

# Catholic Parishes of Aberystwyth and Lampeter

## Plwyfi Catholig Aberystwyth a Llanbedr Pont Steffan

**Welsh Martyrs Church**

**Holy Cross Church**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

Piercefield Lane, Aberystwyth, SY23 1RX    Victoria Street, Aberaeron, SA46 0DA    Pontfaen Road, Lampeter, SA48 7BS

**Parish Priest | Offeiriad Plwyf** Fr Matthew Roche-Saunders ([matthew.roche-saunders@menevia.org](mailto:matthew.roche-saunders@menevia.org))

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**Online | Ar-lein** [www.pariahofaberystwyth.org.uk](http://www.pariahofaberystwyth.org.uk) | [www.catholicchurchlampeter.org](http://www.catholicchurchlampeter.org)

Facebook: **Ceredigion Catholics**

<b>8<sup>th</sup> December 2024   2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent   Year C   Weekday Year I   Psalter Week 2</b>			
<b>Date   Dyddiad</b>	<b>Aberystwyth</b> Welsh Martyrs Merthyrion Cymru	<b>Aberaeron</b> Holy Cross Groes Sanctaidd	<b>Lampeter   Llanbed</b> Our Lady of Mount Carmel Ein Harglwyddes o Fynydd Carmel
<b>Sun 8<sup>th</sup> December</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Ail Sul yr Adfent	5.15pm Confessions <b>Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass</b> <i>November Lists</i> <b>8.30am Offeren yn Gymraeg</b> <b>(Mass in Welsh)</b> <i>People of the Parish</i> 10am Confessions <b>10.30am Family Mass</b> <i>November Lists</i>	<b>9am Holy Mass</b> <i>Deceased of the Devlin family</i>	<b>11am Holy Mass</b> <i>Priest's intention</i>
<b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup> December</b> Immaculate Conception of Our Lady	12noon Adoration/Confessions <b>1.30pm Holy Mass with St Padarn's School (in church)</b> <i>School Community</i>		6pm Adoration/Confessions <b>7pm Holy Mass</b> <i>Mark Robins RIP</i> <u>Lectio Divina after Mass</u>
<b>Tue 10<sup>th</sup> December</b> St John Roberts			
<b>Wed 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	9am Adoration/Confessions <b>10am Holy Mass</b> <i>Madeleine Stocks</i>		
<b>Thu 12<sup>th</sup> December</b> Our Lady of Guadalupe	6.30pm Confessions <b>7pm Holy Mass (on campus)</b> <i>Priest's intention</i>	9.30am Adoration/Confessions <b>10.30am Holy Mass</b> <i>Intentions of Val and Johnny</i>	
<b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> December</b> St Lucy	<b>6.30am Rorate Mass</b> <i>Deceased parents of Enid &amp; Peter</i>		
<b>Sat 14<sup>th</sup> December</b> St John of the Cross	9.30am Adoration/Confessions <b>10.30am Holy Mass</b> <i>Priest's intention</i>		
<b>Sun 15<sup>th</sup> December</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Trydydd Sul yr Adfent  <u>Gaudete Sunday</u>	5.15pm Confessions <b>Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass</b> <i>Paddy and Phil Callanan RIP</i> <b>8.30am Holy Mass</b> <i>Madonna Dcruz RIP</i> 10am Confessions <b>10.30am Holy Mass</b> <i>Priest's intention</i>  5pm Advent Carol Service	<b>9am Holy Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>	<b>11am Holy Mass</b> <i>November Lists</i>
<b>Sunday Plate Collection   Casgliad y Sul</b> <i>Thank you for your generosity – diolch am eich haelioni.</i> 1.12.24 <b>£528.68</b> (Aberystwyth/Aberaeron) <b>£152.20</b> (Lampeter   Llanbed)			

**Advent** The call of Advent is to get ready – not just for Christmas (although that's important!), but rather to learn how to live in a permanent state of readiness, of being alert: a preparedness for listening for the voice of the Lord speaking to our hearts. **Come, Lord Jesus!** And may he find us ready when he comes.

**Immaculate Conception** This beautiful feast of Mary's conception without sin, is celebrated on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> this year. The school will join us for 1.30pm Mass in Welsh Martyrs, during which we'll bless the new chapel of Our Lady. There will be Eucharistic Adoration beforehand from 12noon, known on this feast day as the 'Hour of Grace'.

**Lectio Divina** Have you ever tried this method of praying with scripture? Why not come along to see what it's like, meeting on Monday after the evening Mass in Lampeter, to pray with the Christmas Gospels. Please bring a bible!

