

# St Mary's Catholic Church, Monmouth

& St. Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye

Parish Priest: Canon Nicholas James

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*Third Sunday of Eastertide – 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2022*

POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS  
BISHOP MARK O'TOOLE  
AS ARCHBISHOP-ELECT OF CARDIFF  
AND BISHOP-ELECT OF MENEVIA

*Bishop Mark O'Toole has been Bishop of Plymouth since his appointment in 2013.*

*Previously he was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Westminster in 1990 and served as private secretary to Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor between 2002-2008, before his appointment as the Rector of Allen Hall seminary in 2008.*

*Archbishop-elect O'Toole will become the eighth Archbishop of Cardiff in succession to Archbishop George Stack, who has been Archbishop of Cardiff since 2011.*

*The installation will take place in Cardiff Cathedral on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 the feast day of Welsh martyrs Saints Julius and Aaron.*

## Mass Times & Intentions

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE  1 <sup>st</sup> May		Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00 pm	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Monmouth
		9.15 am	<i>Bill &amp; Jean Rowan</i>	Monmouth
		11.00 am	<i>Liz Fitzpatrick</i>	Ross-on-Wye
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am	<i>Jack &amp; Teresa Walsh</i>	Monmouth
Tuesday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am	<i>Christine Wager * Gerald Lane * Funeral service</i>	Ross-on-Wye
		* 2 pm *		Monmouth
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	<i>Judy Bennett (welfare)</i>	Monmouth
Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	<i>Private intention Mass with St Joseph's School</i>	Ross-on-Wye
Friday	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	<i>Special intention</i>	Monmouth
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE		Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00 pm	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Monmouth
		Sunday 9.15 am	<i>Patrick James Walsh</i>	Monmouth
		11.00 am	<i>Bushell (thanksgiving)</i>	Ross-on-Wye
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>				
From 515-5.45 on Saturday (before the Vigil Mass) in <b>Monmouth</b> From 10.30-11.00 am on Tuesday (after Mass) in Ross-on-Wye				
Contributions to the newsletter to: <a href="mailto:stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com">stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com</a> by 12 noon Thursday please <a href="mailto:stfrances.editor@gmail.com">stfrances.editor@gmail.com</a> (Ross)				

## **Statement of Bishop Mark O’Toole following appointment as Archbishop-Elect of Cardiff and Bishop-Elect of Menevia.**

I am grateful and humbled by the trust that the Holy Father has placed in me. I face the task ahead both with excitement and a certain trepidation, conscious of my own weaknesses. Throughout my life I have learnt to trust the Lord’s will more deeply, and in these days of Eastertide especially, I have taken much comfort from Jesus’ words to His first Apostles, “Do not be afraid. I go before you...” It is with this deep sense that the Lord goes before all of us in this new mission, that I fully embrace this new calling in my life.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to all in the Diocese of Plymouth. You have taught me what it is to be a bishop. I will leave with many happy memories, and with sadness, too, in saying farewell to good friends. Thank you for the love you have shown me these past eight years. It strengthens me as I face this new opportunity, and I am sure you will be praying for me.

I know, too, that I can count on the cooperation and prayer of the Priests, Deacons, Religious, and Lay Faithful of the Archdiocese of Cardiff and the Diocese of Menevia. I look forward to meeting you all and, in time, to us getting to know one another. I am delighted that Archbishop George will be staying in the area, and I know I can count on his support and wise advice. I look forward to working with fellow Christians, with people of other faiths, and with all people of good will, for the good of all in our local communities.

Wales and Herefordshire are new territory for me, having only visited for holidays and retreats. I am struck by the rich history and dramatic geography of the two dioceses, with their vibrant multicultural cities, rural valleys, and beautiful coastlines, their agrarian and modern technological innovation and diversity. I am grateful for the roots we

share in our rich Celtic culture. I hope it gives us a certain fellow-feeling for one another. I know what it means to be uprooted, to make a home in a new and different land, and it will be good to get to know our migrant brothers and sisters. I look forward, too, to steeping myself in the historical reality and diverse experience of the two Dioceses, as we work more closely together. I recognise that this will take time. As one of our Welsh sayings puts it, “*Rhaid crocian cyn cerdded (You must crawl before walking).*”

I have much to learn and I know I can count on your patience and understanding. I ask especially for your prayers. When I first became bishop, I chose the motto, “Into your hands, Lord”. It is a prayer I have had cause to make many times in recent days. It is a prayer that I ask us all in Cardiff and Menevia, to make together today, and in the weeks and months ahead. For it is in the Lord, as His missionary disciples, that we find our deepest identity. It is for Him that we set out afresh, to deepen our love of Him, and to bring others to Him. I commend myself, and all of us, to Mary, Immaculately Conceived, that she light the way for us to Her Son; we seek also, the intercession of St Joseph, St David, and all our local patron Saints in making this new pilgrimage together.

*Bishop Mark O’Toole*

### **ARCHBISHOP GEORGE STACK – JUBILEE**

On Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, at 12 noon in St David’s Cathedral, Cardiff, Archbishop George Stack will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Golden Jubilee of his Priestly Ordination followed by a reception at The Cornerstone, Charles St, Cardiff. Two tickets have been sent to us, to allow two representative parishioners to attend. Rather than sending individuals from Monmouth and Ross, it might be more appropriate to send a couple, or at least a pair, chosen by lot. Accordingly, names will be drawn after Monday morning Mass in Monmouth. Parishioners from both parishes who wish to be included are asked to submit two names, with a telephone number before 10.00am this Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May for inclusion.