

**ST. MARY'S PARISH
NEWPORT**



1981

Price 40p

SUNDAY MASSES AT CHURCHES IN THE DEANERY OF NEWPORT.

St. Anne, Malpas. 7.00pm. Saturday 9.45am & 6.00pm. Sunday
10.30am & 6.30pm.
SS. Anthony & Clare, Risca. 8.30 & 10.30 am. & 6.30pm.
SS. Basil & Gwladys, Rogerstone. 6.00pm Saturday, 8.30 & 10.30am & 6.30pm. Sunday
St. David, Maesglas 10.00 am. & 7.00pm.
St. David Lewis, Bettws. 5.30pm Saturday 10.00 am & 6.30pm Sunday
St. Gabriel, Ringland 9.30am & 6.30pm.
SS. Julius & Aaron, Caerleon. 11.00 am.
St. Julius Martyr, St. Julians. 6.30pm Saturday 9.00 & 10.30 am. Sunday
St. Mary, Chepstow 8.30 & 10.30 am. & 6.30pm.
St. Michael, Newport. 8.00, 9.30 & 11.00 am. & 6.30pm.
St. Patrick, Newport. 10.00am & 5.30pm.
St. Paul, Caldicot

WHERE A SATURDAY EVENING MASS IS SHOWN THIS COUNTS AS FIRST
MASS OF SUNDAY.

ST MARY'S PARISH NEWPORT

INTRODUCTION

What is a Parish Directory? It is a summary of information concerning St Mary's for the use of the parishioner who wishes to take a more active part in the life of the Parish and covers in some detail the social and spiritual preoccupations of all the sodalities, societies and associations connected with the Parish.

The information given is that supplied by the society concerned and is not a bald, edited description but a statement in the words of the officers of the society, which we think makes up in sincerity and enthusiasm what it may lack in erudition as a work of art.

There is nothing more satisfying than voluntarily giving to God a few hours a week of our time for His honour and glory and we hope that this little booklet will help you to do just that.

*The Editor
Communications Sub Committee
St Mary's Parish Council*

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AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL

Although not actually a parish society, the Newport Amnesty International group meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the Institute at 7.30pm. The group counts many parishioners and several clergy amongst its members and has received considerable support from this and other churches for its work on behalf of Prisoners of Conscience - those imprisoned for their political or religious beliefs who have not used or advocated violence.

Since it was established five years ago the Newport group has adopted Hugo Quintan, a Uruguayan Trade Unionist; Victor Murea, a Romanian opponent of the Communist Party detained in a psychiatric hospital; and Helfrid Lowes, imprisoned for trying to cross the border from East to West Germany. All these men have now been released.

The group is currently working on behalf of Mikhail Khorev who has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment in one of the strictest Soviet labour camps because of his activities as a Baptist minister. This is Mikhail Khorev's third term of imprisonment for his religious beliefs.

Anyone interested in helping with this campaign, which involves lobbying and giving practical help to Mikhail Khorev, should contact the group's chariman, Susan Haywood, telephone 50787.

"BRICKIES"

Our group, consisting of five ladies and three men was formed about four years ago in reply to a request from Reverend Father Daley to form a study group to consider and comment on "A Time for Building" and other documents in preparation for the National Pastoral Congress in Liverpool in 1980.

Our report received National recognition and was even extensively quoted in the official collation of Reports in "Response".

Two of our members were selected as delegates to the National Pastoral Congress, four are members of the Parish Council, one is a member of the Deanery Council, while most are committed members of various societies and other Church activities.

Presently we are studying the "Easter People" with a view, on completion, to disseminating this information to others if required as it appears to us that the Pastoral Congress reports and the "Easter People" are guide lines for our future attitudes in Church affairs.

Our business is conducted fairly formally, meeting in each others homes in rotation when on completion we enjoy a social evening.

We favour the "small group" technique finding each other's considerably contrasting opinions stimulating, educative and supportive.

We have conditions of membership.

C.A.F.O.D.



Carrying bricks for building the Grain Silo, Upper Volta.

Most people know that CAFOD stands for the Catholic Association for Overseas Development but maybe not everyone realises that with CAFOD there is a much less percentage of donated money used in administration costs as priests and bishops in mission lands administer funds and report back on each project.

Since our first local meeting in November 1976, which grew out of Peggy Moore's penny a day fund, St Mary's CAFOD group have contributed over £5,000. This is due to faithful collectors and the generous response of contributors. Meetings are rarely held but the money comes in and CAFOD sends reports upon its use which is then published in the newsletter and the parish magazine.

Early projects included deepening a well in one village, providing buffalo in another (both in India) and a pig breeding project in a shanty town in Brazil. Here

the money was used for the buildings and drainage and the profits made were used for schools and clinics.

In January 1980 Mr Witherington presented a cheque for £650 raised by the pupils for Cambodia. This was sent off with further donations to our particular project in the Cameroons where poverty and malnutrition is very great. The priest in charge is Father Joseph Ayeah who wanted to erect a building for a Health Centre, craft lessons and agricultural instruction to improve their poor crop yield. The Brother who assists him would show the villagers how to build it themselves.

Our next project was the Upper Volta in the Sahel district where drought had meant that the people were dependent upon food sent in by agencies. The parish priest Fr. Duggan, a White Father, was concerned about the danger of people flocking to the towns for free food and wanted to see more effective distribution in the villages to encourage people to stay at home and till their own fields.