**Morning Prayer** We pray morning prayer of the Church on Thursdays in Aberaeron, at 10.15am. Sheets provided.

**Rorate Mass** This has become an annual feature of our Advent prayer: the idea is to celebrate Mass before dawn, lit only by candlelight, in preparation for the coming of the Saviour who is Light for the whole world. Join us at **6.30am** this Friday 13<sup>th</sup> in Welsh Martyrs (this replaces the evening Mass). Feel free to bring your own lit lanterns!

**Visiting Priests** Thanks to Canon Michael Smith who will offer Mass in Aberaeron and Lampeter on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>; to Canon John Udris who will offer Mass and hear confessions in all the advertised slots next Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>; to Fr Jimmy Sebastian, who will offer morning Mass and hear confessions (especially for the Malayalam community) on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at Welsh Martyrs; and to Fr Krzysztof Kucharski, who will celebrate Polish Mass at 4pm in Welsh Martyrs on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>, and will be available before and after for Polish confessions. Please make the most of their visits with a good and thorough confession!

**Taste and See** This Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> will be the final catechesis session before Christmas. We'll meet at 6pm in Welsh Martyrs kitchen. The topic will be **The Sacrament of Confirmation**.

**FINAL CALL Advent Youth Event** We're taking a minibus to an event called 'Longing for Light' in Cardiff next Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>, for 12-18 year olds. There are a couple of spaces left – let Fr Matt know if you'd like to come.

**Lampeter Works** As agreed at the parish meeting, we'll begin a monthly second collection to raise funds for the necessary building works. The first of these collections will take place **next Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**. Many thanks!

**Advent Carol Service** Please join us at 5pm in Welsh Martyrs Church next Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> for a service of Advent carols and readings, aiming to draw as much fruit from the final days of Advent as we can. After the service you're invited for refreshments in the kitchen and the draw of the Christmas Raffle!

**Funeral** Please keep in your prayers the soul of **Björn Weiler** who died recently. Due to specific requirements, his Requiem Mass will be at 1pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at St Michael's Church. We're grateful to St Michael's for their hospitality in allowing us to use the church. The Mass will be followed by a service at the crematorium.

**Gazebo Club Christmas Lunch (Dec 18<sup>th</sup>)** Text Madeleine (07866 626519) by the end of Sunday if you'd like to go!

**Mission Appeal** Diolch yn fawr – thank you for your generosity to our annual appeal, this year from the Missionary Society of St Paul. We contributed a total of **£769.64** to their work from across our three churches.

**New ESV Translation** We're now using the newly-translated texts at all Masses. Many thanks especially to those who sponsored these books, and to the staff and students at St Padarn's whose hand-written inserts recall either the name of someone to pray for, or a different title for Jesus, Who speaks to us from every page.

**Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia** This was officially promulgated last week at Mass in St David's Cathedral, Cardiff. Interestingly, the proclamation stated that St Joseph's Cathedral, Swansea becomes a 'co-cathedral' in our new archdiocese (these are quite rare – the only local example is a co-cathedral on the Isle of Man!) We take this as a sign of the Pope's desire for both previous dioceses to speak to our new reality. Let's pray for much fruit!

**Christmas Mass Times** Please share with friends, family and neighbours who might be waiting for your invitation!

- **7pm Vigil Mass** in Holy Cross, Aberaeron
- 9pm Carols and **9.30pm Mass** at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lampeter
- 11.30pm Carols and **Midnight Mass** at Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth
- **9am Dawn Mass** at Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth
- **11am Morning Mass** at Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth

**First Holy Communion 2025** If you would like your child to receive first holy Communion in summer 2025, please register your interest by emailing either [aberystwyth@menevia.org](mailto:aberystwyth@menevia.org) or [lampeter@menevia.org](mailto:lampeter@menevia.org) (depending on your parish), with your child's name and age. More details will be given in due course once we have a sense of numbers.

**SoundCloud** Some of Fr Matt's Sunday homilies are now available if you'd like to listen again or share. Go to <https://on.soundcloud.com/Tz4Ap>, where they will be uploaded as and when recorded.

**Donations** If you'd like to donate to the mission of Aberystwyth parish, you can use this QR code. Many thanks for your generosity.



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

**Aberystwyth:** spaghetti rings, tinned fruit, biscuits, soap, men's deodorant.

**Aberaeron:** please see the note in the newsletter.

**Lampeter:** strong 'Bags for Life', pasta, sugar, tea, small jars of coffee.

*Diolch yn fawr iawn – thank you very much!*