

From David Greaney, Llanbadarn Fawr

Of Harrogate and the Holy Spirit...

“Go to Bettys” was what so many people said to me when I let it be known that I was heading off to Harrogate for three days in June (12-14). But I didn't get to Bettys (*the* go-to place for a most delicious and expensive afternoon tea), though it was just a stone's throw from the Harrogate Convention Centre. Yup. *That's* where I had to be. Representing our parish at the uncatchy-sounding *Catholic Parish Summit*. The Holy Spirit did not disappoint. I have to confess that I was luxuriously fed and watered in an earthly and a spiritual sense at this huge conference. And the notion that had been in my head for months – namely that I was in for three days of stands, chatterboxes, weirdos (I so attract them!), key-fobs, biro, mints, toffees, and cup-cakes – proved to be an illusion. The Summit was an ultra-fast spiritual charging point and at many points in the day, it was quite high-decibel. As an old hobbler with tinnitus, I frequently thought to myself “Is there a lorry full of cup-cakes out the back that I can go and hide behind?” To which the Holy Spirit kept answering, “No, David. There isn't!”

Well, I knew that big Catholic events – and this was the biggest I'd ever attended – were *never* dull. And our three days there – five of us went from Welsh Martyrs – were positively buzzing. What was this Summit all about? It took a while for it to sink in (and I haven't fully plumbed the depths of all that the Lord laid before us). It was about making Catholic parishes the world over come alive (and 38 countries were represented at the Summit). And in coming alive we'd have to learn how to work with the Holy Spirit. Many of us, oldies like me in particular, can so easily get set in our ways. Other Christians sitting next to us in the pews, or wherever, are just that – *other*. We need to hear their voices and use their talents. The Church is clear about this: young people in our modern age are very open to hearing about God. We need to step aside (whatever that might mean for me and you) in order to let new Catholics, young and old, co-work with the Holy Spirit, using the charisms (individual gifts) He has given them for the good of us all.

Here is a *small* selection of challenging thoughts and ideas that I put in my notebook over three days (though it'll take me a long time to get my head and heart around them, believe you me):

- Consumerism affects many of us – young people (and not so young) can be obsessed with consuming podcasts, for example. However, our mission isn't to sit around for ever and a day listening to podcasts, thinking that it will make us better disciples. The great commission of Jesus for us all is to “go and make disciples of all nations”. So, we must get on with that (and work more with our hearts not our heads).
- Young people want to hear the Truth, and not a diluted Gospel. They want to meet people whose faith is authentic.
- Young people, especially, are yearning to belong to a community. Community is intrinsic to mission.
- Don't ask for volunteers to undertake ministries in the Church – choose people for their charisms (gifts). Recognise that the Holy Spirit has given many young Christians the gift of leadership. How can they use their gifts for the common life of the parish community?
- Rather than focusing on the decline of a ‘post-Christian’ world, we are just as much living in a pre-Christian world, with opportunities for growth and reaping a harvest of new life!
- We should take risks in being ‘missional’. We follow a man who was willing to accept death, death on a cross. Jesus's vision was ‘global’ but he acted ‘local’ – every parish needs to share in His vision and action it wherever we are.
- Don't forget this date: 17 April 2033. This will be the 2,000th Easter Sunday. Co-working with the Holy Spirit, our parishes need to grow and make many disciples by then.
- Cup-cakes and good coffee greatly help new faces to feel welcome at a Parish!

This amazing summit was about Divine Renovation (so-called from a book of the same name): giving the Church a make-over is one way of describing that. The Holy Spirit blessed me in so many ways at Harrogate. Three days with Him there and I want to be young again. Roll on 2033!

Tyrd, Ysbryd Glân. / Come, Holy Spirit.

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

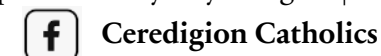
Parish Priest | Offeiriad Plwyf Fr Matthew Roche-Saunders | matthew.roche-saunders@menevia.org

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Please note that Sunday Mass times will be changing on June 29th/30th, to the following:

Aberystwyth: Saturday 6pm | Sunday 8.30am | Sunday 10.30am **Aberaeron: Sunday 9am** **Lampeter: Sunday 11am**