His parish council discussed it and committees were appointed of Christian, Moslem and one other to distribute fairly to those whose need was most and they decided there was a great need to build nine storage buildings so they applied for money for building materials.

We were privileged to contribute £1,000 to this project which was very much in the spirit of all Cafod projects — "the encouragement of self help with the hope of becoming self supporting."

An early Cafod quote was:

"Give a man a fish and feed him for a day

Give him a fishing line and feed him forever."

Contact: Gwynneth Rizzo, 20 Preston Avenue. Telephone 50988.

CATECHISTS

A group of men and women in the parish who undertake the instruction of converts and of children who for some reason are unable to attend Catholic schools.

Anyone who needs such instruction should speak to one of the priests who will put them in touch with a catechist.

Classes will be formed in the Glasllwch Area to instruct children and prepare them for Confirmation.

Any person who wishes to become a catechist should apply to the Parish Priest.

ST. MARY'S CUBS

For boys aged 8 - 11 years.

Meeting place - St. Mary's Institute, Friday evenings 6 - 7.30pm.

Activities

Outings, tramp evenings, Halloween parties, hikes, weekend camp, model making, talks (first aid, etc.) badge work. Bob-a-job week (to pay Cubs' membership fee

to Scout H.Q.) Christmas parcels for the elderly in St. Mary's parish which the Cubs pay for from fund-raising events e.g. sponsored silence which they organise and partake in themselves. Help out at the Scout Fete every summer. Current holders of the Newport Cubs Sports Shield.

Leaders

Akela - Bridie Logan, 38 Fields Park Road, Tel 66064, (after six)

Assistant - Gina Antonelli,

Cub Leaders - Julie Waters, Maureen O' Connor,

Contact B. Logan.

A few vacancies exist owing to some Cubs reaching the "age of no return"

Condition of Membership

A natural aversion to Guides!

ST. DAVID'S FOUNDATION

"I was sick and dying and you visited me, cared for me, shared with me." A dying person experiences loneliness, has many fears and anxieties and longs for someone who is able to share with them. To care means that you are willing to sit down and LISTEN, to give of yourself; of your very precious time.

It was for this very reason that St David's Foundation was started.

The Foundation is a project for the care of the terminally ill. The Ladies of the SVP have taken this work for their special care. We, who are members of the Foundation, give what we can in a voluntary capacity. Not only the patient but the family also needs help to cope with the strain and stress of knowing that a dear one will never recover; help to face the future; help at the present day to day living.

The volunteers will visit and give help in whatever way it is needed, with the children, household chores . . . They are prepared to sit with the patient, to listen, to support. It is wonderful, a source of strength to know that help is at the other end of a telephone.

Our first part time nurse has been appointed to commence her duties on 1st April 1981, beginning with domiciliary care. She has already had experience piloting this scheme over the past eighteen months. The people of Newport have already benefited from this service.

Fr Christopher Smith was one of the founder members of the Foundation. It was a project dear to his heart, arising from his contacts in the hospital with patients, nurses and relatives. We would like to continue working and see it flourish for the good of the suffering members of Christ.

More volunteers are needed in any way that you can offer your services.

*If you wish to have further information contact: Sister Christopher,
Newport 52321*

DRIVERS

There are now 27 drivers working in five different teams who bring 16 people to Mass every Sunday. These are people who otherwise would be unable to get to Mass. It is sad that there is currently a waiting list of other parishioners who really need the benefit of a lift to church each Sunday morning.

So, the need is for more DRIVER VOLUNTEERS, young or not-so-young, who would be willing to give several people a lift to either the 9 am or 10 am Mass, just once in every five weeks. Names please to Tony Boyle, telephone Newport 66224.

Meanwhile, we are grateful to those who already give their time so cheerfully, to bring others to Mass.

LORETO ECUMENICAL GROUP

In response to the Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism the 'Loreto Group' was formed to provide a vehicle for Christians of all denominations to meet and discuss their beliefs.

In the past we have complacently said that WE ARE RIGHT, THEY ARE WRONG, but it is now realised that such a clear-cut judgement is puerile and false, and, as the Second Vatican Council acknowledges, the faults of our divisions have sometimes been on both sides. To co-operate with Christ's desire for Unity (John 17:20-23) we have to cast away arrogance, prejudice, intolerance, self-righteousness, or complacency in regard to our Christian Brethren; deepen our understanding of our common baptism into the fellowship of Christ, and of the ways in which the Holy Spirit is present and active among the Orthodox, Protestant and Anglican Churches.

This new atmosphere of understanding, tolerance and charity is manifestly a sign of the Holy Spirit at work and is so evident within the Loreto Group which is currently attempting to formulate a statement of the Faith we share together.

The group meets at Loreto, Allt-yr-yn Avenue, Newport (Tel 51924) on the third Monday of every month at 8.30pm.

ST. MARY'S GIRL GUIDE COMPANY

St. Mary's Guides meet every Friday evening at Queens High School, Stow Hill 7pm to 9pm.

The highlight of the year began with Maureen O'Connor, Linzi Waters and Sarah Logan winning their Queens Guide Awards and ended with Anne May, Annette Henry, Alison Batty and Gillian Ellaway gaining the same coveted award.

Most Guide Companies think and plan for outdoor activities and last year these included walking the canals, hiking and cooking on open fires. The annual camp was held at Grace Dieu Manor School in Leicester and was occupied by hut building, swimming, rounders matches, singing songs until the early hours of the morning with the visiting nuns after a joint Folk Mass.

