



# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. MARY'S RETREAT, UNION STREET, CARMARTHEN, SA31 3DE  
Tel: 01267 237205 Email: carmarthen@menevia.org  
www.stmaryschurchcarmarthen.org Registered Charity No. 234168

Parish Priest: *Father Phillip Harries*

## Times and Intentions of Holy Mass for the Coming week

Saturday 23rd July—Feast of St. Bridget of Sweden <i>Vigil—17th Ordinary Time</i>	11.00am 5:00-5:20pm 5.30pm	<i>Holy Souls</i> Confessions No intention requested
Sunday 24th July <i>17th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30-10.50 11.00am	Confessions Pro Populo (For the People)
Monday 25th July <i>St James</i>	11.00am	Blessings for Simon, Sarah, Lila & Dexter (Fran Smithson)
Tuesday 26th July Ss Joachim & Anne	NO MASS	
Wednesday 27th July	NO MASS	
Thursday 28th July	11.00am	Deceased member of the Hannigan Family (Theresa)
Friday 29th July Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus	11.00am	Private Intention (Gerry France)
Saturday 30th July <i>Vigil—18th Ordinary Time</i>	11.00am 5:00-5:20pm 5.30pm	Margaret Dark RIP Confessions Sr Aloysius Hourigan OSU RIP
Sunday 31st July <i>18th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	10.30-10.50 11.00am	Confessions Pro Populo (For the People)

### Please pray for those who are unwell:

Amy and Helen Tynan  
Christine Rees  
Tal and Cynthia Harries  
Teresa Hay  
Peggy Davies

Mary Mitchell  
Mgr Michael Lewis  
Fr Paul Brophy  
Colin Riley

If you would like the name of a relative who is unwell added to our prayer list, please give their name to Fr Phillip

### RIP anniversaries:

Walter Hains  
John Ronan  
George Pearson  
Onwen Cleary  
Julia Thomas  
Annie Evans  
Margaret Dark  
Silvia Celeste

Maria Fusco

### The Sacred Heart Lamp is lit for the intentions of:

The Sick



### Our Lady's lamp is lit for the intentions of:

Imelda & Andrea—Wellbeing



**Second Collection 10th/11th September:** is for Catholic Education in our Diocese. The Diocese has to pay to have our Catholic Schools, and it is through your help and support they can stay open. Thank you for supporting our schools!



**7 day Votive Lamps:** If you would like a votive lamp lit for a particular intention, please complete one of the envelopes in the porch and post it in the presbytery. The intentions will appear in the newsletter each week. All proceeds to parish funds.



### The prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.  
I love you above all things,  
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
come spiritually into my soul  
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.  
Amen.

**Last Weeks' Collections:** Main Offertory: £342.40 Maintenance Fund: £174.71 Apostleship of the Sea: £141.66  
If you would like to make your offertory donation on line by BACS please contact the office for our bank details. Alternatively, there is a Standing Order form on our website if you wish to set up a regular payment to us. In the meantime all donations can be popped into the black post box on the table in the porch. **THANK YOU**

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Therese Passenger 079441 59039  
St. Mary's Primary School: Acting Head teacher Mrs. Hannah Corcoran 01267 234297  
St. John Lloyd's Secondary School Llanelli: 01554 772589

**Fr Phillip writes...** Its been quite a week! The School has finished for the Summer holidays, and the Children have been sent to enjoy the Summer with God's blessing! The interviewing process has gone well for the two vacancies, and we hope to announce in the near future our ever growing School community of both Staff and pupils! The Bishop and Priests have enjoyed meeting in the Parish Centre, and the weather has been spectacular and now cooler! And through it all, we are kept in God's loving care!

**Parish Sunday Lunch:** Following the meeting of the Bishop and priests last Tuesday, there was a lunch in the Hall, where the priests could discuss the meeting and catch up with events going on in the different parishes.

