

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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 Tel 01792 512212
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 'Love God, Love Learning, Love Life'

SOME MASSES LISTED BELOW ARE LIVESTREAMED

Date & Liturgical Celebration	Time	Mass Intention
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) James Wilson, RIP Anniversary (P W) Our Lady's Lamp: For the sick in the parish (A L)
Monday 15 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Shelagh Colclough, RIP (E T)
Tuesday 16 th <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	John Onigu-Otite, RIP
Wednesday 17 th ASH WEDNESDAY	9.30am	Christiana Akpoghiran, RIP (J M)
Thursday 18 th <i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i>	6.30pm 9.30am (Livestreamed) 2.30pm (Livestreamed)	Philomena O'Connell, RIP Abigail Rockefeller, RIP Anniversary (A L) Funeral Mass: Eileen Jenkins, RIP
Friday 19 th <i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Barbara Evans, RIP
Saturday 20 th <i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i>	10.00am (Livestreamed)	Maria Richardson, RIP Anniversary (M M)
Sunday 21st February 1st Sunday of Lent	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Ray Clancy, Thanksgiving (A L) Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart (G C) Philomena O'Connell, RIP (The Prayer Group) Parish Community

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**.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: V. Quinn, Ray Clancy, Anthony Francis, Ann Richards, Jim Sander, Father Michael Akpoghiran.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY ONLINE: Bible study on Monday, 22nd February 2021 at 7pm on Zoom. Details will be sent to all via email

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: Friday 26th February. Please give today to provide vulnerable communities around the world with water and other vital support. Donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/fastday. Or donate using one of the envelopes in the porch. 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@swansea-edunet.gov.uk or phone on 01792 512212 or follow us on Twitter: @stdavidscps.

PARISH COFFEE MORNING ON ZOOM: Please join parishioners and friends for a Zoom coffee morning at 11.30am for half an hour following 10.30am Mass next Sunday (21st February). Access it with the Zoom ID **874 7646 0780** (no passcode required). You can turn up and leave at your leisure. Please let your friends know about this new initiative which will continue until further notice. Have your coffee and biscuit (s) ready to enjoy meeting your friends in a new way. Don't get left out. See you. For more information, please contact Stephanie Jefferies (402409; stephfernhill@aol.com).

ASH WEDNESDAY (17TH FEBRUARY): If you wish to attend an Ash Wednesday Mass in person, please contact Madeline to book a seat. Both Masses of the day (9.30am and 6.30pm) will be livestreamed.

GINA O'BRIAN, RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of our parishioner, Gina O'Brian, who passed away in the week. May the Lord grant her eternal rewards.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Barbara Evans, Gina O'Brian, Philomena O'Connell, David Davies, Eileen Jenkins.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a collection for Racial Justice Sunday this weekend.

SUNDAY OFFERING: Last Sunday: £834 (includes standing orders) Last week's collection for Sick & retired Clergy: £47	LIVESTREAM DONATIONS Thanks to all who donate to support the livestream.
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Reflection for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

His power to restore us

The salvific mission of Christ is a universal one and it excludes no one from the kingdom of God. The Church has also received this mission to invite all peoples into God's kingdom so that the house of God truly becomes the home of all.

The Condition of Lepers in Israel: The First Reading describes how lepers were treated among the Israelites at the time of Moses. Anyone who showed signs of leprosy was to be taken to Aaron or one of the priests who would declare such a person unclean. Because the disease was considered contagious, lepers were required to live outside of the community. They were not allowed to associate with anyone until they were cleansed. They were even removed from their own family. More so, there was a spiritual dimension to the disease. It was believed that lepers were afflicted with the disease as a punishment from God as a result of their sins. This explains why a leprous person did not find a place in the community of God's people.

Christ Cures a Leper: In the New Testament, leprosy becomes a symbol of sin which separates people from the community of God's people. The leper in the Gospel Reading knew that he had lost not only the beauty of his skin, but also the beauty of being accepted in the community. Christ then affirmed the leper's fundamental beauty - being a child of God, and he restored the leper to the beauty of being accepted again in the community of God's people. Priests of the Old Testament were to declare lepers unclean. When the leper went to Jesus, who is the High Priest of the New Covenant (Heb 4:14), he declared the leper clean. Getting too close to a leper in the Old Covenant would make one unclean. This leper went close to Jesus. He did not make Jesus unclean but was rather made clean by Jesus. When we come to Jesus, asking him for mercy, he

does not turn us away, but he cleanses us and restores our beauty.

The Universal Salvific Mission of Christ: The mission of Christ in the world was to make all peoples members of the kingdom of God. However, many people feel excluded from God's kingdom because of certain conditions of theirs. They feel they would not be received into the Church or they would be judged as unclean. In truth, Christ heals us of every form of social stigma we feel because of our present situations. We no longer should feel excluded from the house of God because the love of God has been poured into our hearts and so we can call God our Father (Rom 5:5). In his infinite love, Christ takes pity on us when we feel helpless in our lives. Just as he made the leper a member of his community again, Christ can also reinstate us into the community of God's people.

The Mission of the Church in the World: As the new community of God, the Church of Christ has become the place where everyone finds a home. As children of God, we present ourselves to Christ in the sacrament of reconciliation in the Church so that we may receive the mercy of God. In this sacrament, we are readmitted into the company of the children of God. The priest, acting in the person of Christ the head, declares penitents free from sin through the power of God's forgiveness. In the Old Covenant, lepers' cloths were to be worn torn. In the New Covenant, God puts on us the beautiful cloths of salvation and glory (Is 61:10). As Christ restores the leper back into the community of God's people, no one should be kept out of the new community that has begun in Christ. Through our membership of the new community of God, may the glory of God shine all through our lives. Amen.