

Parish Notices

Mothering Sunday

As we give our presents to our mums, take them for lunch, give them flowers - don't forget that Mothering Sunday is about giving thanks to our Mother Church, the place of our Baptism and our birth into the family of God. There is a Baptism display in each of the churches for today. Have a look and give thanks for your spiritual birth; remember your God-parents; remember Our Lady, the Mother of the church! Remember also your baptismal promises!

Holy Week!

As we pass the halfway point of Lent, we start to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. Please take a sheet of the Lent Events and Holy Week times. The Triduum will all be at Our Lady of Peace and begins with the

Mass of the Lord's at 7.00pm

Good Friday Liturgy at 3.00pm

Easter Vigil at 8.00pm

Easter Day

Sacred Heart at 8.45am

Ss. Anthony & Clare at 10.00am

Easter Day Masses are only for those who find it impossible to be at the Vigil. It is important

Reconciliation

Next week there will be times for Reconciliation throughout the Parish. I encourage you all to seek the Sacrament in preparation for Easter.

Lenten Alms

There are Lenten Alms Boxes in each church. The giving of Alms happens throughout the year, but in Lent we are asked to give Alms which will be handed to the Diocese and distributed, this year, to two charities, one local and one national. Our Lenten fast, or the 'giving up something' in Lent is not meant to be a means of increasing our savings, but a thoughtful way of being able to give Alms (*in charity*) to those who are in poverty or need.

Readers!

There will be meetings for the readers of each of the churches in the Parish. The list is now open for new Readers to apply in Risca. Could the other co-ordinators please arrange for readers meetings in the coming weeks please.

We are also looking again for Welcomers in each of the churches. If you think you could help, please let me know!

Missals!

Those of you who have ordered the Daily Missal - it has finally arrived!

Please see me after Mass to collect your copy. If anyone would like to order one of the new Missals, please ask and I will bring a selection of them out from C.T.S.

Celebration of the Life of Oscar Romero

All are welcome to come to a Celebration of the life of Oscar Romero at 9:30am-2pm on March 24th 2012 Corpus Christi Catholic High School, Tydraw Rd., Lisvane, Cardiff CF23 6XL. The event is being organised jointly by CAFOD and the Cardiff Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Network (JPIC). The key note speaker will be Fr. Tony Lester, Chaplain of the university of York and Trustee of the Romero Trust. There will also be discussion, Ecumenical Liturgy, information sharing and shared lunch.

Christian Aid!

Churches Together in Risca will be making a collection at Tesco's on Saturday, 21st April 2012. If you can help out for an hour between 10.00am and 6.00pm, please let us know.

HCPT 'Bangers-&-Mash'

Group 737 will be having a 'Bangers-&-Mash' night in Risca on Tuesday, 27th March. Tickets are £6.00 each

Our groups are finishing off their preparations for the Easter Pilgrimage. If you would like us to take any petitions over to the Grotto for you, please hand them to one of the groups and we will see that they get there. Be assured also of our prayers for you all at the shrine.

Stamps

Please remember that we are still collecting used postage stamps. If you have any, please bring them into the sacristy. Many thanks!

Fundraising!

Cans!

If anyone uses aluminium cans and just throws them away for recycling, could you please save them and bring them in? Money from rubbish can't be bad.

Pot of Gold!

There is a box at the back of each Church which is gold in colour and marked 'Pot of Gold'! If you have any odd bits of gold or silver jewellery which have bits missing and you don't know what to do with, you can pop them into the 'Pot of Gold' we will collect them all up and sell them when there is a decent weight!

Saint Patrick's Night Dance

What a night! A lot of people turned out to enjoy the night with dancers and disco and a young girl with a really beautiful voice. A great night's entertainment and the basket food was a lovely idea and just right. I'm not sure how much was made, but the social part was excellent - well done and thank you to those who organised everything so well!

Meetings & Information

Justice & Peace Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday April 16th at 7pm in the hall in Pontllanfraith to plan the Fair-trade Breakfast.

SVP

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 27th at Ss. Anthony & Clare, Risca after the 7.00pm Mass. This week we will be joining in with the Dementia week presentation.

Prayer Group

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 27th We meet in Ss. Anthony & Clare, Risca, after the 7.00pm Mass. This week we will be joining in with the Dementia week presentation.

