



St Benedict's, Sketty St Joachim & St Anne, Dunvant



The Catholic Church in West Swansea & Gower

Parish Priest: Father John Browne Telephone: 01792 201 046 Mob: 07510 933 711

Parish Priest's Address: The Catholic Church, Llys Teg, Dunvant, Swansea, SA2 7QQ

E-mail: sketty@menevia.org / dunvant@menevia.org Church Website: www.gowercatholic.com

Confessions St Benedict's: Before Mass & on request, in confessional box near sacristy.

Confessions St Joachim & St Anne: Before Mass & on request, in confessional box in side chapel.

Safeguarding: Please see Safeguarding Policy and contact information in the porch of both churches.

Home Visits: Please tell Father if you or someone you know cannot attend Mass due to illness or infirmity.

Local Catholic Schools: St David's Catholic Primary School & Bishop Vaughan Comprehensive School.

New to the Church? If you are new - you are very welcome - please introduce yourself to Father John.

Parish Bank Details: Sketty Parish A/c 74242768 S/c 60-21-41 | Dunvant Parish A/c 74242776 S/c 60-21-41

Collection Tokens: Plain tokens are available for those who donate by standing order to put in the collection.

Mass Intentions: Please find printed envelopes in the church porches.

Hospital Chaplains: Morriston: Fr Jason, Tel 07792 003 905; Singleton: Fr Clement, Tel 07459 335 606.

Parish Newsletter - Sunday 1st March 2026

Date	Service	Time	Church	Mass Intentions	Liturgical Notes
Sat 28 th Feb	Mass	4:00pm	Sketty	Mark McGaw int.	2 nd Sunday of Lent
	Mass	6:00pm	Dunvant	Louise int.	2 nd Sunday of Lent
Sun 1 st March	Mass	9:15am	Dunvant	Ann Gavin+ Milroy daCosta+	2 nd Sunday of Lent
	Mass	11:15am	Sketty	Helen Wilson int.	2 nd Sunday of Lent
Mon 2 nd March	In private	-	-	Pro Populo	-
Tues 3 rd March	Mass	10:00am	Dunvant	Holy Souls+	
Wed 4 th March	Mass	10:00am	Sketty	Mary Ronan+	
Thurs 5 th March	Mass	10:00am	Dunvant	Pat Hartnett+	
Fri 6 th March	Mass	10.00am	Sketty	Gerald Cunningham int.	
Sat 7 th March	Mass	4:00pm	Sketty	Ian Harding+	3 rd Sunday of Lent
	Mass	6:00pm	Dunvant	Kevin Millerick+	3 rd Sunday of Lent
Sun 8 th March	Mass	9:15am	Dunvant	George Ronan+	3 rd Sunday of Lent
	Mass	11:15am	Sketty	Michael Lambert+ Sean White+	3 rd Sunday of Lent

Before Mass talk to God, during Mass let God talk to you, after Mass talk to each other

Stations of the Cross: after Tuesday Mass in Dunvant, and after Friday Mass in Sketty.

This Sunday: Tea & Coffee after 9:15am Mass in Dunvant, in the side-chapel. *Wedding Ring still Unclaimed*

STARTING THIS WEEK

Children's classes for First Holy Communion & Confirmation: These will take place at St Benedict's Church, Sketty, one class after the other on Friday evening beginning on Friday 6th March - 5:45pm for First Holy Communion & 6:30pm for Confirmation. **For Older Children / Young Adults:** A faith discussion group will take place on Thursday evening beginning on Thursday 5th March at 6pm at the church in Dunvant.

Date for First Holy Communion Mass: The usual Sunday morning Mass in either church on Sunday 7th June.

Date for Confirmation Mass: with Archbishop Mark on Sunday 28th June at 2pm in Dunvant Church.

Archdiocesan Youth Events: Year 8 - Year 13 age group "sound of silence" at Belmont Abbey 14th March 11am-6.30pm, transport provided (register by 8th March). For ages 18-30 there is a Holy Week retreat also at Belmont Abbey 27-29 March. Please phone or email Father Matt on 029 2037 9490 or youth@cardiffmenevia.org

Station Mass with the Archbishop: Holy Cross Church, Gendros, this Thursday 7pm.

