



SAINT HELEN'S PARISH

21st SUNDAY of the YEAR

27th August 2023



Stay Curious! Try *Alpha*.
Wednesday 20th September

Your Love, O Lord, is Eternal

THE WORD THIS WEEK:

“The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly.” “It was not flesh and blood that revealed this, but my Father in heaven.” “so I place the key on his shoulder.” Peter is ‘lowly’ enough to be chosen, but solid enough to be “driven like a peg in a firm place.” So the Popes become ‘Servants of the Servants of God’. “How rich are the depths of God – and impossible to penetrate.”

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (Psalter: Week 1)

Gathering Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me. O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Isaiah 22: 19 – 23.

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Response: Psalm 137.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands

Romans 11: 33 – 36.

All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him.

Acclamation for the Gospel:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build
my church, and the gates of the underworld
can never hold out against it,
Alleluia!

Matthew 16: 13 – 20.

*You are Peter, and I will give you the keys
of the kingdom of heaven.*



Prayer of the Faithful: ‘On the day we call’: R/. Answer, O Lord.

Preface and Eucharistic Prayer: ‘The Church on the Path to Unity’ **Acclamation:** When we eat ...

Communion Antiphon: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth, and wine to cheer the heart.

MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Sat 26 th August	5.45pm – 6.15pm 6.30pm	Celebration of Reconciliation 21st SUNDAY in Ordinary Time for All on Holiday	
Sun 27 th August	10.30am 6.00pm	for the People of the Parish David Williams (MW) (Bargoed)	
Mon 28 th August	9.45am 10.00am	Saint Augustine , Bishop + Doctor of the Church Morning Prayer of the Church Canon John Terry (SW)	
Tues 29 th August	9.45am 10.00am	The Passion of Saint John the Baptist Morning Prayer of the Church Thanksgiving (TT)	
Wed 30 th August	9.45am 10.00am 2.00 - 4.00pm	Morning Prayer of the Church Service of the Word Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Thurs 31 st August	9.45am 10:00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Service of the Word	
Fri 1 st September	9.45am 10.00am	World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Morning Prayer of the Church Saint Helen's School Intention	
Sat 2 nd September	5.45pm – 6.15pm 6.30pm	Celebration of Reconciliation 22nd SUNDAY in Ordinary Time Revd Sean Seddon	
Sun 3 rd September	10.30am 6.00pm	for the Care of Creation for the People of the Parish (Bargoed)	

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 5.45 – 6.15pm, or at any time by arrangement with the priest.



PARISH PRAYER LIST: In our prayers we are asked to pray for all who are sick, in hospital or at home, the long-term housebound, and those who care for them, including:

Eileen Morris	John Maguire	Wilson Brown	Sandra Bray	Jackie Jones
Mary Gordine	Pauline Richards	Margaret Jones	Carol Morrissey	Frank Price
Anne Morgan	Pat Starynski	Keith Griffiths	Katrin Merry	Albert Carley
Mary Everson	Gwyn + Margaret Bishop	Lorraine Cahill	Ann Head	Ann Head
James McGowan	Katherine Partenie	Dafydd Thomas	Vi Zadnic	Vic Owen

GROWING INTO COMMUNION IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, THE CHURCH:

Is Now The Time For You?

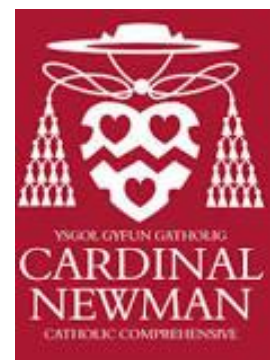
Welcome to the families who enrolled to grow (or grow deeper) into our privileged love and relationship with God Our Father, through Christ, and gathered by his Spirit in the Communion of his Body. First materials are now being ordered for the parents to work with their children, mostly presuming ages 8 to 10. But if there are families with older children, or younger, who feel now is the time to start this journey, please contact Father John within the week so that more appropriate materials can be resourced for them.

Or you might prefer to start another way, perhaps 'Stay Curious – try Alpha'. ?