Catechism Classes

Catechism classes are held in Risca on a Tuesday and in Pontllanfraith on a Wednesday from 5.30-6.30pm

Sunshine Club

Meet every other Monday from 16th April. Come along and check those pounds!! (*Especially after the Easter Eggs!*)

Senior Citizens

We meet in the Hall in Pontllanfraith every Tuesday from 1.15pm to 3.30pm You are more than welcome to turn up for a chat, a cup of tea, and a game of bingo. For more information, please ask or phone Jean Daniels.

Child Protection

The LCPR - 'Local Child Protection Rep. for these parishes is Mrs Imelda Mortimer. Should you need to contact her the number is - (*Parish handout only*)

Collection 11/03/12	
Parish	£642.43

Risca,
Newbridge &
Pontllanfraith

18TH MARCH 2012

NEWSLETTER

Bringing Light

God's people are in exile. They are homeless, sleeping in the streets of our cities. They are hungry, not knowing where the next meal will come from. They are exploited because they are not male, or white, or European, or middle aged, or healthy. They are abused, tortured, and abandoned by society.

Who will be Cyrus, the liberator of God's people? Who will be Christ, saving God's people by joining them in their suffering? Who will bring light into this world of darkness? Who, if not the follower of Christ, will "turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, death to eternal life"?

We live in a world that is in need of salvation. God sends messengers to us such as Gandhi and Martin Luther King, and we scoff at these prophets.

There remains, however, the challenge of Christ, who "brought us to life when we were dead in sin, and who came not to condemn the world but that the world might be saved."

"The poor are an exiled and oppressed people whom God will rescue ([Isaiah 51:21-23](#)) as well as a faithful remnant who take refuge in God ([Zephaniah 3:12-13](#)). Throughout the Bible, material poverty is a misfortune and a cause of sadness. A constant biblical refrain is that the poor must be cared for and protected and that when they are exploited, God hears their cries ([Proverbs 22:22-23](#))."

U.S. Bishops, Economic Justice for All (1986) 49

Gerald Darring

First Reading:	Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
Responsorial Psalm:	Ps: 137: 1-6
Second Reading:	Ephesians 2:4-10
Gospel Acclamation:	Laudate 200 and v.4
Gospel:	John 3:14-21
Communion Antiphon:	Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.
Mass Setting:	See Missal Text

Day	Ss. Anthony & Clare, Risca	Our Lady of Peace, Newbridge	The Sacred Heart, Pontllanfraith
Sundays B Weekdays 11			
Sunday March 18th <small>4th Sunday of Lent</small>	11.00 am <i>Arthur Fisher</i>	5.00pm <i>Ada Maloney</i>	6:00pm Hywel Jenkins 9.30am <i>Those with Dementia and their carers</i>
Monday 19th			<i>Rosary 10.30am</i> 11.00am <i>Emily Petherem</i>
Tuesday 20th	7.00pm <i>Eucharistic Service</i>		
Wednesday 21st	<i>Exposition - 9.30am</i> 10.00 am <i>James Farrell</i>		
Thursday 22nd		1:30pm <i>Joanna Mitchard & Agnes Russell</i>	
Friday 23rd	6.30am <i>Thanksgiving</i>		<i>Exposition - 10.00am</i> 10.30am <i>Holy Souls</i>
Saturday 24th		<i>No Mass</i> <i>Flame Congress</i>	
Sunday 25th <small>5th Sunday of Lent</small>	11.00 am <i>Ann Loftus</i>	5.00pm <i>Parish Community</i>	6:00pm <i>Marian Tomaszewski</i> 9.30am <i>Vic Resteghini</i>

DIARY - 2012

- March 27th** HCPT Group 737 'Bangers & Mash' night. Tickets £6.00
- April 29th** Fair Trade Breakfast in Pont after 9.30am Mass

Prayer for Vocations

God, source of creation and love, you invite each of us to serve you through the gift of our life. May your grace encourage men and women to serve the Church as priests, religious, deacons and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give of themselves, and challenge me to do the same. We ask you through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Day Trip to Worcester

We are running a trip to Worcester on Saturday April 21st picking up at Pontllanfraith, Newbridge and Risca. We leave the car park at the council offices in Pontllanfraith at 8.30 a.m., returning from Worcester at 5.p.m. This is your chance to visit the beautiful Cathedral, the Royal Worcester Porcelain Museum, the river or even the shops!!! The trip costs £10.00 per person and this is payable when you book your seat. Book early to avoid disappointment! Please see Imelda Mortimer, Rosemary Jenkins, Caroline Paine or Mary James. All profits will go to the Restoration Fund

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