During the year badges were earned and presented and included those for Commonwealth knowledge. Firefighters, Accident Prevention, First Aid, Child

Nursing, Homemakers and museum collectors.

This company also won competitions for tent erecting and swimming and fund raising activities included sponsored walks, Christmas Bazaar and Raffles which helps to defray the cost of camps and dues to the Guiding Association.

Visits were made to other Guide Companies at halloween parties, bonfire night and New Year which were returned with reciprocal events.

We extend sincere thanks to the parents of our guides who continue to offer their co-operation and assistance at all Guide centres.

Anyone desirous of joining St Mary's Girl Guide Company need only turn up on a Friday evening at Queens High School, Stow Hill to obtain further information. Contact the Guide Captain.

THE HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S TRUST

The handicapped children's Pilgrimage Trust is a national organisation represented by groups which number 129, with two groups existing in Newport.

Each group comprises approximately fifteen helpers and every year ten handicapped children are taken to Lourdes. The children range in age from seven to seventeen, and of the ten children five may be chosen internally by the Group, and the remaining five being allocated to us.

The helpers are all self financed but the children do not need any funds, the cost being raised in a number of ways.

The Pilgrimage, which lasts one week, takes a whole year to prepare. There is an annual HCPT fete in Cardiff as well as sponsored events which are very well supported by many people who do not come to Lourdes themselves.

The April Pilgrimage begins with a one and a half day journey. The remainder of the week is one of joyous celebration both religious and social. The children do not expect a cure although one is always prayed for, but they benefit in a way that is noticeable but defies description.

It is unanimously agreed that the Pilgrimage seems to merge into one very long day at the end of which nobody really wants to return home. The fact that everyone wishes to revisit Lourdes says a lot for the HCPT Pilgrimage.

Contents: Paul Wilkinson, 5 St Marks Crescent 52820

Tony Turner, 17 Brynhyfryd Road 62599

THE INSTITUTE

Sunday morning in the Institute sees much activity taking place, where you can meet your friends (or make new ones) for a cup of coffee and take the opportunity to purchase a Catholic newspaper or browse around the repository stall.

Tea and coffee are on sale after the 10, 11 and 12.15 Masses. Soft toys etc are also often available for purchase, the proceeds of which go to Fr. Crowley in the Ugandan missions.

Various Catholic newspapers are on sale including The Universe, Catholic Herald, Cork Weekly and other Irish papers and the Messenger, from 8.30am until 12.15 pm on Sunday and also on Friday mornings from 10am until 11.30am.

Information is also usually available here about Parish activities and events.

The Repository stall is open each Sunday from 8.30am until 12.15pm and sells a variety of religious articles ranging from cards and rosaries to statues, missals etc. Seasonal items are available at Christmas, Easter and for first Holy Communion, Confirmation etc.

The children are catered for in the Institute on Sundays where they have their own liturgy during part of the 10 o'clock Mass and afterwards join their families in Church for the Offertory and Communion.

Contact: Bill Mellerick at the Institute, Stow Hill

MURPHY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING, NEWPORT

Irish Dancing has been part of St Mary's Parish for over 24 years but it was in 1957 that it was first taught to children in St Mary's Institute by Miss Kathleen Hegarty. Probably this was the first Irish dancing school in Wales.

Irish Ceilidhe dancing continued in St Mary's Hall and Institute for many years.

After a lapse of a few years Irish dancing was reformed in 1969 by Miss Margaret O'Boyle, then in 1974 we acquired the services of the first qualified Irish dancing teacher to teach dancing in Wales, Miss Sylvia Murphy, who travels from Birmingham every Saturday to teach Irish dancing in St Mary's Institute.

Under her guidance the children have travelled far and wide, and have twice competed in the World Championships in Dublin.

Dancing is in St Mary's Institute from 10am to 12.30pm every Saturday, and a beginners class every Sunday from 3pm to 4.30pm, starting age three years and upwards.

For further information please contact: F or C T Sheridan, 7 Albert Terrace, Newport. Telephone 66768.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA C189

Aims and Objects

- 1 To be an organised body of Catholic gentlemen giving entire loyalty to the Apostolic See, to the Hierarchy and to the Clergy in all things appertaining to the Catholic Faith.
- 2 To participate in the work of the Lay Apostolate and to assist in all matters concerning the progress of the Catholic Church.
- 3 To protect the moral, intellectual and material welfare of its members and of the Catholic community generally and to encourage all in the practice of

ST MARY'S UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS



St Mary's Union of Catholic Mothers

- the Catholic religion.
- 4 To make such provision as may be possible for the widows, orphans and other dependants of its members, and generally to promote kindness and benevolence amongst all men.
 - 5 To promote the interests of Catholic youth.
 - 6 To direct the minds of its members to the fundamental virtues of the order: Charity, Unity and Fraternity and to be guided in all things thereby.
 - 7 To co-operate with other Catholic organisations to the furtherance of Catholic activities.

Council No 189 Newport and Cwmbran meets monthly and alternately at St Mary's Newport and Our Lady of the Angels Cwmbran on the second Tuesday of the month.

Contact: Anthony Clarke

THE LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is the largest, most widespread lay organisation in the Church operating worldwide, active especially in these areas where the Church is experiencing difficulties.

It is designed to undertake in an organised manner practically any task with the proviso that it must be substantial and basically apostolic under ecclesiastical approval.