CONGRATULATIONS! The GCSE and A Level results for Cardinal Newman school have been excellent this year. They are amongst the best the school has ever had. These results are testament to the work students and staff have put in. They also reflect the strong support the school gets from parents, governors, the parishes and the clergy. This support is crucial to the ongoing success of the school. Best of luck to everyone who has received their examination results and is moving on to the next stage of their lives.

ALPHA
Wednesday 20th September
Stay Curious!



This Sunday we are invited on Pilgrimage to honour **SAINT DAVID LEWIS**. A native of Abergavenny, David Lewis was a Jesuit priest, rector of their Mission near Monmouth. Like Saint John Kemble, he was caught up in the aftermath of the Titus Oates plot, and martyred in Usk in 1679, the last of our local Welsh Martyrs. The pilgrimage starts with Benediction in the church of Saint Francis Xavier and Saint David Lewis, Usk, at 3pm, then process to the grave, at the door of the Anglican Parish church. All welcome.



ALPHA: A personal invitation to meet Jesus and get to know him better. We will start Alpha here on Wednesday 20th September. All are welcome to join in, all of us in the parish of course, but especially friends or acquaintances, family, or anybody you might bump into with questions. Please invite them, or even better bring them along with you. Faith is shared, a journey on which we accompany each other, a pilgrimage for which we need each other's support.

Many thanks to the great gang of Parishioners who volunteered as a 'team' to lead, feed, and share with us on this adventure. To tighten up roles and responsibilities, menus, set up, and all the little details, we will have an **ALPHA TEAM MEETING** this Wednesday at 7pm in the hall.

You're invited!



A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

Let Justice and Peace Flow
Season of Creation 2023

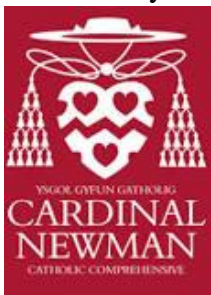
Friday is the **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION**.

It also marks the start of the '**SEASON OF CREATION**', a month of prayer and awareness leading up to the feast of Saint Francis on October 4th. This year's theme of

'**Let Justice and Peace Flow**' like Amos' mighty river, invites us to see Climate Justice as part of and integral to all action, care, and prayer for justice and peace in our troubled world, where the disruption of climate patterns and ecological stability is linked to food insecurity, water shortages, regional conflict, and increasing migration.

Friday is also the **START OF TERM** and of the **NEW ACADEMIC YEAR**

for our schools. The teachers and staff will return for an inset day. The pupils will start next week, or the week after in Cardinal Newman High School. Please keep all the staff and teachers, pupils and families, and governors, in your prayers, now and through the year.



Please pray also for **Reggie Silcox**, father of three young children in Saint Helen's School. Reggie died suddenly, and will be buried on Friday morning.

BEWARE! The '**LITTLE CHEESE**' next weekend means the centre of town will be closed off.

THE ANNUAL MASS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND will be celebrated on the afternoon of Friday 8th September, the feast of Birth of Our Lady. Please invite anyone who is sick or housebound, and pass their name on to Sandra Williams or Mavis Bevan, or any member of the **S.V.P.** We also need drivers to help with lifts: again, please contact the S.V.P. And gifts of home-baked cakes or buns, or offers of brewing and serving teas after Mass would also be gratefully received.



THE PARISH SUPPORT GROUP will meet next Sunday, to look at our progress in developing a more inclusive, synodal parish, and our plans for this coming year. Your comments or suggestions are sought and welcome, spoken personally or written or posted.



SAINT HELEN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE – THIS WEEK:

Date	Time	Event
Sun 27 th August	11.30am	Tea, Coffee, and Catch-up
Mon 28 th August	1:30pm	Sweaty Mamas
Wed 30 th August	7.00pm	ALPHA Team Preparation
Thurs 31 st August	12pm – 1pm 2.00 – 3.00pm	Elder Fit Sunshine Club
Sat 2 nd September	9.30 – 12noon	Dance
Sun 3 rd September	11.30am 7.00pm	Tea, Coffee, and Catch-up Parish Support Group



The Key of the House of David



COLLECTION	19 th /20 th August	
Gift Aid	£	25.00
Gift Aid standing Orders	£	527.00
Other Envelopes	£	41.00
Non Gift-Aided Standing Orders	£	172.00
Loose	£	329.87
TOTAL	£	1,093.87
		Thank you

