

**Collections for last Sunday**

Parish	Gift Aid	Loose	Levy	Total	At Mass
Immaculate Conception	£225.00	£88.98	£91.89	£405.87	Sat 60 Sun 54
All Saints	£347.50	£162.89	£108.32	£618.71	106
St. John's	£649.00	£10.70	£15.85	£675.55	21
			Total	<u>£1700.13</u>	<u>241</u>

Immaculate Conception Boiler Fund totals: £982.39

***Grateful thanks to everyone for your generous offerings.***

**Parish Notices**

Anyone who needs transport for ***Maundy Thursday***, please see Robin or Sandra in Immaculate Conception or Vince in All Saints.

✠ **Holy Rosary** is said in ***all weekend masses*** 25 minutes before Mass starts.

✠ During Lent **Adoration** will take place at ***All Saints*** and ***St John's*** every week before Mass and in ***Immaculate Conception*** after 7am Mass on Friday.

✠ On Fridays during Lent **Stations of the Cross** will be at:

**9:30am** in ***All Saints***; **10am** in ***St John's***; **7pm** in ***Immaculate Conception***.

- **Lenten Alms** box at the back of the Church, in aid of Syrian Refugees.

Congratulations to **St. Joseph's school** on an excellent Estyn report reflecting the hard work and dedication of all staff, governors, pupils & parents.

\* There are strong links with parents, the church and community.

\* **Pupils** :- have an enthusiasm for learning

- make good and rapid progress in developing skills and listening
- developing their numeracy skills from a low starting point;
- are polite towards each other, staff and visitors and are kind and caring;
- participate enthusiastically in Mini Vinnies Catholic Club and other clubs
- have a good understanding of religious and moral issues
- attendance rates are good; improved steadily over the last four years.
- Standards of behaviour are consistently high across the school.

\* **Staff**: - quality of teaching across the school is good. They promote Catholic values and ethos, respecting multiculturalism, diversity and anti-racism. The Head has a clear vision for the school, shared effectively with all staff. He promotes high standards of wellbeing and improved outcomes by raising expectations. He gives strong leadership & governance providing a secure future for pupils through good quality learning experiences.



**Pastoral Area of Immaculate Conception, Tredegar**

**All Saints, Ebbw Vale and St John's, Rhymney**

Parish Priest: ***Fr. Joseph Henry Mensah***

The Presbytery, Crossways, Dukestown, Tredegar NP22 4AT

Tel: **01495 717162** (Emergency calls only: 07984728202)

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**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Mass Book P173*

**18th Mar 2018**

<b>Vigil</b>	5:30pm	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	Kathleen Megan Webber The Scannell family James & Margaret Driscoll RIP Rose & Roger Edwards wellbeing
<b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>	9:00am	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	Mary & Christopher Sheehy & Family Agnes & Samuel Clark RIP anniv Elsie Aherne RIP
	10:30am	<b>All Saints</b>	Theresa McCarthy RIP Kathleen Woolley RIP Rene, Stephen & Hayes Family RIP Cliggett Family Intentions
	5:30pm	<b>St. John's</b>	Barbara and Les Cushen (RIP) Mary and Gwyn Morgan (RIP)
<b>Monday 19th</b>	10:00am	<b>St. John's</b>	
<b>Tuesday 20th</b>	7:00pm	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	
<b>Wed 21st</b>	10:00am	<b>All Saints</b>	Lionel Lewis RIP
<b>Thursday 22nd</b>			
<b>Friday 23rd</b>	<b>7:00am</b>	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	
	11:00am	<b>All Saints</b>	Requiem Mary Moseley RIP
<b>Saturday 24th</b>	10:00am	<b>All Saints</b>	Deceased Members of Carew Family
<b>Vigil</b>	5:30pm	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	David O'Connor & Riley family Betty Reeves (b'day)
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	9:00am	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	Betty Austyn-Pry's
	10:30am	<b>All Saints</b>	Sid Withey RIP Mary & Bill Benger & Family RIP
	5:30pm	<b>St. John's</b>	

