that asylum seekers be treated in a just and compassionate manner, and that certain rights for them be enshrined in the Bill:-The rights to: adequate housing * ESOL (English as a Secondary Language) Classes * CRB checks.

The rights to: earn a wage and contribute to taxes * engage in voluntary work* become integrated into local communities * become valued citizens of the UK.

Asylum seekers are our brothers and sisters. Please consider signing the petition, which will be at the back of church until Monday 23rd March. It will be presented to the House of Commons, before the Easter Recess, by the Rt. Hon. John Battle, Member of Parliament for Leeds West. **NB** To be valid, a signature **must** be accompanied by the signatory's **printed name, address & postcode**. More detailed

information about the background to the petition is also available at the back of church. www.svp.org.uk)

Our faith - Lent & Easter

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 here at St Thomas

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).

Thurs 9th April 8.00 p.m. Mass Maundy Thursday - commissioning or re-commissioning Eucharistic Ministers for the coming year

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

Cake Stall - Palm Sunday weekend 4th/5th April. We would like as many cakes as possible for the stall, enough for both masses. Names have already begun to appear on the form at the back of church. If you are able to help, please add your name 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). NB if your cake contains nuts, please put a label on your cake to let us know.

From the Notice Boards - see posters

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.

Rosaries - Please look at the little poster regarding unwanted rosaries.

Social & Fundraising minutes from meeting on 5th March are on the notice board.

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

Masses for this week 15th - 22nd March 2009

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
 Jack Walsh 11am Mass in Llanarth

Mon 16th Mar *Clare Geddes' Welfare* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth

Tues 17th Mar *Eunice Duffield* **9.00am Mass in Monmouth**
(St Patrick)

Wed 18th Mar *Stuart Intention* 10.30am Mass in Llanarth

Thurs 19th Mar *James Smith* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth
(St Joseph)

Fri 20th Mar *Thomas Davies* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth
 Stations of the Cross 7pm St Thomas

Sat 21st Mar *Marty Bell* 10.30am Mass in Monmouth

Sacrament of reconciliation 11am - 11.30am

Sunday 22nd March 4th Sunday of Lent

Saturday 21st Mar *Hannah Pilling* 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Monmouth

Sunday 22nd Mar *Special Int* 9.15am Mass in Monmouth
 People of the Parish 11am Mass in Llanarth

Date	Eucharist Minister	Reader	Welcomer
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
Sat 21 st Mar	Mrs B Geddes	Mrs Kath Fallon	Mr & Mrs Derricott
Sun 22 nd Mar	Mrs Hilary Gooch	Mrs B Brooke	Mrs Babs Jones

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.