Its aim is to endeavour to bring everyone to Christ and in doing so to lead the members to an awareness and betterment in their own lives, that they may see Christ in others, all under the inspiration of Our Lady.

There are two groups (Praesidia) operating in St Mary's Parish: Senior (18 years plus) with fourteen acting members, 7 ladies, 7 male, and junior (under 18 years) with six members. Together they are responsible for Programme of Works presently comprising:

- Contact of all homes in Parish
- Contact with lapsed and careless Catholics
- Disemination of Catholic literature in Institute
- Acting as catechists, giving instruction
- Visiting of geriatric wards in hospitals
- Contact of the sick, lonely, disadvantaged in their homes
- Youth works
- Co-operation with other societies
- Being at all times prepared to assist others in their Apostolic lives

Despite wide diversities in calling, ages, background and attitudes, we enjoy extremely good relationships with each other.

Four of our members were delegates to the Pastoral Congress. Two are members of the Parish Council, one is a member of the Deanery Council, all are engaged in other Church activities.

Our Spiritual Directors are Reverend Father Daley and Reverend Father Bellwood.

There are, of course, conditions and obligations of membership.
Enquiries to any member or to Presbytery.

Bad News

In submitting our Annual Report, we have to offer sad news and glad news; as there is only one piece of sad news we will begin with that.

We are sorry to say that due to wastage by deaths and mothers leaving the area, we are reduced to 26 in number and would be very pleased indeed if this report should result in more members joining us. All are welcome, but we will be very interested indeed, to see a good response from the younger element.

Good News

Our successes are many and varied, as witness:-
We were honoured to have played our part in the ordination of Father Flook, as also at the farewell party for Father Farmer, where our president reflected all our our good wishes when presenting him with a parting gift.

Whenever the priests or nuns required us to assist in providing light refreshment at social evenings or indeed, at other Church functions, we were not found wanting. We have run buffets for all the helpers of St Mary's Parish: we have visited the elderly at St Woolos Hospital: we have visited the Unions of Catholic Mothers in other parishes and have enjoyed our trips together in Father Hamson's autobus. Additionally, we are not averse to a bit of chitchat, or a game of bingo!

How do we finance all this? Well, we organise jumble sales, hold raffles and also, from time to time, make voluntary contributions of our own, the money being put to such good deeds as:

<i>St Jude's Society</i>	...	£215
<i>St David's Hospice</i>	...	£120
<i>Mrs Walsh</i>	...	£ 40
<i>Ugandan Mission</i>	...	£ 25 and others

Then we are economising in other ways, for example: we cater for ourselves at our own annual Christmas dinner rather than at the Westgate Hotel — a great saving — and just as good.

We are at the service of St Mary's Parish — YOU.

- President* - Mrs Carroll, 12 Highfield Road. Tel 840776
- Secretary* - Mrs Girolami, 1 Queen Street. Tel 62186
- Treasurer* - Mrs Sweeting, 20 St Steven's Road.

CATHOLIC MARRIAGE ADVISORY COUNCIL



Fifth year school leavers course on relationships at CMAC Centre.

Why is it that the stability of Christian marriage is as much at risk today as marriage within society at large?

Is it because there is a lack of Christian commitment, the unfulfilled expectation of a life of permanent happiness, an over dependence upon parents, an inability to cope with the stresses of modern living, a desire to satisfy one's own needs, both within and outside marriage, to the exclusion of the partner's

needs, or is it that some wives and mothers have lost their vocation to their working life outside the home which is to them that more attractive.

The disappearance of the extended family has taken away the support and encouragement needed by the family, and couples and families have to manage on their own often without support of a 'caring Christian community.'

Christians work as marriage counsellors at the Catholic Marriage Advisory Council, within the Parish of St Mary's, at 8 Corn Street, and here in Newport we have one of the most successful of centres generously supported by the Gwent County Council, Newport Borough Council and our Archbishop.

Counsellors are available to receive people as uniquely individual who will be encouraged to express their feelings about their situation with sympathy and understanding: they will be loved and accepted as they are, without condemnation or judgement; and they will be encouraged and supported to make choices appropriate to their own situation and conscience in a confidential setting.

As the counsellor enters into the other's world of feelings and experiences they can together identify and clarify the problem, discover why it has arisen, and consider how it may be resolved or be better accepted and assimilated into a more acceptable marriage relationship.

More often than not there are problems of communication between couples at a deep and meaningful level where the counselling role will be to assist people to be better able to express their feelings and emotions together.

The counsellor's role of helping people to become better communicators is an essential part of preparation for family life, and counsellors help parents, pupils and engaged couples in the *Skills of Communication*.

If you are interested in becoming a marriage counsellor or would like to talk over your problems with a marriage counsellor please visit the CMAC Centre at Corn Street, Newport or telephone 52868. Counsellors have been selected and trained from many parts of Gwent in order that those who wish may be seen in complete anonymity.

ST MARY'S MAGAZINE

St Mary's Magazine was founded by the late Fr. Tom Lenane at Christmas 1958 and has continued without a break for 22 years.

Its aim and object is to inform, comment upon and entertain St Mary's Parish in matters of Catholic interest by publishing contributions and articles written by members of the parish and it can boast with justification that in all its long life every article and contribution has been written by a member of St Mary's Parish. It is therefore very much a family magazine.

People who wish to be associated with the production of the magazine will find ample scope in writing articles, series and contributions of any kind in addition to the practical aspects of printing, typing, sorting, illustrating, stapling, sales, advertising and distribution.

