

Diocesan News | Newyddion Esgobaethol

Proposed Diocesan Unification The ‘Open Listening Sessions’ have now come to an end, during which Archbishop Mark sought feedback on the proposed unification of the Archdiocese of Cardiff and the Diocese of Menevia. He has now submitted his own reflections and conclusions to Pope Francis, and a summary of the findings has now been published, which you can see below – should you wish to read more detail, please contact your parish office.

- Across both dioceses, the total number of people who engaged in these listening sessions was 605 – 79% of them voted in favour of unification; 9% voted against; 13% abstained. Within these figures:
 - 65% of **lay faithful** in Menevia voted in favour; 18% voted against; 18% abstained
 - 89% of **lay faithful** in Cardiff voted in favour; 2% voted against; 9% abstained
 - Together, 77% of lay faithful across both dioceses voted in favour, and 10% voted against
 - 69% of **clergy** in Menevia voted in favour; 9% voted against; 22% abstained
 - 97% of **clergy** in Cardiff voted in favour; 3% abstained
 - Together, 84% of clergy across both dioceses voted in favour, and 4% voted against
 - 98% of **religious** across both dioceses voted favour, and 2% abstained
 - Of 22 written submissions, 41% voted in favour, 28% voted against, and 32% abstained
- Key themes that occurred during the sessions were collated and grouped under eleven headings
 - **Administration:** eg. the effect of centralisation, the pooling of resources, strength in unity
 - **Geography:** eg. difficulties in collaboration, sharing ideas and good practice, care of rural communities
 - **The Church:** eg. the extent to which for some people ‘Church = local parish’ rather than the diocese, also the discussion about whether an Auxiliary Bishop is a possibility
 - **Communications:** eg. social media, online meeting spaces, need to improve communication and dissemination of information
 - **Parishes/Deaneries:** eg. the need to make parishes more welcoming, sharing of events and ideas across parishes, amalgamation and sharing is hard on small parishes who can lose their identity
 - **Laity:** eg. more involvement of women in leadership structures, formation of the laity, lack of engagement among certain parish groups
 - **Priests/Vocations:** eg. better promotion of vocations, care of sick and retired priests, the nature and importance of priestly fraternity
 - **Youth:** eg. how to retain young people at Mass, the need to engage with teenagers better, an awareness that today’s young people don’t generally join groups in the same way
 - **Promoting Faith/Evangelisation:** eg. revitalisation of our faith locally/nationally, discussion of reasons for people lapsing
 - **Schools:** eg. greater collaboration between parish priests and headteachers, students as role models
 - **Outward Facing/Interreligious:** eg. visible displays of faith (like window crib sets), serving the community in charity and service

Diocesan Pilgrimage Join Archbishop Mark O’Toole on a day pilgrimage to St Davids on September 7th. The day will consist of a guided tour of the Cathedral, a one-mile-walk to St Non’s for Eucharistic Adoration and a tour of the newly-renovated Retreat Centre. If you’re thinking of going, please contact the parish office.

Calendar of Upcoming Events | Calendr o Ddigwyddiadau i Ddod

- 23 July: Gazebo Club trip to Llanllyr Garden, Talsarn
- 24-28 July: Menevia and Cardiff Youth Council pilgrimage to St Davids (14-18 year olds)
- 28 July: **5pm** Farewell BBQ for Fr Greg
- 2 August: **6.40-8.15pm** ‘Morning Star’ Women’s Retreat night
- 8 August: **6pm** Offeren yn Gymraeg, Welsh Mass at the National Eisteddfod in Treforest
- 7 September: Diocesan pilgrimage to St Non’s, Pembrokeshire

**Catholic Parishes of Aberystwyth and Lampeter
Plwyfi Catholig Aberystwyth a Llanbedr Pont Steffan**

Welsh Martyrs Church Piercefield Lane, Aberystwyth, SY23 1RX
Holy Cross Church Victoria Street, Aberaeron, SA46 0DA
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Pontfaen Road, Lampeter, SA48 7BS

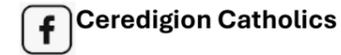
Parish Priest | Offeiriad Plwyf Fr Matthew Roche-Saunders (matthew.roche-saunders@menevia.org)

Assistant Priests | Offeiriad Cynorthwyol Fr Gregory Beckett (greg.beckett@menevia.org)

Parish Office | Swyddfa Plwyf 01970 617159 | 07481 250934 | aberystwyth@menevia.org | lampeter@menevia.org

Safeguarding Representative | Cynrychiolydd Diogelu Tess Truss | tesstruss@gmail.com | 07792 001608

