

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

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

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

20th/21st February, 2010

Our Lord then was really tempted; his struggle was a real struggle. Yet how are we to reconcile this fact with all that we know of the perfection of his human nature? We know him as 'full of grace and truth'; we know him as perfect in knowledge, incapable of sin, free of all taint of evil desires; how then can he be tempted as we are? This question has led some writers to attempt to safeguard the perfection of Christ by minimising the reality of the temptation; and in so doing they rob it of a great part of its power to help, encourage and inspire us. But their fears are surely unfounded : the death of our Lord was a stark and terrible one : beaten, bruised, tortured, he died on a cross; the brutal facts cannot be ignored or minimised; yet we do not imagine that his human perfection or his divinity lessened the horror of the Passion : on the contrary, we believe that they added to its intensity. We are not worried there by any incompatibility between perfection and degradation: why then should we be worried in the case of the temptation? We are told that our Lord was tempted : and that must mean that he lived through the inward struggle, the agony, which temptation can mean for us all.

The Temptations of Christ: Was Christ Really Tempted?

Gerald Vann & P.K. Meagher

Collections for weekending 13th/14th January

CHURCH	Gift Aid	Loose	Development/ Restoration Fund	Church History
Monmouth	£104.00	£153.30	£15.00	£10.00
Llanarth	-	£137.32	-	-

Second Collections:

Sorry wrong information printed last week re Family Fast Day. It is of course this Friday followed by the collection at the weekend Masses. Therefore, our usual 'brown' envelope collection for the Parish Development Fund, normally taken on the last weekend in the month, will be taken the following week – first week in March.

CAFOD South Wales and Cardiff Archdiocese JPIC Network, Joint Annual Conference
'The Preferential Option for the Poor – What does this mean in practice?' With talks from Father Rob Esdaile and Christine Allen, Executive Director of Progressio plus workshops. At Llantarnam Abbey, Cwmbran, 10.00am to 4.00pm. Saturday 13th March 2010. Suggested donation £5. Please bring own sandwiches. For further information contact 029 2045 3360.

Social & Fundraising Committee

Hello everyone. Are you ready for 2010? Yes we are at the start of another fundraising year. Our first event this year is a Cake Sale on 14th March (Mothering Sunday) with your help. Please can you sign the form at the back of the church if you are able to help. It was a great success last year (£235) so please help if you can this year. Many thanks.

Passover (Seder) Supper

At Bridges Community Center at 7.00pm on 28th March. Please sign the list at the back of Church in plenty of time if you would like to come - it makes it easier for us with the catering. Cost £5 towards expenses. Thank you. Shalom.

Churches Together in Monmouth (CTIM)

At the recent CTIM meeting, Peter Waghorn, St Mary's group of parishes, reminded us all that **LINKS**, the Monmouth Christian Youth Club meets every Sunday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Priory Rooms and all young people from whatever Church are welcome. The evening consists of some food, games and a short talk on a Christian theme and costs 50p! Perhaps some of our young parishioners might be interested?

Christianity Explored 46 in total came to the initial meeting and guests have signed up for Monday eve 7.00pm to 8.30pm at Wyesham Christian Fellowship, Wednesday afternoon 1.15pm to 2.45pm at the Monmouth Baptist church (crèche provided) and Thursday Eve 7.00pm to 8.30pm at Peter and Rosemary Waghorn's house in Maypole. If anyone else wants to go they are still welcome to join any group.

100 Club

A big thank you to all members that have paid their 2010 subscriptions and especially to those who have taken up the spare numbers. There are currently none spare, but there are several members who have yet to pay. May we remind you that all subscriptions are now due and should be paid before the 1st draw on 7th March. Any questions and queries to Geoff Quinn on 713728.

Station Mass : Celebrated by Archbishop Peter Smith

To take place on 17th March at 7.30pm at Abergavenny
With an opportunity for Confession.

National Marriage Week

It is hoped that every parish in the Archdiocese will focus on marriage at some point during the week commencing on 13th February to 20th February.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT is 22nd February to 7th March

A grand Fairtrade Coffee Morning at the Priory on Saturday 6th March – please come. We are proud to support Fairtrade and use fairtrade products in our church.

NEW ROTAS for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

The new full-year rotas, commencing 6/7 March, are now ready for collection from the back of the church. Thank you to all volunteers. Please ensure you know when you are needed and as ever it is your responsibility to arrange a substitute using the information provided to you if you are not available as listed.

Please remember in your prayers Edith Badham, Alison Potts, Jadwiga Umieszczyk, Pauline Williams, John Jones, Joan Humphreys, James Boyle and all the members of our parish who are sick. Remember also those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Llanarth News

Ecumenical Lent Course

The Council of Churches in Abergavenny is organising an ecumenical Lent study course on the theme of 'Faith, Hope and Love'. The groups will start in the week beginning 22nd February and it is anticipated that there will be one based in the Llanarth area. Please sign up if you are interested. Further details are on the notice board and from Aidan Reynolds – 01873 832220 or from Michael Woodward.

Date	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Welcomer
Sat. 20 th Feb Sun. 21 st Feb	Mrs Lynne Derricott Mrs Helen Quinn	Mrs Margaret Kelly Mrs Martina Davies	Mrs Pat Munday Mr Brian Cookson
Sat. 27 th Feb Sun. 28 st Feb	Mrs Pat Hill Mr Roger Ruston	Dr. P-J Shaw Mr Vic Williams	Mr & Mrs M Keyton Mrs Mary Boase

Mass Times for Week 20th to 28th February

<i>Sat.</i>	<i>20th Feb</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>	<i>Mass – Howard Woodward</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Sun.</i>	<i>21st Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – People of the Parish</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
		<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Mass – Special Intention</i>	<i>Llanarth</i>
<i>Mon</i>	<i>22nd Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Joan Barnett</i> <i>The Chair of St. Peter, The Apostle</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Tue.</i>	<i>23rd Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Holy Souls</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>24th Feb</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Mass – Larry Ryan</i>	<i>Llanarth</i>
<i>Thur.</i>	<i>25th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – John Harrison</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>26th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Joan Humphreys’ Welfare</i> <i>Lent Family Fast Day</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Sat.</i>	<i>27th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass - Special Intention</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>				
<i>Sat.</i>	<i>27th Feb</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>	<i>Mass – Heather Byrne</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
<i>Sun.</i>	<i>28th Feb</i>	<i>9.15am</i>	<i>Mass – Special Intention</i>	<i>Monmouth</i>
		<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Mass – People of the Parish</i>	<i>Llanarth</i>

Stations of the Cross during Lent

Stations of the Cross will be shared with the Priory Church and St. Thomas’, each Friday at 5.00pm and followed by a short ‘Lectio Divina’. Please note the following dates:

- 26.2.10 St. Thomas’
- 5 .3.10 St. Mary’s RC
- 12.3.10 St. Mary’s Priory
- 19.3.10 St. Mary’s RC
- 26.3.10 St. Thomas’