The editorial committee of the magazine meet in the Presbytery (magazine room) every Wednesday at 8.15pm.

MUSIC

There are three choirs at St Mary's. The more traditional choir sings at the 11am Mass on a Sunday and is composed of children from the primary and secondary schools and some adults. Miss Doris Pocock and Mr P Carney, the organist, make all the arrangements for this choir. Its main function is to lead the congregation in the singing at the 11am Mass and for the major services of the Church such as those during Holy Week.

The Folk Choir leads the singing at the 6.30pm Mass on Sunday. This choir was originally formed due to the hard work and enthusiasm of Fr Tony Hamson and a group of like-minded people, many of whom have now moved on. It consists of both instrumentalists and singers. This choir also takes part in Ecumenical Services and entertains various groups of people around the town. For various services in the Church the Traditional and Folk choirs come together.

There is also a junior folk group which prepares and sings the music for the 7.30pm Mass on the first Wednesday of each month.

New members are always welcome in all the choirs. Names can be given to Mr P Carney and Miss D Pocock for the Traditional and Junior Folk, and Mr Rod Jones and Mr Pat Drewett for the Folk Choir.

CATHOLIC NEEDLEWORK GUILD

The CNG came into being in 1885. Membership is open to all classes and creeds of men and women. It exists to provide useful and warm (new) clothing for those in unfortunate circumstances and unable to provide for themselves.

Members undertake to give two articles of clothing and a subscription of at least 10p annually or money instead of garments. Junior members (under 16) give one article of clothing and a subscription of at least 5p annually. St Mary's have 21 members and last year gave 15 garments and £32.

They were represented at the annual Diocesan meeting by six members.

St Mary's Branch Secretary is: Mrs B Mole, 62 Redland Street, Newport.

ST MARY'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The St. Mary's Charismatic Prayer Group meets in the Institute, Stow Hill, on Tuesdays.

The room is not perfect but we do want it to be available for people to drop in if they feel the need for a quiet hour of prayer.

Our first object is to deepen our own prayer life and those who are always busy and do not spend much time in praying learn from those who do.

Someone leads with a reading or a thought for the evening, others pray and praise God spontaneously for all he has done for us. We spend sometime in

silence listening to what the Holy Spirit is saying to us and we finish by praying for others and for the parish.

It has provided a source of strength and support for several people going through a bereavement or other family crisis.

Some people come for strength to carry on their work as social worker, parish visitor or counsellor, and others simply because they want to be nearer to God and they feel they have been neglecting Him.

World Wide Movement

The Holy Spirit is moving in the world. The numbers of prayer groups are growing. In difficult times we turn to God and he is there to fill us with his love so that we are able to spread it to others who need it so much.

The fact that similar prayer groups have grown up in various denominations and mixed communities and in various countries of the World is not due to human organisation, it has just happened spontaneously. Surely the Holy Spirit is at work.

We start with the words of Our Lord "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of you."

ST JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER-FRIEND ASSOCIATION

Officers of the Committee

<i>President</i>	<i>Mr Witherington</i>	<i>Headmaster</i>
<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Mrs P Lawrence</i>	<i>Parent</i>
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	<i>Mr G Hart</i>	<i>Deputy Head</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Mr K Grainger</i>	<i>Parent</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Mr D Page</i>	<i>Parent</i>

The remainder of the committee consists of ten parents, nominated by parents, four members of the staff of the school, nominated by the staff, and two friends of the school. The committee has the right to co-opt further members as deemed necessary. The term of office for all elected members (i.e. everyone except the President) shall be one year. The AGM is held in October of every year and committee meetings are normally held monthly at the school.

The objects of the association are to advance the education of the pupils of the school by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for education at the school (not normally provided by the Local Education Authority) and, as an ancillary thereto and in furtherance of this object the Association may:

- foster more extended relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school, and
- engage in activities which support the school and advance the education of the pupils attending it.

The association is affiliated to the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations.

The major project being sponsored by the PTFA at this time is the Religious Centre although it has recently provided a public address system for the school. It occasionally helps with expenses with shows such as My Fair Lady and provides funds for the annual school Frank Batty Award.

Fund raising is carried out in a number of ways e.g. 500 Club, Boxing Dinner, Talent Competition, various dances.

The PTFA also organise cultural events. A talk on the Shroud of Turin was very successful and talks on topics such as vandalism and drug taking have been held in the past.

Due to the large catchment area of the school, the activities of the association are not confined to St Mary's Parish or parishioners. The Chairman comes from Caerleon and the Treasurer from Rhiwderin as examples.

ST MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman Peter Elliott
Vice Chairman Edward Curran
General Secretary Dermod Reardon

Sub Committees

Maintenance - Church Fabric
Education
Youth
Communications
Liturgy
The Needy
Finance
Cafod and the Third World

The aims and objects of the Parish Council are to form a working organisation which will enable the laity to assist the Parish Priest in the day to day running of the parish which will leave him and his clergy free to carry out and develop the spiritual exercises for which they were ordained.

Deanery Representatives: Edward Curran 52031
Anthony Higgins 66330

THE ROSARY CIRCLE

The Rosary Circle in St Mary's was formed on 13th March 1980 after a talk, with slides, by two members of The Association of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, from Bristol.

The Rosary is said before the Blessed Sacrament, in order to give honour to Our Lord truly present on the altars of our churches and to pray for special intentions, primarily priests and vocations, and peace.