Online | Ar-lein www.parishofaberystwyth.org.uk | www.catholicchurchlampeter.org



21 st July 2024 16 th Week in Ordinary Time Year B Weekday Year II			
Date Dyddiad	Aberystwyth Welsh Martyrs Merthyrion Cymru	Aberaeron Holy Cross Groes Sanctaidd	Lampeter Llanbedr Our Lady of Mount Carmel Ein Harglwyddes o Fynydd Carmel
Sun 21st July 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sul Cyffredin 16	Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass <i>Michael Reilly RIP</i> 8.30am Holy Mass <i>Barbara Moore RIP</i> 10am Confessions 10.30am Holy Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>	8.40am Confessions 9am Holy Mass <i>Tegwen and Kuba</i>	11am Holy Mass <i>Vocations to the Priesthood</i>
Mon 22nd July St Mary Magdalene			6pm Holy Mass <i>November Lists</i>
Tues 23rd July St Bridget of Sweden	6pm Holy Mass <i>Priest's intention</i>	9.30am Adoration/Confessions 10.30am Holy Mass <i>Matthew Rees</i>	
Wed 24th July St Charbel Makhlouf	9am Adoration/Confessions 10am Holy Mass <i>Natasha Folwarski-Jenkins</i>		
Thurs 25th July St James	7.30am Holy Mass <i>Oisin Barr RIP</i>		6pm Adoration/Confessions 7pm Holy Mass <i>Priest's intention</i>
Fri 26th July Sts Joachim and Anne	5pm Adoration/Confessions 6pm Holy Mass <i>Ann Thomas, Leighton Thomas and Lyn Davies (RIP)</i>		
Sat 27th July Memorial of Our Lady	9.30am Adoration/Confessions 10.30am Holy Mass <i>Priest's intention</i>		
Sun 28th July 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sul Cyffredin 17	Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass <i>November Lists</i> 8.30am Holy Mass <i>November Lists</i> 10am Confessions 10.30am Holy Mass <i>Holy Father's intentions</i> 5pm Farewell BBQ for Fr Greg	8.40am Confessions 9am Holy Mass <i>Alicja Dolniak (birthday)</i>	11am Holy Mass <i>Priest's intention</i> 6pm Holy Mass (Polish) <i>Priest's intention</i>
Sunday Plate Collection Casgliad y Sul £702.86 (Aberystwyth/Aberaeron) TBC (Lampeter) <i>Diolch yn fawr am eich haelioni – many thanks for your generosity!</i>			

General News | Newyddion Cyffredinol

Fr Dennis Opoku Unfortunately Fr Dennis is unable to stay in our parish for pastoral reasons, and the Archbishop has arranged for him to return to Tredegar. This is naturally disappointing for us, but our prayers go with him. This leaves us in the unusual position of not having a replacement for Fr Greg when he leaves us next Sunday 28th July. For the foreseeable future, Sunday Masses will be assisted by weekly supply, who will alternate between Aberystwyth and Aberaeron/Lampeter to enable Fr Matt to continue getting to all three churches – but for regular activities and the daily celebrations of Holy Mass, it will just be Fr Matt. This means that we'll need to review the timetable of Mass and other activities, which has been designed for two priests living full time in Aberystwyth. The Archbishop's intention is to provide a second priest for this mission, but there is no timescale on this at the moment. Please keep this intention in your prayers.

Fr Greg Beckett Fr Greg will celebrate his final Sunday Masses in Aberaeron and Lampeter this Sunday 21st, and his final Masses in Aberystwyth next weekend. All are welcome to a farewell BBQ for Fr Greg next Sunday 28th July at 5pm in the grounds of Welsh Martyrs Church – **but it's important to have a sense of numbers for catering purposes**. If you intend to come, please let Madeleine Stocks know on 07866 626519.

Vocations to the Priesthood It's clear from this news to see how important it is that the Lord blesses us with more vocations to the priesthood! I invite you to pray for priests for our Diocese of Menevia. Please pray for them from your own family, from our school, from our parish. A natural sign of life in a parish is when young men and women grow up asking the Lord where he's calling them to. Please encourage your children to ask Jesus this question! And pray that they have generous hearts to respond to his voice.

Absence Fr Matt is away in the second half of this week at the Diocesan Youth Council trip to St Davids, along with 30 young people from across south Wales (including three from Aberystwyth!) Please pray for the fruits of these days away. We often hear it said that it would be great to see more young people at Mass, encountering Jesus personally – and so on occasions like this week's trip, it's important we do our part in offering our prayers and sacrifices for it to bear the fruit the Lord desires. Many thanks to Canon Michael Smith who will celebrate Sunday Mass in Aberaeron and Lampeter next Sunday 28th July.

Ysgol Padarn Sant Llongyfarchiadau, warm congratulations to the staff and pupils at St Padarn's at the end of another fruitful year. We pray especially for those pupils who will be moving on to secondary school in September, and for all the young people of our parish who will face big changes after this summer. Feet up and a good rest!

Sea Sunday Many thanks for your donations to the Sea Sunday collection, which raised £281.00 in Aberystwyth/Aberaeron. The collection hasn't yet been counted in Lampeter.

Electronic Newsletter If you'd like to receive this newsletter to your email inbox, please email the parish office.

Musicians Do you play an instrument? Or do you sing? Could this be a gift you could offer your parish to assist with musical worship at Sunday Mass or for other events? Please email the parish office if so!