23rd June 2024 | 12th Week in Ordinary Time | Year B | Weekday Year II

Times of Holy Mass and other events Amserau'r Offeren a ddigwyddiadau eraill WM Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth HC Holy Cross, Aberaeron L Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lampeter UC Aberystwyth University Faith Space		Mass Intention Bwriad
Sun 23rd June 12 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sul Cyffredin 12	Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass (WM) (<i>Confessions 5.15pm</i>) 8.30am Holy Mass (WM) 10am Holy Mass (WM) 10am Holy Mass (L) 12.30pm Holy Mass (HC) (<i>Confessions 12.10pm</i>) 6pm Msza Świąta po polsku Mass in Polish (L)	<i>November Lists</i> <i>Anne Kidner's intentions</i> <i>Holy Father's intentions</i> <i>People of the Parish</i> <i>Thanksgiving for Adam Hughes</i> <i>Priest's intention</i>
Mon 24th June Birthday of St John the Baptist	2pm Requiem Mass (WM) 6pm Holy Mass (L)	<i>Lina Porter RIP</i> <i>Private intention</i>
Tues 25th June	<i>9.30am Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions</i> 10.30am Holy Mass (HC) 6pm Holy Mass (WM)	<i>November Lists</i> <i>Derny and Clare Nestor</i>
Wed 26th June St Josemaria Escriva	6pm Holy Mass (WM) 6.40pm-8.15pm 'Morning Star' Women's Recollection	<i>Anne Kidner's intentions</i>
Thurs 27th June St Cyril of Alexandria	10am Holy Mass (WM) 6pm Holy Mass (L)	<i>Lilian Passmore RIP</i> <i>Ernesto Boscano RIP</i>
Fri 28th June St Irenaeus	<i>5pm Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions</i> 6pm Holy Mass (WM)	<i>November Lists</i>
Sat 29th June Memorial of Our Lady	<i>9.30am Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions</i> 10.30am Holy Mass (WM)	<i>November Lists</i>
Sun 30th June Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul Gŵyl Saint Pedr a Paul	Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass (WM) (<i>Confessions 5.15pm</i>) 8.30am Holy Mass (WM) 10.30am Family Mass (WM) (Confessions 10am) 9am Holy Mass (HC) (Confessions 8.40am) 11am Holy Mass (L)	<i>Leonard Langridge RIP</i> <i>People of the Parish</i> <i>New home (thanksgiving)</i> <i>Moirra James RIP</i> <i>Vocations to the Priesthood</i>
Sunday Plate Collection Casgliad y Sul: 16.6.2024 £434.30 + £200.88 Day for Life (A) £139.50 + £42.84 Day for Life (L) <i>Many thanks for your generosity, diolch yn fawr am eich haelioni!</i>		

General News | Newyddion Cyffredinol

Sunday Mass This weekend is the final weekend of the old Mass times. From 29/30 June the Masses will be:

- Welsh Martyrs, Aberystwyth: **Saturday 6pm, Sunday 8.30am, Sunday 10.30am**
- Holy Cross, Aberaeron: **Sunday 9am**
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lampeter: **Sunday 11am**

Funerals Please pray for the repose of **Angelina Porter**, whose Requiem Mass will take place in Welsh Martyrs Church at 2pm on **Monday 24th June** (this is a correction to last week's newsletter), followed by committal at the Crematorium at 3pm. Please also pray for **Lilian Passmore**, whose funeral is on Wednesday 26th June at the Crematorium; and for **Elizabeth Allan**, whose Requiem Mass will be in Welsh Martyrs Church at 10am on Monday 1st July.

General Election Among the things you may be considering before you cast your vote in next month's election, Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury Diocese recently spoke of the emphasis we should ask our politicians to place on defending the role of marriage, "*the bedrock on which the well-being of the individual and society is bound up... [We] should expect our elected representatives to have the courage and responsibility to recognise the central place of marriage in securing the good of society and of new generations.*" You'll also notice some leaflets from SPUC in the porch, inviting us to consider the candidates' stance on abortion and euthanasia – please feel free to take some to share with others. St Michael's Church in Aberystwyth has a **hustings event** to question the candidates for Ceredigion Preseli, on Thursday 27th June at 7.30pm. Feel free just to turn up, and if you'd like to submit a question in advance, please email office@stmikes.net.

Second Collections Many thanks for your generosity in last week's collection for the *Day for Life*, which raised £200.88 in Aberystwyth/Aberaeron, and £42.84 in Lampeter. Next weekend (June 29/30) will be the annual collection for **Peter's Pence**, which directly supports Pope Francis's charitable initiatives.

Online Bible Study Feel free to join Caroline Maybury and her online bible study class, 7.00-8.15am on Mon 1st, Weds 3rd and Fri 5th July. The sessions will spend time listening to episodes 258, 259 and 260 respectively of Fr Mike Schmitz's 'Bible in a Year' podcast, (available at <https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear>). Fr Matt will be attending for some Q&A following the podcast. You can use this link to log in via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8676477085>), or email the parish to receive a clickable link in reply.