The Rosary Circle meets on Friday evenings at 7.15 and another rosary is recited on Tuesdays at 12.15pm.

The number who come regularly is small. There are almost no rules. Anyone who wishes can lead the Rosary and make the intentions. Peoples names are not mentioned except when praying for the dead. The last decade is always said for peace. Sometimes the Joyful Mysteries are said, sometimes the Sorrowful, sometimes the Glorious.

Leaflets about the Rosary Circle can be obtained from members at the Friday and Tuesday meetings. Bristol sends newsletters periodically with information about other Rosary Circles, Rosary Rallies and Conferences throughout the country.

In October, the Guild of the Blessed Sacrament joined with the Rosary Circle in a Holy Hour based on the Rosary.

Contact: Mrs Sheila Lavelle, 57 Stow Hill.

RETREATS FOR CHILDREN AT ST JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL

Our Fourth, Fifth and Sixth formers from St Joseph's have had the opportunity of making retreats for a number of years now, and what we are trying to do at the present moment is to increase the number of retreats available to them so that all the older pupils will have at least one opportunity while at school of making a residential retreat if they wish to do so.

We have experimented in various styles of retreat e.g. holiday retreats where we stay either at a youth hostel or at a retreat centre near the sea, and in this atmosphere of relaxation and informality we pray together and share our experience of life and of God.

During the last two years, groups have been going to St Cassian's Centre at Kintbury, which is run by the De La Salle Brothers and this is an excellent youth retreat centre. There are always two school groups involved in any retreat there and we often find ourselves with the boys from St Iltys School from Cardiff. The retreats last a few days and during that time the pupils have an intense experience of Christian Community.

From the very first evening a great openness is asked of each person present and this openness helps to break down barriers between people. During the retreat everyone is asked to share with a group what they feel about themselves, their lives and God and to talk this through in an atmosphere of trust. In talking about their real lives, with their difficulties and successes, they often discover God as *their* God. So often God seems to them to have been involved in the lives of *other* people, but not in theirs. He seems to them to have been the God of St Augustine or St Teresa, but not *their* God. However in the experience gained at Kintbury many young people meet God and experience God in a tangible way for the first time.

Their Masses usually last at least two hours, and often the young people present appear to be anything but religious! When one looks around the room, ones sees punks, skinheads and mods and yet they are not in the least bored because they are so involved in the liturgy. They find the Masses a very moving experience and experiences they will always remember.

When they return to school, they usually feel liberated. They have been

completely themselves in Kintbury — no-one there is trying to impress anyone else — no-one is pretending to be someone he isn't — we are all ourselves. They also experience being loved and accepted while being completely themselves and this really frees them in so many ways.

Those who have been to Kintbury always keep in touch with the group with whom they have shared the experience. At the moment, Fourth and Sixth form groups meet groups from St Iltyds and Heathfield House for Masses and social events, and I think this is one of the ways in which we are helping to build the local church and strengthen our young people in the faith.

RESIDENTIAL RETREAT FOR THE STAFF FROM ST JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL

Some members of staff are going on a weekend retreat to Prinknash. No one person is *giving* this retreat, but each person present will be responsible for one part of the programme, which is basically a programme of prayer and sharing. We are really combining the ideas of the Youth Prayer Group and the style of retreat our pupils have experienced, and we hope that it will help the staff as much as the pupils have been helped in their prayer and retreat experiences.

15th NEWPORT (ST MARY'S) VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

We are a new unit, established in May of last year. Although there was a unit previous to that date running for some eighteen months it was not an officially registered unit.

The members of the unit are now in the middle of a Duke of Edinburgh Award.

In July of last year four members of the unit entered the Black Mountain's expedition, an exercise which involved some thirty miles of walking and two nights camping. There were three sections and the team that entered won their section for younger Venture Scouts, beating twelve or so other teams from various centre units from both the surrounding counties of the area and some from England.

During July the unit accompanied the scout troop on a camp which was sited a few miles from Abergavenny. The camp was a tremendous success, the troop hosting an Irish one who came over to Wales after an invitation by the scout troop, following the previous year's camp which was situated in Cork. The troop who visited Wales were from Dublin and hope to accompany the troop to this year's Welsh Jamboree which will be in North Wales.

The unit also took part in a night hike in Abergavenny in October and came second. The unit came first and second in an orienteering event in Wentwood Forest for individuals, the first and second times separated by one minute at the end of the day.

In January the unit played host to the district's venture units, holding a special activity in Wentwood. It was called the "Wild War Game". The teams that entered had to complete a set course by compass navigation several miles

long completing several tasks on route such as rifle shooting, river crossing by dead man's crawl, finding code words mounted on trees in the forest and deciphering a code to find a code word. Just to give the course a little bit of excitement the teams had to evade capture by members of our unit who wore red armbands and pounced on the teams at every opportunity. This activity was enjoyed by all, including three teams who ended the day by getting completely lost in pea-soup fog.

The unit is at present arranging a 7-a-side rugby competition for other units in the near future. One of our members attended the Snowdon Dragon, a very demanding course which lasted for three days but with a practice expedition and instruction. He was in North Wales for ten days.

Following last year's camp, members of the unit attended two weekend visits to Wentwood Forest as a conservation project helping the forester, also in January of last year completing a course of instruction at the Fire Station in Maindee. Both this course, which all who attended passed, and the conservation project were part of their Venture Award.

Secretary: Joseph Lavelle, 15th Newport VSU, 57 Stow Hill, Newport.



