



26, Porthycarne Street Usk NP15 1RZ

A parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia

Priest in Charge: Canon Paul Millar

07469-208275 or 01495-762280 pontypool@cardiffmenevia.org

<https://carol77648.wixsite.com/usk-catholic-church>

MASS TIMES

Feast Days

Mass Intentions

Sunday	15th Feb	9.15am	6th Sunday of the Year		Bill Hayes RIP
<i>Offertory: Celeste Manley & Phil Barry</i>			<i>Children's Liturgy today</i>		
Monday	16th Feb				
Tuesday	17th Feb	12noon			<i>Teyrnon Williams Intention</i>
Wednesday	18th Feb	12noon	Ash Wednesday		<i>Private Intention</i>
Thursday	19th Feb		Prayer Group 2pm		
Friday	20th Feb				
Saturday	21st Feb			St Peter Damian	
Sunday	22nd Feb	9.15am	1st Sunday of Lent		Gareth Jones

Offertory: Liz & Richard Annesley

Children's Liturgy today

RCIA/Faith Enquiry continues on Thursday at 7.00pm

Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. It is a day of Fast and Abstinence. There will be a Mass in Usk at 12noon and in Pontypool at 7.00pm. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at both Masses.

The Rite of Election

Next Sunday the Rite of Election will take place in St David's Cathedral at 3.00pm.

The Rite of Election is ceremony, where adults seeking baptism or to be received into full communion of the Church publicly declare their commitment to becoming Catholic, and the Bishop formally accepts them as the "Elect" for initiation at Easter, marking their final preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist).

This year Jack and Luke Barry are to be baptised at the Easter Vigil, please remember them in your prayers as they prepare to become full members of the Church.

Walk with Me booklets.

These pocket size booklets contain Prayers and daily reflections for the season of Lent. They are available at the back of the church price £1 per copy.

Young Adults Holy Week Retreat

A residential retreat for young adults aged 18-30 will take place on 27-29th March at Belmont Abbey. The retreat costs £150pp, (plus a £25 single supplement). The retreat is full board, with a full timetable of activities, including a trip into Hereford to learn about local martyr St John Kemble. Register at youth@cardiffmenevia.org or use the QR code on the poster

Youth Event

A one-day event for youth in year 8 to year 13 will take place in Belmont Abbey on March 14th cost £15pp. The day will include holy Mass, lunch, an experience of monastic life and a walk in the countryside. The day will be an experience of monastic life, an opportunity to pray together during Lent, and a chance to get to know other young Catholics. The day is £15pp. Register at youth@cardiffmenevia.org or use the QR code on the poster

Passion Play

Rise Theatre will be performing a Passion Play in OLSM Church in Abergavenny on Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 adults, young people free, for ages 11+. Tickets can be booked online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatre or via Fr Matthew.

St David Lewis' Grave Rota, February Mary Reed

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Celeste Manley 01495-785723

Church Hall enquiries: Carol Ainge 07881-912005 carol@ainge.co.uk

Pope Leo's weekly Catechesis

This week in his Catechesis on *Dei Verbum*, and he reflected on the relationship between the Word of God and the Church.

The Text of the Pope's weekly Audiences can be found on the website of the Holy See.

www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026.index.html

Message for Lent

Pope Leo has also issued a message for Lent in which he invites us to open ourselves to listening, fasting, and community, urging us to abstain from words of hatred in order to make space for words of hope and peace.

www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/lent/documents/20260205-messaggio-quaresima.html

Tuesday Club Speaker:

This coming Tuesday we have an excellent speaker in the hall as part of our Tuesday Club. He is going to give us a brief history (including some of the lesser-known facts and myths and legends) on Blaenavon Ironworks and the surrounding area. Mark Howell grew up in the South Wales valleys, which links into the iron and coal industries, he comes from around 6 generations of coal and ironworkers. If there is time, he will also share some of his father's memories about his time as an undertaker in the valleys.

The talk will start at 2pm and finish at about 3pm. All welcome and all complimentary refreshments

That was Magic

A wonderful social evening was had last Tuesday in our hall as we were entertained by the wonderful Magician Josh Hooper; thanks so much to Josh and to all for being part of it. Thank you to Carol for organising it.

Afternoon Tea

The events and fundraising group would like to thank everyone who attended the 'Afternoon Tea' last weekend. It was a very enjoyable and memorable, parish get together, despite the horrendous weather! Thank you to Kara and her helpers for organising it. It managed to raise £300 for parish funds.

Offertory Summary		Jan 2026
	Gift Aid	Total
4th	£240.00	£359.00
11th	£106.00	£185.00
18th	£136.00	£254.60
25th	£125.00	£213.30
Standing Orders	£763.00	£763.00
Karadoo/on-line	£0.00	£0.00
MONTHLY TOTAL	£1,370.00	£1,774.90

Prayer Board:

The prayer board, located next to Our Lady's altar and moved to the altar for Sunday Mass, has become very popular.

In order to leave enough space on it for new prayer requests, we now remove prayer requests that are older than 2 weeks. If, for some reason, you need your prayer to stay for longer, then please let Paul Venkort know.

We are now using different coloured post-it notes, to make it easier for us to identify items older than 2 weeks.

Livestream:

If you can't be with us at Mass, remember you can always listen and watch via the live stream pages of the website.

This is not a recording; it is simply a live camera all the time, and when Mass is being said, Canon Paul turns on the sound element so you can hear the proceedings.

We are told that the sound is very clear for those attending virtually.

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Canon Paul is the Parish Priest of St. Alban's, with its chapel of ease Sacred Heart & St Felix.
St Alban's Conway Road, Pontypool NP4 6HL

01495-762280

Sacred Heart & St Felix,
Ellick Street, Blaenavon NP4 9HR
www.pontypoolparish.co.uk

If you know of anyone in the parish who is ill, in hospital or would appreciate a home visit at any time, please let Canon Paul know. Please do not assume that he already knows.



Please take this news letter home if you would like to, but if not, please return it to the back of the church after Mass.

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Please give or send information for next week's newsletter to Frank Evans ☎ 01291-672466 📧 frank@simplehappy.co.uk