

St Mary's R.C. Catholic Church

26 St Mary's Street, Monmouth NP25 3DB
& St Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye

Parish Priest: Fr. Nicholas James e-mail: monmouth@rcadc.org
Tel: 01600 712029 <http://monmouthandrosscatholicchurches.uk>

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT 3RD APRIL 2022

5 th Sunday of Lent 3 rd April 2022 Cycle C Page 176	Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00pm	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Monmouth
	9.15am	<i>Michael Duncan Anthony Finnie</i>	Monmouth
	11.00am	<i>Elaine O'Connor</i>	Ross-on-Wye
Monday	4 th	10.00am	<i>Margarite Denton</i> Monmouth
Tuesday	5 th	10.00am	<i>Special Intention</i> Ross-on-Wye
Wednesday	6 th	10.00am	<i>Wilfred Blagden</i> Monmouth
Thursday	7 th	10.00am	<i>Deceased members Thomas family</i> Ross-on-Wye
Friday	8 th	10.00am	<i>Welcome to Henry James Tasker</i> Monmouth
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Ross-on-Wye: Tuesday 6.00 – 7.00pm Monmouth: Monday and Saturday 5.15 – 5.45pm			
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD			
PALM SUNDAY 10 th April 2022	Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00 pm	<i>Special Intention</i>	Monmouth
	9.15 am	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Monmouth
	11.00 am	<i>Heaney family</i>	Ross-on-Wye
Contributions to the newsletter by 12 noon Thursday please to: Tish at St Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye, stfrances.editor@gmail.com			
SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES: Sean Dunne			
16/2022 Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff – Registered Charity 242380			

In Christ, who is God, human sin and God's goodness meet in the same person. Christ absorbs the pain in himself and prays, 'Father forgive them'. When human sin had done its worst, God, in Christ, replies with the blood and water from his pierced side. God's love is greater than human hatred and has won a victory for ever. This is the triumph and the joy of the cross. Evil has been confronted, has been allowed to do its worst to God in the humanity of Christ, and God, in Christ, transforms this evil act into victory through love.

When we contemplate Christ in his passion, we do so not simply to recall a historical event now over and done with, but to encounter the living God, the God who enters our darkness, weakness and sinfulness, who enters our hatred and our despair, and can transform it. We contemplate the ravaged body of the dead Christ to understand the nature of God now holding me in being, a God who pursues us into our darkness and destructiveness, and entering and sharing it, brings life out of our death. Therefore we can take our own suffering, from whatever source it comes, whether physical illness, or bereavement, or the damage we have done to ourselves and the damage inflicted on us by others, or the pain we experience in letting God's pity, compassion and love act in us. In our pain we meet Christ in his passion, know his presence and healing power bringing hope out of our despair.

Gerard W. Hughes

COVID RULES RELAXED FURTHER in Wales: 28th March 2022

Following the further relaxation of the Covid rules in Wales on Monday, 28th March, we are advised that there remains a legal requirement to carry out a Risk Assessment and, whilst it is no longer mandatory to wear a mask in places of worship, there has been a significant increase in Covid cases in the last couple of weeks, so, for the time being, it would be appreciated if those attending church would continue to wear a mask to help everyone feel safe.

Also:

Please continue to sanitise hands on entry and exit.

When kneeling please be sensitive to the feelings of others around you and refrain from kneeling if someone remains seated directly in front of you.

Altar servers should continue to wear gloves.

Good ventilation remains very important, so doors and windows will still be opened. Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home and not participate in acts of worship in church.

The Sunday Mass in Ross will continue to be live streamed for the time being.

Synodal Update

I write to thank you all, parish representatives, parish teams, parishioners, priests and deacons for all the time and effort you have put in to carrying out the synodal process in your parishes and in writing your Report and sending it in. We received 41 Synodal Reports and one from the University Chaplaincy. They were all most interesting to read, the characteristics of your different parishes, the methods you used and the views of your parishioners, under the headings of Communion, Participation and Mission. It was a challenge to you all to start the "listening and discernment" process, to gather views in a variety of ways and to write a report, all in a reduced time frame.

Members of the Diocesan Synodal Team each took one of the themes and read that section across all 42 reports. They wrote one or two pages about the emerging themes in their section. These constituted Draft One and these pages were then considered by the Team this week. One member has now written the final draft, Draft Two. All members of the Team are reading that Draft and will produce their comments so that Draft Three, the Final Draft, will be produced this weekend. This will be then be sent to the Archbishop. It will be sent out to parishes on the weekend of April 9th-10th. The Report will appear in the May edition of the Catholic People and will also be put on the archdiocesan website.

HOLY WEEK - 2022

Monday 11 th April	7.00pm	Seder Meal <i>Booking closed</i>	Bridges Centre, Monmouth
Tuesday 12 th April	11.30am	Chrism Mass	St David's Cathedral, Cardiff
SACRED TRIDUUM			
Thursday 14 th April	7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Ross on Wye
Friday 15 th April	12.00 noon	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	Ross on Wye
	3.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	Monmouth
Saturday 16 th April	8.30pm	Easter Vigil and Mass	Monmouth

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – Please note: We are invited to keep Family Fast Day of Friday 8th April.

DONATIONS FOR UKRAINE - The most immediate way is to support Ukraine is via the CAFOD website. [CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.](https://www.cafod.org.uk)
www.cafod.org.uk

The Lenten Alms collected throughout the Archdiocese of Cardiff will this year be allocated to the Ukraine Relief Fund.

Synodal Update continued -

I believe that all of you who have been involved, in any way, great or small, can be rightly proud of your contribution. You have responded to Pope Francis's call to walk together and to enter into a "synodal" process of listening and discernment, walking humbly with God, being led by the Holy Spirit and recognising Christ in each other and listening to each other.

The submission of the reports and the diocesan report are not the end of the road. It is hoped and expected that the synodal way of doing things will continue, that we will embark on an ongoing journey of synodal conversion and that we will work towards fulfilling Pope Francis's dream of a wholly synodal Church. You have begun at parish level and I wish you well as you continue to do things in the synodal way.

May God bless your synodal endeavours,
Madeleine Walters
Diocesan Synodal Co-ordinator