15th NEWPORT SCOUT GROUP

Including Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts.

1980 saw the Venture Scout Unit of St Mary's off to a good success. An enjoyable year of activities and competitions, under the guidance of David Potts meant quite a few successes.

Black Mountains Expedition	1st (Novice Section)
Wentwood Individual Orienteering	1st
Y Fal Night Hike (Black Mountains)	2nd
Newport Youth Festival Quiz	1st

Several members of the unit joined the members of the youth club to form a Newport Group of the Catholic Association of Young Adults (CAYA), a national body within the Catholic Church.

The scouts were off to a slow start due to many older boys joining the venture unit. However, a camp was held near Raglan during the summer when St Mary's played host to 30 scouts from Southern Ireland. Ventures helped in the running and all had a good camp. Many friendships were made and still continue.

Last, and by no means least, the cub section had yet another good year. Taking part in the District Camp and Cub Sports days they were successful. First place was taken at the sports day despite a strong team from the Sea Scouts. What has now become an annual event with the cubs was successfully completed this year. The cubs take part in a sponsored silence to raise money for food parcels for old people at Christmas. We are reminded of the needs of the community and congratulate all those involved for their efforts.

A parents committee under the chairmanship of Mr C Middleton was formed and has been a great asset to the group in raising funds and providing support.

For further information contact: Bob Ward, 42 Somerset Road, Newport, Group Scout Leader

GUILD OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

In its day the Newport Guild of the Blessed Sacrament was a very large and virile sodality and I am sure that in other parishes it still continues to flourish. The membership is small and there is room for a revival by enthusiastic new members who aspire to rebuild what was once a large active body of men and women.

The men's guild has lapsed but the remaining ladies faithfully continue to keep it alive with regular meetings and activities.

The aims of the guild are to actively participate in all feasts and services connected with the Blessed Sacrament and to provide everything sacred for the Altar and servers including the flowers for Corpus Christi and Maundy Thursday and any other appropriate feast.

They have Holy Hour Service from 4.15pm to 5pm followed by Benediction on the fourth Sunday of the month with a meeting in the Presbytery after Benediction.

A whist drive is run at 7.30pm every Tuesday in the Marian Room at the Institute and the proceeds are devoted to the needs of the Altar.

Secretary: Miss K.N.M. Williams, 2 The Mews, Stow Park Circle, Newport 50202

SAMARITANS

Who are the Samaritans? The Samaritan movement is a voluntary international organisation of men and women drawn from all walks of life — of all ages — of all religious persuasions or none. They offer friendship to troubled and distressed people whose circumstances can often bring them to the verge of suicide.

How do the Samaritans work? The Samaritan Centre is manned twentyfour hours each day of the year, by two volunteers at a time who undertake shifts of approximately four hours duration.

The local branch is sited at 43 Stow Hill, Newport.

People needing help can approach by telephoning Newport 59000, by calling at the above address or by correspondence. They will be assured of the undivided attention of a volunteer.

It may be possible to give all the necessary support within the Samaritans.

If more specialised help is desired, we have available professional consultants e.g. financial, legal, psychiatric or pastoral.

Who seeks help? People from all walks of life — of all ages — approach the Samaritans. Many problems are involved such as physical illness, mental distress, marital discord, family rejection, inability to cope with life's complexities, financial problems, "weariness of life", etc.

How do Samaritans help? Samaritans give time, patience and confidentiality. No problem is too big or too small. Anyone making an approach can be assured of a friendly welcome.

What qualities do Samaritans need? Samaritans are ordinary people without specialist knowledge or professional training, but they do *care* about others and have sympathetic and genuine understanding. Samaritans must be more ready to

listen than talk or give advice,

Volunteers must be prepared to be involved in the problems of others, yet be able to stand detached. They must have tact, be unemotional, "unflappable", unshockable and be prepared to work under the direction of a director or leader.

What duties are undertaken by volunteers? Telephone duty at the Centre is essential. Volunteers do a minimum of two shifts each month and one "all night" duty every six weeks. In addition some volunteers are asked to become befrienders and/or members of the Flying Squad which stands by for 24-hour emergency work.

What training do volunteers receive? After a preliminary interview applicants may be accepted for training. They are expected to attend eight evening sessions arranged weekly — running consecutively and those who are finally accepted become helpers and in due course, if satisfactory, become full Samaritan members.

Supporters Friends of the Samaritans are invaluable, supporting the branch in fund raising and in publicising our work for the distressed.

We need many more men and women to help us from all parts of Newport and Gwent. Do please give this your consideration.

ST VINCENT de PAUL

The ladies conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is known as St Joseph the Worker.

At our meetings the best way of dealing with the various problems is discussed and work is allocated for the coming week.

Sometimes it is visiting and advising the lonely, the recently bereaved, making sure that a dying mother is lying in a clean and comfortable bed and that the man can cope with his family afterwards. Giving financial help when it is necessary and of course, gifts at Christmas time.

At the moment our great interest is the foundation of the St David's Hospice, this is truly a great work for God.

Enquiries can be made through Mr Denis Curran, c/o The Presbytery, Stow Hill, who is in charge of the Men's Conference.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Chairman	Mrs B Kelly
Vice Chairman	Mrs E Quinn
Treasurer	Mrs E Murray
Secretary	Mrs J Greenleaf, 1 Edward VII Crescent, Newport, Tel 841803

The Newport section is based at St Mary's. We have 22 members and are at present contacting other parishes in the deanery, hoping to attract new members. The League meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm for Mass,

followed by League Prayers, and then proceeds to the Institute for a talk or demonstration or sometimes for a more formal business meeting when future plans are discussed.

