

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
 West Cross, Swansea, SA3 5TS
 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 28th February 2nd Sunday of Lent	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	For the intention of Fr Michael Fewell (M A) Sheila Delahunty, RIP (A B) Kevin & Maureen Jerney, RIP (D P) Parish Community
Monday 1 st March St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales	9.30am	David Davies, RIP (E T)
Tuesday 2 nd <i>Weekday, Second week of Lent</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	For the intention of Pam Savill (J B)
Wednesday 3 rd <i>Weekday, Second week of Lent</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Dennis and Dora Lane, RIP (T & A L)
Thursday 4 th <i>Weekday, Second week of Lent</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	John Onigu-Otite, RIP
Friday 5 th <i>Weekday, Second week of Lent</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	John Onigu-Otite, RIP
Saturday 6 th <i>Weekday, Second week of Lent</i>	10.00am (Livestreamed)	John Onigu-Otite, RIP
Sunday 7th March 3rd Sunday of Lent	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	All sick of the Parish (A L) Parish Community For the intention of Erica John Onigu-Otite, RIP

WEEKDAY MASSES: Weekday Masses are livestreamed without a congregation. There will be no in-person attendance at weekday Masses (except where stated otherwise) 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**

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

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: Very many thanks for your kind donations to the Lent Fast Day Appeal. You can still donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/fastday and there are envelopes available in the Church 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: Many thanks to all who came to the first Zoom coffee morning last Sunday. The numbers were great and encouraging. Please spread the word to other parishioners, friends, and families. The Zoom coffee morning is at 11.30am every Sunday for half an hour following 10.30am Mass. Access it with the Zoom ID **585 166 8513** (no passcode required). This new ID is permanent: it will not change. You can turn up and leave at your leisure. Have your coffee and biscuit (s) ready to enjoy meeting your friends in a new way. See you. If you have problems joining Zoom, please contact Stephanie Jefferies (402409; stephfernhill@aol.com).

POPE FRANCIS ON LENT: "The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father" (From the Holy Father's Message for Lent 2021).

CYCLE OF PRAYER DURING LENT: During Lent, we are invited to pray for the following intentions: candidates for the sacraments, women, the needy and hungry of the world, survivors of sexual abuse, penitents, and wanderers.

RED MISSIO BOXES: These are now due for counting. Please bring the boxes to church or call Jackie on 601058 or email jacandmo@ntlworld.com to arrange for collection. *Missio* desperately needs the funds. Thank you.

SOLEMNITY OF ST DAVID, 1ST MARCH: Monday, 1st March, is the Solemnity of Saint David, Bishop and Patron of Wales. The Parish Mass will be at 9.30am and will be open for in-person attendance. Please book with Madeline if you wish to attend. One of the readings at Mass and the bidding prayers will be in Welsh.

PRAYERFUL CONDOLENCES: Our prayerful condolences go to Katarina Dutko and her family as they mourn the death of their mother, Veronika Rakovska, who passed away on Wednesday, 24th February. May the Lord grant Veronika eternal rewards.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Veronika, Rakovska, Barbara Evans, Gina O'Brien.

SUNDAY OFFERING: Last Sunday: £817 (includes standing orders) Recent collection for Sick & Retired Clergy: £8	LIVESTREAM DONATIONS: £28.60 Thanks to all who donate to support the livestream.
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Reflection for the Second Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Trials can bring out the best in us

Abraham was put to the test to confirm his faith in God. We may be put to the test through the trials we face in our lives. When we remain steadfast in the face of these trials our faith is strengthened.

The Sacrifice of Isaac Prefigures the Death of Jesus: God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice Isaac, his only Son. Obviously, God would not have allowed him to lay his hands on his son. Here, Isaac symbolizes Christ who is the only Son of God. God did not allow Abraham to sacrifice his only Son, but God gave up Jesus Christ, his only Son, for our salvation (Jn 3:16). Because God loved Abraham so much, he did not allow him to sacrifice his only Son. On the contrary it was out of his love for us that God allowed his Son to become a sacrificial offering for our sins (1 Jn 2:2; Heb 10:12). Just as Isaac carried the wood for the sacrifice, Christ also carried the Cross on which he was crucified. Also, just as Abraham loved his son, Isaac, on a divine level, God also loved Christ his only Begotten Son and called him his Beloved.

Trials Bring Out the Best in Us: In the Gospel Reading, Christ took three of his disciples up a high

mountain and he was transfigured in their presence. At the mountain of the transfiguration, the disciples only saw a glimpse of the glory of Jesus. For those who remain faithful to the last, God has promised the fullness of his glory. That refers to the best we could ever be - saints of God. So, the assurance is that we will see the fullness of the glory of God if we remain steadfast and faithful to God.

Christ Takes Us to the Mountain: Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac on the mountain where he was to encounter God. Jesus also took his disciples to a mountain where they encountered God. At every Mass, Christ brings us to the altar of God which is the new mountain where God manifests himself to us. The altar then becomes our own mountain where God dwells. From our celebration of the mysteries of God at the altar, the new mountain of sacrifice, we hope to be elevated to heaven, the mountain of transfiguration, where we shall behold, not a glimpse, but the fullness of Christ's glory. Amidst the trials of life, may the glory of God shine brightly in our lives. Amen.
