

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

(Parishes of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. Registered No: 242380)

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Third Sunday of Easter
26th April 2009

Mary Magdalene and Thomas both wish to touch the body of Jesus. Mary is told not to cling to it, and when Thomas is able to do so, he no longer needs to. They teach us how to live in this time between the resurrection and the kingdom, when Jesus is ascended and yet present. Jesus tells Mary that he must leave her and ascend to his Father and hers, and he says to Thomas 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed?' (20.29). That's us. We have to live with the apparent absence of Jesus' body. We have no apparitions, no empty tombs nor clothes mysteriously wrapped up in bundles. When we go to church there is nothing much to see except a small bit of bread and wine. It may look an empty ceremony, as though the church, like the tomb, is just a place of absence. Why bother to go? Before we are ready even to recite the 'Our Father' we must see how God is enthroned in this void.

'Why go to Church?'
Timothy Radcliffe OP

Parish	Gift Aid	Loose	Dev. Fund	Smarties Box	Cameo	Lenten Alms	Flowers
Monmouth	£199.50	£180.83	£5.00	£10.44	£44.98	£13.00	£38.85
Llanarth	-	£193.84	-	-	-	-	-

New Covenant Envelopes

The present covenant envelopes expire on 31st May. The new envelopes, dated from 7th June, are now available. Please pick them up from the back of the church. (They are boxed in alphabetical order but please note that the covenant numbers have changed.) If there are any new parishioners to the parish who wish to join the covenant scheme, or who would like further information, please contact Pat Munday. Covenants are a great source of income for the church at no extra cost to the donor.

Development Project

As usual on the last weekend of the month there will be a collection for the Parish Development Fund for individuals wishing to contribute in this way. Immediately after Mass there will also be an opportunity for all who are interested to hear directly about the good progress we have made with our important parish project.

CAMEO

The next meeting is on Tuesday 5th May at 7.30p.m. in the Priory rooms. Superintendent David Johnson will speak on the new policing arrangements for Monmouth. The talk will be followed as usual by questions, coffee and biscuits. All are welcome.

Red Boxes (Monmouth & Llanarth)

Will holders of APF Red Boxes please leave them at the back of the Church for emptying. Plus Llanarth please make sure your name is on the label at the bottom of the box. Thank you.

St. Donat's Chamber Choir and ContraBand

An evening of European Music of the Renaissance period will take place here, at St. Mary's RC Church, on Friday evening 15th May at 7:30pm. ContraBand consists of four musicians who play a wide variety of early music on period instruments.

SVP

Thank you from the SVP to everyone who responded to the appeal for household items. The response was very much appreciated - *'The more we give, the more we receive'*. Please note that the next meeting takes place Wednesday 29th April, 10.00a.m., in the Flower Room.

Genesis *What are we to believe about creation?*

Roger Ruston hopes to start a discussion about this. From Augustine to Darwin. Just bring your Bible to: The Priory, on Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm.

Please remember in your prayers all the members of our parish who are sick and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Date	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Welcomer
Sat 25 th April Sun 26 th April	Mrs Catherine Close Mr. Aidan Browne	Mrs B. Keyton Mr Peter Field	Mrs E. Allcock Faye McGrath
Sat 2 nd May Sun 3 rd May	Mrs Patricia Hill Mrs Mary Boase	Dr P-J Shaw Children's Mass	Mr & Mrs R, Derricott Children of the Parish

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

Mass Times for Week 26th April to 3rd May 2009

Sat 25 th Apr	6.00pm	Mass - Stephen Dunn / John Stevens	Monmouth
Sun 26 th Apr	9:15am	Mass - People of the Parish	Monmouth
	11:00am	Mass - Robert Warner	Llanarth
Mon 27 th Apr	9:15am	Mass - Teresa & Benjamin Rees	Monmouth
Tue 28 th Apr	9:15am	Mass - Barbara Geddes	Monmouth
Wed 29 th Apr	10:30am	Mass - Robert Warner <i>Feast: St. Catherine of Sienna</i>	Llanarth
Thur 30 th Apr	9:15am	Mass - Heather Hoddinott	Monmouth
Fri 1 st May	9:15am	Mass - Special Intention <i>St. Joseph the Worker</i>	Monmouth
Sat 2 nd May	10:30am	Mass - Special Intention <i>St. Athanasius</i>	Monmouth

Fourth Sunday of Easter World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Sat. 2 nd May	6:00pm	Mass - Alice Haswell	Monmouth
Sun. 3 rd May	9:15am	Mass - Haemmerli Family Intention	Monmouth
	11:00am	Mass - People of the Parish	Llanarth

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturdays 11 - 11.30am

*My sincere thanks to everyone for the most generous
Easter Offering. This was very much appreciated.
God's Blessings to you all.*

Fr. Nicholas