Job Advert St Mary's Primary School in Carmarthen is looking to appoint a class teacher for a Key Stage 2 mixed year-group class. For informal conversation and more information, please contact the Acting Headteacher Mrs Hannah Corcoran on 01267 234297 or corcoranh1@hwbcymru.net.

Evangelium 2024 A conference on Catholic faith, life and culture for young adults aged 18-35, located at the Oratory School in Woodcote – full price £179, students £119. For more info go to <https://saintant.com/evangelium-conference>.

Diocesan Pilgrimage Join Archbishop Mark 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. Let us know if you're interested in going to gauge the need for transport.

Adoremus Eucharistic Congress This event on September 14th takes place in St Mary's College, Oscott, the site of the first Eucharistic procession post-Reformation. There are 11 tickets to be shared among our deanery. If you'd like your name to be considered in a ballot (couples can apply for a double ticket), please let Fr Matt know by Friday 12th July. For more info go to <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/adoremus-at-oscott/national-eucharistic-congress-2024/>.

News from Welsh Martyrs Church | Newyddion o Eglwys Merthyron Cymru

Morning Star A new women's group meeting for the first time on the evening of Wednesday 26th June. It evokes one of the titles of Our Lady in the Litany, and seeks her protection over this new initiative. The event will start at 6pm with Mass (open to all), then the Morning Star event will begin at 6.40pm with a preached meditation, opportunities for personal prayer, a brief talk on an aspect of the Christian life, and some social time.

60+ Gazebo Club Three events for your diaries (please contact Madeleine for more info on 07866 626519):

- **Tue 25th June** for a tour of the National Library, a presentation of the historic Llanbadarn Missal, a visit to the 'Canaletto in Aberystwyth' Exhibition, and lunch in the library café
- **Tue 16th July** for a visit to Llanbadarn Church – beginning with coffee at 10.45am, a guided tour of the church for about 90 minutes, and then lunch in the Black Lion across the road
- **Tue 23rd July** for a visit to an open garden in the National Garden Scheme – more info to follow

Ploughman's and Quiz Night Saturday 29th June at 7pm, £10 entrance to include a Ploughman's supper. Get your quiz heads ready! All proceeds will go to the fundraising activities of Aberystwyth parish. Raffle prizes and cakes for the night are much appreciated – please contact Jacky if you can provide something (07554 118435).

Family Mass The next one is on Sunday 30th June. If your child would like to take part in some way, please let us know!

Our Father Series: 'Give us this day our daily bread' The next talk will be at 6.45pm on Tuesday 9th July at Neuadd Goffa in Penparcau, given by Fr Greg Beckett. All welcome!

New Fundraising Team There is a growing need for fundraising in our parish for various projects, but it needs people to help with time, skills and ideas, to plan and host events. **Could that be you?** Please have a word with Fr Matt if so.

Volunteers for Tea and Coffee It's great to see so many stay after Sunday Mass for tea and coffee and chat! This is such an important role of hospitality and welcome – but we have very few people on the rota. Could you help once a month?

News from Holy Cross | Newyddion o Eglwys y Groes Sanctaidd

Works to Holy Cross Church Do you know where we could source new gates for the front of the church? Please get in touch if so. This would be a significant finishing touch to our roadside welcome!

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

Service of Celebration and Corisma Choir St John's Ambulance Cymru is hosting a celebration on Sunday 23rd June in partnership with St James' Church in Cwmann – begins with drinks and nibbles at 5pm in Cwmann Vicarage Gardens before going to church for the Concert/Service at 6pm. Entrance £10pp – all welcome!

Thursday 27th June Please note the Mass will begin an hour earlier at 6pm, to enable those who'd like also to attend the hustings event in St Michael's Church, Aberystwyth, at 7.30pm.

Works to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Please get in touch if you have ideas for works to our church building, or can help in any way. Many of these works are years overdue. If you'd like to make a contribution to these works, you can do so at any time and 'ringfence' your donation for such works (by writing on the envelope, 'building' or similar words).

Hospitality Team Please help to plan and host some events that bring us as a parish together more often, and offer a chance to welcome new faces living in our parish. We look forward to the parish feast day, beginning with festive Mass at 6pm on Tuesday 16th July followed by some celebrations in the hall!

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: jam, tinned soup, tinned tuna, 1kg rice, tinned fruit, deodorant.

Aberaeron: grateful for whatever you can give.

Diolch yn fawr! Many thanks!