Isaiah 22:22

THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Part 1: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH. Section 2: The Creeds

Chapter One: I Believe in God the Father

Article 1 "I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth"

Paragraph v. Heaven and Earth: II The Visible World

(338) Nothing exists that does not owe its existence to God the Creator. the world began when God's word drew it out of nothingness; all existent beings, all of nature, and all human history are rooted in this primordial event, the very genesis by which the world was constituted and time begun. (Cf. St. Augustine, De Genesi adv. Man 1, 2, 4: PL 34, 175)

(339) Each creature possesses its own particular goodness and perfection. For each one of the works of the "six days" it is said: "and God saw that it was good." "By the very nature of creation, material being is endowed with its own stability, truth and excellence, its own order and laws." (GS 36 # 1) Each of the various creatures, willed in its own being, reflects in its own way a ray of God's infinite wisdom and goodness. Man must therefore respect the particular goodness of every creature, to avoid any disordered use of things which would be in contempt of the Creator and would bring disastrous consequences for human beings and their environment.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992

Stay Curious! Try Alpha. Wednesday 20th September

Parish Directory

Safeguarding Officer: cmben@hotmail.com **SVP:** 07704 292 945 **Hall Bookings:** 07533 082601

Bereavement support: 20863450 **Music:** 07971848734. **Piety shop:** post vacant

CAFOD: 07726968374 / 07791318809 **Marriage Care:** appointments@marriagecare.co.uk

Saint Helen's School: 20852532 **Cardinal Newman School:** 01443 494110

Newsletter items: 20883192 **Calendar Additions:** calendar@sthelenscaerphilly.com

caerphilly@rcadc.org **www.sthelenscaerphilly.com**

Website Additions: Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com



Saint Helen is a Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff, a Registered Charity, No. 1177272

A PRAYERFUL PILGRIMAGE TO PATMOS Monday 3rd – Monday 10th June 2024.
Organised by Deacon Garth Tasker of Saint Iltyd, Dowlais. All welcome.

The cost will be £1550 per person with a single supplement of £250.

Monday 3rd June: BA flight from London Heathrow to Athens, Transfer to central Athens hotel

Tuesday 4th June: morning - Guided tour of the Acropolis

afternoon - Blue Star ferry 15.15 – 22.30 arrives in Patmos, Accommodation in Skala hotel

Mass and visit each morning; Lunch each day at a local family-run taverna Talk each evening

Sunday 9th June: Overnight ferry departs 23.30 – cabin accommodation

Monday 10th June: Ferry arrives at Piraeus, Athens port 08.00; Transfer to airport, BA flight 15.35.

(P.S.: In 2025 we will have a Parish Pilgrimage to Rome for the ‘HOLY YEAR OF HOPE’)

Also the real issue that so many go through our sacramental programmes but fewer regularly partake in the most profound experience of our faith, the Eucharist. Do our people experience our catechetical programmes as experiences in which they have been accompanied by us, such that we are alongside them, whilst also assisting them to take steps into encounter with Jesus Christ? We seek to form people and send them forth in the faith, but do they really have a sense of Jesus’ personal call? Or a sense of a personal relationship?

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Re-formation:- a recognised need to re-form / inform the mind and understanding. We journey together, we are not in some existential vacuum. Central to accompaniment on the pastoral synodal journey is the Risen Christ who walks with us, the Trinity, God revealed through Jesus.

Archbishop Mark O’Toole



PARTICIPATING AT MASS is responding to a lover’s call. “Every time we go to Mass, the first reason is that we are drawn there by Christ’s desire for us”: in his letter on the Mass, ‘Desiderio Desiderati’ that’s how Pope Francis describes our participation. He starts with the words of Jesus to his disciples: “*I have greatly desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer*” (Luke 22:15). As in any meaningful relationship, if we want to grow, we act in ways that please the one we love. We enjoy love in the moment, but if we want to sustain it, we live in tune with the other’s desire.