Lenten Confessions: Visiting Priests (and Father John)

DAYTIME

Dunvant - Saturday 21st March 10am Canon Michael Flook

Sketty - Saturday 21st March 11.30am Canon Michael Flook

EVENING

Dunvant - Monday 23rd March 6pm Fr Martin Donnelly

Sketty - Monday 23rd March 7pm Fr Martin Donnelly

Holy Week Mass Times: (see over)

Holy Thursday Mass

4pm Sketty 6pm Duvant

Good Friday Services

10am Duvant Morning Prayer

12noon Sketty Passion Service

3pm Duvant Passion Service

7pm Sketty Evening Prayer

Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil Mass

4pm Sketty 6pm Duvant

Easter Sunday Mass

9.15am Duvant 11.15am Sketty

St Benedict's Gift Aid: As the new financial year approaches, unfortunately I have no details of those parishioners of St Benedict's who are registered for Gift Aid. Could I kindly ask that St Benedict's parishioners who donate to the Parish either by Numbered Envelope or Standing Order, to fill out (if they are eligible) a new Gift Aid mandate? This would enable us to claim Gift Aid for the current 2025/26 financial year. I will leave the mandate forms in the church porch, if you could return to Father. To be eligible for Gift Aid, you need to be a UK income tax payer. This means that the Parish will receive from the Government an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, at zero cost to you. This only counts for Numbered Envelope or Standing Order donations. I also have no details of who the Numbered Envelopes correspond to in terms of names and addresses. I need these details both for Gift Aid and non-Gift Aid, and so I will leave a sheet on the desk in the Sacristy, if you would be so kind as to fill in the relevant details, or alternatively phone or email Father John. Thank you very much!

Benemerenti: The Benemerenti is awarded by the Pope to recognise great service in the Church. This Sunday Father will present St Benedict's parishioner Veronica Meredith with the Benemerenti. Veronica would never seek such a decoration herself, but she was nominated for it, and her nomination was accepted!

Kneeling to receive Holy Communion: You are welcome to do so in both churches - in Sketty there is a single blue cushion on both sides of the altar rails, in Duvant there is a kneeler and cushion to Father's left (your right).

Sketty Church Cleaning: I have heard back from the cleaning company, they are going to send me details this week of cleaners available and rates.

Sunday Homily: Every year, on the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus. The Jesus whom the disciples knew, the Jesus they had followed throughout his ministry, was changed before their very eyes. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

Yet, like so many stories in the Gospel, today's passage is not only about Jesus; it is also about us. The Gospel does not simply tell us that Jesus was changed - it promises that we too can be changed. On the mountain of the Transfiguration, the person of Jesus was revealed in a deeper and fuller way. This Gospel assures us that we also can grow in a deeper and fuller way, gradually becoming the person God calls us to be.

This is an important message, because all too often we convince ourselves that we cannot change. As we grow older, we begin to assume that we simply are the way we are and that nothing will ever be any different. Especially if we have tried to change in the past and failed, we can easily conclude - "I shall never become the person God wants me to be..." When we begin thinking like this, it is important to remember the words Jesus speaks to the disciples in today's Gospel: "Rise and have no fear." We may have difficulties within our family or circle of friends - someone who has let us down, a person who constantly irritates us. However hard we try to move beyond these feelings, they surface again each time we think of that person. And so we say to ourselves, "This is how I am. I shall always feel this way." But Jesus says, "Do not say 'always'. You will eventually find the grace to not let it affect you or rob you of your peace."

We may have carried a prejudice for years - viewing people of a certain culture or lifestyle negatively, judging someone at work or in public life unfairly. We know our attitude is harsh or unreasonable, yet we cannot seem to shake it. And so we say, "What's the point? I shall never overcome this." But Jesus says, "Do not give up. I am not finished working on you yet." Perhaps all our lives we have taken pride in being independent - in managing on our own and helping others. Now, as we grow older and our health declines, we realise we cannot care for ourselves as we once did. Yet we struggle to ask for help. We say, "I cannot put aside my pride and ask for what I need." But Jesus says, "Your life is changing. Does it not make sense to allow those you have helped to help you now? "Rise and have no fear."

Jesus was transfigured on the mountain. And we can be changed also by the power of God. Even if we have failed in the past, the Gospel this Sunday tells us that with God - we always have a chance to change. For today, Christ reaches out his hand to "transfigure" me and you.