The food was provided by outside caterers, and the hall was set up by kind parishioners. It was a wonderful environment, and a good time was had by all! The Bishop and priests were enthusiastic in their thanks! This is something we could do in the parish—that is to get together and have a meal, and enjoy each others company.... Would you like to share Sunday Lunch in the Hall after Mass? Have a think, and if your interested, have a chat with Fr Phillip, and if enough people are interested, it can be arranged! (*Maybe at the start of September*)



**What can you do to help?:** Together we form the community of the Church – the Mystical Body of Christ. So many people help out in our parish, for the good of the community as a whole, and we all benefit from their kindness and generosity. Whether they are helping in the Mass by reading,



or as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, or serving, or giving out Newsletters and welcoming people or taking and counting the collection – no matter what they do, they are helping the community of the Faithful – that is you and me. Some people help organise social or celebration events, or serve food or tea and coffee after Sunday Mass, or help with the tending of the grass, or flowers, or grounds or repairs to buildings – They serve the Church – you and me. Many of the people who do it are in their more mature years 70's, 80's, even with health difficulties ... When they are not able to do it .... What will happen? Should we be expecting them to keep going and serving us – the community, until they are no longer able? Is this right or even just? Please consider how you can help your community, and through your valuable gift of time, energy and skill – build up the community of the Church – The Mystical Body of Christ. If you can help– please see Fr Phillip . Thank you.

**Archbishop Mark O'Toole— Bishop of Menevia:** Met with the priests of the Diocese for the first time last week here in Carmarthen. He spoke of his desire to learn not only about the Diocese, but to get to know the parishes, the people and the priests. He has a huge geographical area to cover, and much to learn, but with steady determination and sustained progress, he will travel around, and visit each community in his care. Because he lives in Cardiff, he needs to have the administration of Menevia based in Cardiff, so that he can access things he will need as soon as need arises. However, this is not done simply for the sake of centralising activity, but to allow a more responsive and practical approach. Over time there will be changes, but that is not a bad thing. What is central to his approach, is that pastoral care be given, and that is based on relationship with Christ and each other. He will visit all the parishes in turn, so let us pray for him, and hopefully welcome him to our parish soon.



**Collection / offering envelopes:** are available from the porch for all who have kindly signed up for regular giving to support the parish. If you are able to give by standing order, that is even better—forms are available in the porch. Or if you do online banking, the parish details are....DOM Carmarthen Parish, Natwest Bank, Sort Code 56-00-42, Account No 02477521. If you are a TAX Payer, **PLEASE join the Gift Aid Scheme, as it means we can claim money from the Government at no cost to you—Thank you ! (forms are in the porch)**



### Diolch o galon—Heartfelt thanks!

To all the very kind volunteers who helped to prepare the hall for the Bishop's visit last week, and to all who helped with the arrangements for the day and clearing up afterwards. It was both a great kindness, and a wonderful sign of your hospitality! God reward your generosity.



**Tea and coffee after Sunday Mass:** Please sign your name, or your group to volunteer on the list in the porch. **Diolch! Many Thanks to all who have already signed up to help! Please consider volunteering in the free Sundays!**



**Sts. Joachim and Anne:** The story of Joachim, his wife Anne (or Anna), and the miraculous birth of their child Mary, the mother of Jesus, is told for the first time in the 2nd-century apocryphal infancy-gospel the Gospel of James (also called Protoevangelium of James). Joachim is a rich and pious man, who regularly gave to the poor. However, at the temple, Joachim's sacrifice was rejected, as the couple's childlessness was interpreted as a sign of divine displeasure. Joachim consequently withdrew to the desert, where he fasted and did penance for 40 days. Angels then appeared to both Joachim and Anne to promise them a child. Joachim later returned to Jerusalem and embraced Anne at the city gate, located in the Walls of Jerusalem. An ancient belief held that a child born of an elderly mother who had given up hope of having offspring was destined for great things. Parallels occur in the Old Testament in the case of Hannah, the mother of Samuel, and in the New Testament in the case of the parents of St John the Baptist. St Joachim and St Anne, show us both trust in God's merciful love, and the power of Faith. Let us pray for our grandparents and all grandparents, as we ask the intercession of Sts Joachim and Anne.



*"There is no sinner in the world, however much at enmity with God, who cannot recover God's grace by recourse to Mary, and by asking her assistance. ."* - St Bridget of Sweden

**Supporting your parish:** Please consider completing a direct debit mandate, so you can make your weekly offering via the bank, or alternatively place offertory donations in the black post box (on the table in the church porch) Thank you.