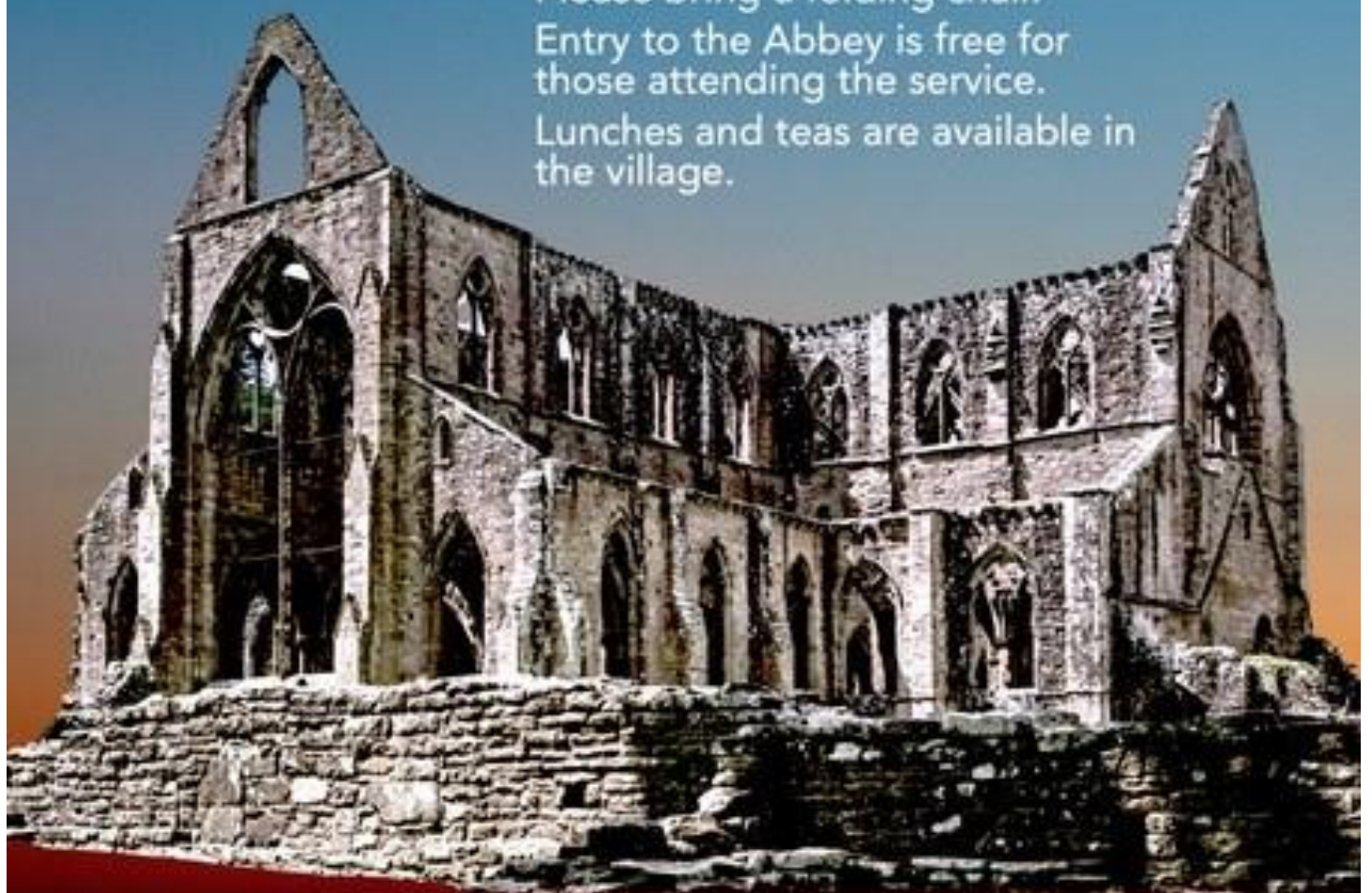
Tintern Sung Vespers

An Ecumenical Service of Prayers for Peace

3.00pm Sunday 10th September
Tintern Abbey

Speaker: Rt Rev'd Cherry Vann, Bishop of Monmouth
Newport Cathedral Choir

Please bring a folding chair.
Entry to the Abbey is free for
those attending the service.
Lunches and teas are available in
the village.



With kind permission of CADW.

Organised by Friends of Our Lady of Tintern.