**VIGIL LAMPS**

<b>All Saints:</b>	Our Lady	Father Joseph's Intentions
<b>All Saints:</b>	Sacred Heart	For the Good of Our Parish
<b>Immaculate Conception:</b>	Our Lady	Archbishop Stack
<b>Immaculate Conception:</b>	Sacred Heart	For the Pastoral area

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**All Saints:** Daily from 10:30am until 6:00pm  
**St. John:** Monday after 10:00am Mass  
**Immaculate Conception:** Friday 12 noon until 3:00pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**

**All Saints:** After Mass on Wednesday / Saturday  
**St. John's:** Before Mass on Sunday  
**Immaculate Conception:** Before Mass on Saturday and Sunday

**GOSPEL REFLECTION** (John 12-26)

Today's Gospel says: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it simply will remain a grain. It will not produce any wheat!" The grain is essential. The process of being put into the ground and dying to its current state is what allows the grain to become much more. The grain has the potential to grow, become food and nourish many people. However, if it remains in its current state, it will never produce any fruit.

Human beings in a sense are also a grain of wheat that has much potential to grow and produce food that will nurture other human beings. However, we also have to "die to ourselves" so that we also may bear fruit. Jesus says we have to "lose" our lives. However, the fruit we will bear in this process will be phenomenal. And we are promised eternal life!

The process of dying to anything is not easy; often painful, sad and bewildering. Our lives change in this process. However, Jesus promises that through our dying, we will bear fruit. But, do we trust and believe Jesus' promise? The reality is that we "die" many times throughout our lifetime. It may be a loss of a child, letting go of a dream or being seriously ill.

Think of a time of "dying" in your life, the death of a loved one, financial difficulties or a serious illness. After time passed, were there also some gifts you received during that painful time? Family bonds were strengthened in the process? Or you appreciated the concern and care your neighbours expressed to you. Maybe this difficult experience made you turn to God for grace and strength and God was there for you.

The gift is such that often long after the "death" and our acceptance of the loss, we may realise that new life is emerging and we can continue on with the promise of hope and joy.

Today look back on your life. Remember the many times you may have "died." Then remember the beckoning of new life that invited you to love once again, laugh and be joyful once again. Truly, there is life after death.

✠ *Please pray for the Parishioners of our Pastoral Area*

**whose anniversary occurs at this time:**

Elizabeth O'Connor, Mary Real, Florence McCarthy, Con Kelly, Eddie Bailey, Mary Jones, Joseph Flaherty.. Mary Elizabeth Griffiths, James Hendry Lennon, Catherine Mary James, Mary Morgan, Elizabeth Austyn-Prys, Winifred Moore

**for the sick and housebound:**

**St John's:** Mary Benjamin (Thomas), Margaret Jones, Maureen Morgan, Peter Cavendar

**All Saints:** Derek Kerwick, Maria Bevan, Maureen Matthews, John Godfrey, Norma Beecher, Kathleen Bennett, Margaret Williams, Joy Jones

**Immaculate Conception:** Kath Thomas, Pam Williams, Brian Garrett, Jeanette Badham, Yvonne Brown, Doris Norris, Kath Williams, Winnie Buckley, Louis Moorhead, Baby Isla, Mavis Garrett

✠ **Rest In Peace**

Please pray for the Happy Repose of the soul of Mary Moseley whose Requiem will take place in All Saints on Friday 23rd March at 11am. Please keep Mary and the family in your prayers.

**Anima Christi**

Soul of Christ, sanctify me  
Body of Christ, save me  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me  
O good Jesus, hear me  
Within Thy wounds hide me  
Separated from Thee let me never be  
From the malicious enemy defend me  
In the hour of my death call me  
And bid me come unto Thee  
That I may praise Thee with Thy saints  
Forever and ever Amen