

Our Lady Star Of The Sea Catholic Church

The Presbytery, 22 Devon Place, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4DR
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St David's Catholic Primary School
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 'Love God, Love Learning, Love Life'

SOME MASSES LISTED BELOW ARE LIVESTREAMED

Date & Liturgical Celebration	Time	Mass Intention
Sunday 7th February 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Parish Community Fr Devine, RIP (K B) John Lynch, RIP Anniversary (A & M B) John Onigu-Otite, RIP
Monday 8 th <i>St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	John Onigu-Otite, RIP
Tuesday 9 th <i>St Teilo, Bishop</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Joyce Fowler, RIP
Wednesday 10 th <i>St Scholastica, Virgin</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	James Wilson, RIP Anniversary (P W)
Thursday 11 th	10.30am (Livestreamed)	Funeral Mass: Philomena O'Connell, RIP
Friday 12 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Special Intention (E K)
Saturday 13 th <i>Votive Memorial of Our Lady</i>	10.00am (Livestreamed)	Denise Frances Robinson, RIP (C M ^c)
Sunday 14th February 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Dan Falvey, RIP Anniversary Parish Community Philomena O'Connell, RIP (M & A O'C, K A, S W) Marjorie Morris, RIP Anniversary (M M) Our Lady's Lamp: For the sick in the parish (A L)

WEEKDAY MASSES: Weekday Masses are livestreamed without a congregation. There will be no in-person attendance until further notice. Funerals are not affected.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday evening, 6pm-6.15pm and on request.

FACE COVERINGS AT MASS: In keeping with Welsh Government guidance, face coverings must be worn at Mass by adults and children aged 11 and over. The face covering may be removed in order to receive Holy Communion. By wearing a face covering you will be helping to protect others.

HOW TO PRE-BOOK SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE: To book a place at Sunday Masses, please contact **Madeline Ahearne** on phone or email (01792 361194; madelineolss@aol.com) or send an email to the Parish email address mumbles@menevia.org. Please provide your name, the number attending Mass, and contact phone number when you book. This record will be held for 14 days solely for track and trace (COVID-19).

LIVESTREAMED MASSES: Masses are livestreamed from our Parish every day. For a link to livestreamed Masses please go to our Parish website www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk and click "Livestream" on the menu bar. You can also find us on **YouTube** by searching for **Our Lady Star of the Sea Mumbles**.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a collection for Racial Justice Sunday next week.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Terri Jukes, Jonathan Pass, Ade Oshisanya, Eira Hooper.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY ONLINE: Bible study on Monday, 8th February 2021 at 7pm on Zoom. Details will be sent to all via email

CAFOD: Is anyone ready to take up the challenge of the Cafod 'Big Walk for Water' to help end water poverty? 10.000 steps a day throughout Lent; see cafod.org.uk/walk. We'll sponsor you! Please contact Sarah on 07886277864 if you are interested. Thank you.

OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Our local Catholic Primary school is **St David's** on West Cross Avenue, a welcoming and happy school, where children are cared for and nurtured to develop educationally, spiritually and emotionally. The contact details for St David's are at the top of this Newsletter - do get in touch to secure a place for your child.

st.davids.primaryschool@swanseae.dunet.gov.uk or phone on 01792 512212 or follow us on Twitter: @stdavidscps.

FUNERAL OF PHILOMENA O'CONNELL, RIP: Funeral Mass in our parish church on Thursday 11th February at 10.30am. Due to current restrictions, attendance is by invitation. This Mass will be livestreamed. Our prayerful condolences go to Michael and Arlene O'Connell, Karolina Ashton, and Sarah Walsh as they mourn the loss of Philomena. May the Lord grant her eternal rewards. Amen.

FUNERAL OF EILEEN JENKINS, RIP: Funeral Mass in our parish church on Thursday, 18th February at 2.30pm. Due to current restrictions, attendance is by invitation. This Mass will be livestreamed. May the Lord grant her eternal rewards. Amen.

SUNDAY OFFERING: Last Sunday: £778 (includes standing orders) Last week's collection for Sick & retired Clergy: £107	LIVESTREAM DONATIONS Thanks to all who donate to support the livestream.
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Reflection for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

He lifts us up

Christ continues his preaching and healing ministries by healing Simon's mother-in-law who was down with a fever. He also healed others who came to him with their problems. In our worship today, we come to Christ who can set us free from our problems and support us in our trials.

The Lamentations of the Afflicted Job: The life of Job succinctly symbolises the experiences of humanity. In other words, Job represents suffering humanity who has known pain and sorrow. These pains could be physical when we are unable to move about as we would love to because of ill health or old age. In this case, we remember Job who was afflicted with a skin disease (Job 2:7). The pain could also be emotional when we are lonely because we feel deserted and betrayed by our most trusted friends and allies. Job had three friends who did not understand with his situation but judged him harshly. Part of our emotional pain may also arise from bereavement. We might have lost a loved one in their prime. Death might have taken away our only companion from us. These occasions of bereavement have left a vast void in our hearts and we wonder if life would ever get better. Once again, we take consolation in the life of Job who also lost his children in their youth. It was based on these intensively sorrowful experiences that Job voiced out his pain to the Lord. Like Job, we also regularly reflect on the many problems we have faced in life. We ask ourselves why that should be the case. In our reflection on life's troubles, St Paul assures us that God is aware of every trouble humanity encounters (Rom 8:20).

Christ Heals Humanity: While the problems which humanity faces are numerous, Christ the Lord comes with his powerful touch to heal humanity not just from physical afflictions but also from emotional and spiritual ones. In his reflection, Job asked a lot of questions on why humans suffer pain and sorrow. By healing Simon's mother-in-law, Christ answers Job's questions by giving hope to humanity in its despair. He assures humanity that his healing touch will always be there to comfort her. In the fever felt by Simon's mother-in-law, we see the helplessness of humanity.

Before the coming of Christ, humanity was weighed down by the fever of sin. In Simon's mother-in-law, we see humanity who needed help from the Saviour. As Christ went to her house to heal her, Christ also comes to humanity when he took on himself our human nature. It is also significant that in the process of healing her, Christ took her by the hand and helped her up. This speaks of the healing touch of Jesus who comes to us to feel our pain.

In addition, it is known that fever is usually accompanied by high temperature. The most basic method of confirming how high a patient's body temperature is by feeling their body with one's touch. Thus, with his touch, Christ was able to feel Simon's mother-in-law's fever. Similarly, Christ comes to us in our pain and sorrow to relieve us and lift us up. The healing touch of Christ in the world also assures us that he is always close to us. He never leaves our side. He has come to give healing and salvation to humanity.

God restores all things in Christ: Despite all the sufferings he endured, Job remained steadfast and was faithful to God. As his reward, God restored all that he lost during his trial and even blessed him measure. In Christ, God has also restored all things to himself. The Gospel Reading also confirms that Christ's mission is to bring all peoples to the kingdom of God through his preaching and healing ministries (Mk 1:15).

Christ Heals through the Prayer of the Church: After Christ had healed those who were sick in various forms, he withdrew to a lonely place to pray. With this, he teaches his apostles that it is essential to find time to pray after carrying out the ministries of preaching and healing. The Church has learnt from this by always presenting petitions to God for the Church and for the world. Just like St Paul in the Second Reading, the ministers of Christ have the responsibility of devoting themselves fully to the preaching ministry. No matter the form of pain we are going through, Christ heals us and frees us from them all. May we feel the healing touch of Christ whenever we face life's challenges. Amen.