Hospital Visits If you're in **hospital** for any length of time and would like to receive Holy Communion, please tell the on-duty nurse that you'd like the Catholic chaplain to visit. This is the surest way for the message to reach Fr Matt. If you or a loved one would like to receive the sacraments **at home** because of ill health, please get in touch with the parish office and we'd be glad to arrange a priest to visit.

Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru | National Eisteddfod of Wales Each year there is a Mass in Welsh celebrated wherever the National Eisteddfod takes place. This year the Mass will be celebrated at St Dyfrig's Church, Treforest, at 6pm on Thursday 8th August, with light refreshments afterwards. Bishop Edwin Regan will preside, and Fr Gildas Parry O.Praem will preach. Bilingual books will be available – **if you'd be interested in joining a day trip from Aberystwyth and would like transport, please let Fr Matt know**.

Retreats in Icon Writing This beautiful and ancient means of responding to the presence of God in prayer through 'icon writing' is being taught in Ireland by Master Iconographer Luiz Alvarez-Canales. Please see Caroline Maybury for more information about any of these retreat dates:

- Kylemore Abbey, County Galway, 4-10 August
- Ferns, County Wexford, 11-17 August
- Pastoral Centre Gorey, County Wexford, 2-6 September

New Lectionary Translation If you'd like to learn more about the new translation of the readings that we'll be hearing from later in the year, feel free to take a leaflet from the porch entitled 'The New Lectionary Explained'.

Legacy Have you ever considered including the mission of your parish in your will? Anything you could give would be hugely appreciated. For more details, please speak to Fr Matt.

March for Life UK This annual event falls on Saturday 7th September, with the theme, 'Abortion Isn't Healthcare'. It begins at the Emmanuel Centre, London, from 10.30am, with the march beginning from there later in the day. If you'd like to attend and would like to be put in touch with someone regarding transport, please contact the parish office.

News from Welsh Martyrs Church | Newyddion o Eglwys Merthyron Cymru

Jubilee Storehouse Food Bank Our local food bank is situated at St Anne's Church in Penparcau, and is looking for volunteers to help with this project: they need people to **distribute food parcels** on Thursdays from 10am to 2pm (training will be given), and others to offer **telephone duty** from home to deal with food parcel requests, any time to suit you Monday to Friday. Contact jubileestorehouse@broaberystwyth.co.uk if you're interested in volunteering.

60+ Gazebo Club The last event before September is this Tuesday 23rd July to Llanllyr Garden near Talsarn, with lunch in Llangeitho beforehand. Please contact Madeleine for more info and to book your place on 07866 626519.

First Holy Communion Group There's a trip out this Tuesday 23rd July for the children currently preparing for their first holy Communion, and for those who received this last year. If you haven't had details and would like more information, please have a word with Enid Brophy or Fr Matt.

Laudato Si Garden Open Day We had a wonderful day in the garden despite the weather – not even the heavy rain could wash off the beautiful face painting! Diolch o galon, many thanks indeed to all those whose little and big efforts made it such a lovely event. It was great to welcome new faces from the local area to experience first hand the great work being done to make Laudato Si Garden such a success. If you'd be interested in getting involved in the garden project, or would like to make a ringfenced donation towards its ongoing work, please have a word with Nick Howells.

Groundskeeping Many thanks to our garden team for the newly laid white stones next to the paths at Welsh Martyrs Church. **Please do not walk across the stony areas** as this causes the stones to move on to the path and become a trip hazard. Please keep to the tarmac or paved areas for walking. Please remind your children to do the same.

Volunteers for Tea and Coffee It's great to see so many after Sunday Mass for coffee and a chat! We have very few people on the rota for this important sign of welcome. Could you help out once a month?

News from Holy Cross | Newyddion o Eglwys y Groes Sanctaidd

Tea and Coffee It would be nice to begin to offer tea and coffee on a regular basis after the Sunday Mass, now that the time of the Mass has shifted to be before lunchtime. This is also a nice way of making our summer visitors welcome among us. If you'd be willing to help out with this, please have a word with Tricia Price.

News from Our Lady of Mount Carmel | Newyddion o Eglwys Ein Harglwyddes o Fynydd Carmel

Parish Feast Day We had a beautiful celebration of our patronal feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel last Tuesday. A huge thank you to all those involved in the celebrations in any way. It was so good to bring our parish families together in the one place. Let's do more of these things! What sort of events do you think could work?

Counting Rota We are returning to the pre-pandemic arrangement of the Sunday collection being counted in pairs at the church after Sunday Mass. If you'd be willing to join a rota for counting the Sunday collection, please have a word with Fr Matt or email him at the address at the top of the newsletter.

Donations If you'd like to donate to the mission of Aberystwyth parish, you can do so via the parish website or using this QR code. Many thanks for your generosity.



Food Bank Donations Collection points are in each church porch. Recent needs include:

Aberystwyth: tinned soup, tinned tuna, tinned fruit, biscuits, shower gel/shampoo, deodorant.

Aberaeron: grateful for whatever you can give.

Lampeter: tins of meat, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, cereal, jam, tea, coffee, sugar, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, toilet rolls.