During the past year money has been raised for the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust and we were pleased that our contribution helped to send a party of Welsh children to Lourdes. Mr Tony Turner visited the May meeting to show a film of a recent pilgrimage.

Money raising activities included Bring and Buy stalls, an "At Home", a Jumble Sale and Whist Drive supported by the UCM and GBS.

Sister Christopher visited the September meeting to talk on the work being done in this area to establish the St David's Foundation and it has been decided that this cause should be the object of our efforts during the coming year.

Members were joined by friends at a dinner held at Michael's Restaurant in Risca.

The Newport Section provided a floral arrangement for the High Altar at Belmont Abbey for the Floral Festival held there in June during the 1500 years celebrations of the Benedictines.

Members are actively engaged in sick visiting and once a month take tea to the Cheshire Home at Llanhennock.

ST MARY'S YOUTH CLUB

St Mary's Youth Club meets every Sunday night in the Institute between 7.45 and 9.45pm. New members are welcome but they must be over 14 years of age.

Regular club activities include pool, snooker, table tennis, darts, T.V. games and dancing, 5-a-side football, table skittles and badminton.

As well as these regular events, the club also makes excursions from time to time.

Last January members of the youth club travelled to Liverpool for a weekend of spiritual renewal — which proved very enjoyable and rewarding for all concerned. Other events have included visits to the ice skating rink at Bristol, walking in the Black Mountains and involvement in the hosting of the German youth leaders from Heidenheim who visited St Mary's last summer.

During the last year, the weekly average number of young people at the club was approximately 50, but since February this year we are suffering from a slump in numbers due to the opening of Tiffany's on a Sunday evening . . . parents beware!

However, Tiffany's won't stop St Mary's Youth Club which has been going since 1949 thanks to the stalwart efforts of the many youth leaders who have kept the club open through thick and thin.

Recently, thanks to the efforts of Mary Turner and friends, the club has been able to purchase a new record deck which has proved very popular. Also, a members' committee of the club is being set up to enable members to give the leaders their views on relevant matters.

We look forward to an interesting future programme of events and to meeting new faces and old at the club each Sunday.

Come along next Sunday and ask for Reg.

MISCELLANEOUS

Weekly Newsletter	Contact Glyn Oakly, St Mary's Presbytery	
St Mary's Junior School	Headmistress Sister Irene	65267
St Mary's Infant School	Headmistress Mrs E Curran	65267
St Joseph's Junior and Infants	Headmaster Mr Ray Cantwell	58801
Notices, Diary and CTS Pamphlets	Small porch, St Mary's Church	
Catholic Nurses Guild	Contact Mrs Teresa Sheridan	66768
MIND	Contact Christine Jones, 41 Morden Rd.	51288
Family Care (housing)	Contact Fr Tony Hamson, St Mary's Presbytery	
Life	Contact Mrs P McGarrigle	
Readers	Contact Fr Eedy	65533
Guild of St Stephen (Altar Servers)	Contact Fr Bellwood	65533
Association for the propagation of the Faith	Contact John Newman, 51 St Julian's Road	55474

SERVICES

Subject to alteration — See Outside Noticeboard

MASS	Sunday	8.30, 9.30 and 10.45am 12.15 and 6.30pm
	Weekdays	Monday to Friday 10.00am and 7.30pm, Saturday 10am and 8pm
	Holydays	7.30, 10.00am, 12.30, 6.15, 8pm
	Convent	Monday to Friday 7.15am Saturday 8.00am
BAPTISMS		By appointment
CONFESSIONS	Sat	12 to 1pm, 7 to 8pm
	Wed	8pm

ST MARY'S NEWPORT 1840

There were thatched houses in High Street Newport in which thoroughfare cattle markets were held. Newport East was almost open country and hardly a house between Cardiff Road and Pill. No railway — no docks — only an inefficient daily coach service to London. Population 10,000, of which 1,900 were Catholic.

In 1812 a small chapel was built on the site now occupied by St Mary's Church, served by Fr Haly of Usk. Land, materials, equipment and endowments were given by local Catholics. In 1839 the chapel was demolished and work started on the new church which was to cost £2,500 and was consecrated and opened on the 12th November 1840. Fr Edward Metcalfe was the first rector and he was greatly loved by Catholic and Protestant alike for he took a prominent part in local affairs.

The church was built in the purist style of 13th century Gothic and Fr Metcalfe's memory is recorded in the stain glass window depicting his offering to God of the church complete with the originally designed spire (which was never added) and can still be seen on the epistle side of the sanctuary.

In June 1847 the Fathers of Charity took charge of the Newport mission and have been with us ever since. One of the most famous rectors of St Mary's was Fr Dominic Cavalli who served the parish for 43 years and during his reign St Mary's school was opened at what is now the Institute and in 1900 St Mary's School, Queens Hill was built.

In 1873 the Sisters of St Joseph of Annecy established a convent on Stow Hill and have worked assiduously for the education and pastoral welfare of the parishes of Newport.

In a brief reference to the history of St Mary's parish extending over 140 years it has been difficult to know what to leave out rather than what to include, but it is relevant to say that as Newport has grown so the church has developed at the same rate and is today represented by its various parishes and institutions which contribute substantially to the pastoral life of our town.