

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

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Nicholas James

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4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th/31st January 2010

The tragedy of the Church's condition consists in the lack of proportion between what we are and what we give. We have received from another all that is good in us. Christ warned us of this when he said: "And call none your father upon earth: for one is your father who is in Heaven. Neither be ye called masters, for one is your master, Christ." "Blessed is he that shall not be scandalized in me." Jesus has said this. And it concerns us all. The salvation of some depends on us all, on the loving prayer of each one of us. The first Christians prayed, and their prayer was a living thing because they loved. And they loved so well because they prayed. (It is always the same path: we become sons by becoming brothers and we become brothers because we become sons.)

When Christ gave us the Our Father, when he asked us to say it in his name, when he decided to give us rights on the heavenly achievements, he associated us for ever with his work. We must believe this mystery; henceforth there is something of God in us. All our missionary spirituality rests on this belief; we have only received in order to give.

Thy Kingdom Come

Louis Evely

Collections for weekending 23rd/24th January

CHURCH	Gift Aid	Loose	Dev/Res.Fund
Monmouth	£213.20	n/a	£10.00
Llanarth	-	n/a	-

Second Collection

This weekend the usual collection for the Parish Development Fund will take place. Brown envelopes will again be available for donations from tax payers, and to enable us to reclaim tax would parishioners (or visitors) please indicate on the envelope their name (visitors to include their address). We receive many donations in the envelopes with no indication who the donors are. In this regard Pat Munday would appreciate the kind donor of envelope number 11282 making contact with her.

Parish Development Project

The Parish Development Team met during the week and noted the following:

	2008/09 Year Actual	2009/10 9 months Actual	2009/10 Year Forecast
Pledges	£32,090	£23,537	£30,000
Collections	£3,040	£2,153	£2,700
Internal Fund Raising	£6,944	£4,115	£4,500
External Fund Raising	£7,000	£13,967	£15,400
Legacies	£6,525	£6,000	£8,000
Tax Rebates	0	£9,738	£9,738
Total	£55,599	£59,510	£70,338

Not only was the project completed safely, on time and within cost but this was a tremendous financial performance in the 9 months to December 2009. Many thanks to the entire parish and to all who have generously supported the project.

The Sacraments of 1st Communion & Reconciliation and Confirmation

We hope to begin preparation for the sacraments in February. Those who are eligible and their parents are invited to a **(very)** brief meeting after Mass at both Monmouth and Llanarth on Sunday 31st January.

Uganda News

The congregation at St James's, Namutumba send us their New Year greetings and always remember us in their prayers. Bit by bit they are building a house for a priest next to the church, under the supervision of Fr Kanyankole, who visited us last August. Veronica Wignall, Margaret Kelly's granddaughter, is due to arrive at Fr Kanyankole's parish centre on Monday to work as a volunteer teacher for a few months. Kath Hesketh has just sent a big cheque to the SOCADIDO goat project and will soon be visiting the project. Kath and Frances David are due to leave for Uganda on 2nd February.

Alison Potts and family would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers and support both during my recent stay in hospital and during the last 15 months of surgeries, Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy. Treatment is now completed and I am now on 3 month check-ups. God bless you all, Alison, Kay and family.

Blessing of the Community Room

On Thursday 11th February, Archbishop Peter Smith will celebrate Mass with us at 7.00pm. and bless the new community room. This will mark the culmination of our building project. The past year has been full of upheaval and outward change, but it has also been a wonderful experience of co-operation and unselfishness. Our Mass with the Archbishop will be a fitting prayer of thanks for that and also the beginning of a new phase in our life together.

Wanted: Weekend Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Volunteers are kindly reminded of the need to confirm, amend or add their details to the relevant list for the 12 months beginning 6/7 March. The lists will remain at the back of church for one further week only, when the new rotas will need to be drawn up. Thank you for supporting your parish in these important ministries.

After Mass Coffee Mornings

We can re-start in February, now that we have the new Parish Rooms. We need new Hosts/Hostesses for the First Sunday of each month. Younger and newer parishioners will be especially welcome - no upper or lower age limits - lack of experience no bar. Help will be freely given. Have Courage! Please Volunteer and sign the list on the back table in church. S & F Committee.

Llanarth News

Tea and coffee – There will be tea and coffee after Mass today.

Faith-Sharing Group – ‘A Journey with St Paul’ at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 2nd February at Church Farm.

Parish Social Event – Please come and support our skittles evening with buffet supper at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 6th February at Llanarth Village Hall. All proceeds will go to our building restoration fund. All welcome. Further details on the noticeboard and in Llanarth monthly news.

Please remember in your prayers Edith Badham, Alison Potts, Jadwiga Umieszczuk, Pauline Williams, John Jones and all the members of our parish who are sick and for Beryl Kelly who died recently. Remember also those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Date	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Welcomer
Sat. 30 th January Sun. 31 st January	Volunteer Please Mr Brian Cookson	Mrs Fay McGrath Mrs Lesley Vessey	Mrs Elizabeth Allcock Volunteer Please
Sat. 6 th February Sun. 7 th February	Mrs Anne May Mrs Hilary Gooch	Mrs Kath Fallon Children’s Mass	Mr & Mrs Don Harvey Children of the Parish

Mass Times for Week 30th January to 7th February

<i>Sat.</i>	<i>30th Jan</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>	<i>Mass – John Coleman</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Sun.</i>	<i>31st Jan</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Liz Nicholls</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
		<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Mass – People of the Parish</i>	<i>Llanarth</i>
<i>Mon</i>	<i>1st Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Fitzroy Raglan</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Tue.</i>	<i>2nd Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Special Intention Presentation of the Lord</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>3rd Feb</i>	<i>10.00am*</i>	<i>Mass – Violet Bender’s Welfare St. Blaise</i>	<i>Llanarth</i>
<i>Thur.</i>	<i>4th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Joyce Vaughan</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>5th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Tony Serridge St. Agatha</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Sat.</i>	<i>6th Feb</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Mass – Denis Murnane Ss Paul Miki & Companions</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>

**Please note change of time*

5th Sunday of the Year

<i>Sat.</i>	<i>6th Feb</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>	<i>Mass – People of the Parish</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Sun.</i>	<i>7th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Cyril McGrath</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
		<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Mass –Fr. Dominic Blaney</i>	<i>Llanarth</i>

Newsletter Item: Please contact Pat Munday **by mid-day Thursday at the latest** for any items to be included.