



# CARDIFF CATHEDRAL ✝ CADEIRLAN CAERDYDD

*Domus mea domus orationis vocabitur*

## **ARCHBISHOP OF CARDIFF**

Most Reverend George Stack

## **PRIEST-IN-CHARGE**

Fr Robert James

Clergy House

38 Charles Street

Cardiff

CF10 2SF

(029) 2023 1407

[cathedral@rcadc.org](mailto:cathedral@rcadc.org)

---

## **TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**3rd October | Readings: Year B (Sunday), Cycle 1 (Weekday) | Psalter: Week 3**

---

Below is an extract from the letter of Bishop John Sherrington, regarding the 'Assisted Dying Bill 2021' which will receive its second reading in the House of Lords on Friday 22nd October.

I have printed the full letter for you to take home and read. I encourage you to write to members of the House of Lord, we Catholics have a voice that needs to be heard, especially at moments such as this.

“The term ‘Assisted Dying’ is euphemistic, the truth is that this bill seeks to introduce Assisted Suicide. If legalised, this Bill would allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live to be assisted in committing suicide. Catholic teaching opposes assisting suicide, since life is a gift to be cared for and preserved until its natural death. The Church is clear that we cannot directly choose to take the life of another, even if they request it. The solidarity of praying and caring for the most vulnerable at this fragile time of their lives is a profoundly Christian act which imitates Our Lady’s prayer at the cross and Christ’s service to the weakest.”

### **CATHEDRAL OPENING TIMES**

Monday to Friday 11am - 3pm

Weekend: around Mass times, unless otherwise stated.

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Available Monday to Friday 12noon - 12:25pm & Saturday at the advertised times.

## THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

---

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

---

**Baptism:** 'Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments.' (Catechism, 1213)

**Confirmation:** 'For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit.' (Catechism, 1285)

**First Holy Communion:** '...by this sacrament we unite ourselves to Christ, who makes us sharers in his Body and Blood to form a single body.' (Catechism, 1331)

*Fr Robert is happy to talk about preparation for any of the Sacraments, for yourself, or your children.*

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

---

As well as the Sacramental Preparation mentioned above, this month we will begin the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). RCIA is primarily aimed at adults who wish to be Baptised or received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. The course that we will run this year (Sycamore) might also be of interest to those of us who are 'cradle Catholics', but might want to learn more about our Faith. If you would like to join the RCIA, as someone coming to the Faith, or someone who is interested in learning more, please speak to Fr Robert.

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

---

Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of souls, who called the Apostles to be fishers of men, raise up new apostles in your Holy Church.

Teach them that to serve you is to reign, to possess you is to possess all things.

Kindle in the young hearts of your sons and daughters the fire of zeal for souls. Make them eager to spread your Kingdom on earth.

Grant them courage to follow you, who are the Way, the Truth and the Life; who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us.  
Help our seminarians who are preparing for Priesthood.

## MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

---

The devotional and liturgical lives of the Church often go hand-in-hand. Through both we come to know God more, as we grow in our love of Him by turning our minds and hearts to Him in different ways.

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary, as such, the Rosary will be prayed in common every day at the Cathedral. During the week this will take place before Mass, on a Saturday it will take place at the conclusion of Adoration, on a Sunday it will be combined with Solemn Benediction.

By praying the Rosary we kneel at the feet of our Blessed Mother and seek her intercession for our needs and the needs of the whole world. At the same time, we come closer to her Son by pondering and meditating upon the mysteries of His life on earth.

Let us use this Month of the Holy Rosary to come closer to both Our Lord & Our Lady.

## CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (CMA)

---

The CMA is an association of Catholics working in the health sector. Membership is open to those studying, practicing or retired from all health care professions.

A CMA branch is being established in Cardiff. Members and all those interested are warmly invited to attend a special Mass on the **Feast of St Luke** (18th October) in **St Joseph's Church, New Zealand Road** at **7pm**, which will be followed by an introductory meeting/refreshments.

---

### EXTRA PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

#### PARISH SAFEGUARDING

John Fellows - (029) 2023 1407

#### SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

#### EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

07933 720 845

#### ALTAR SERVING

If you're interested in serving on the altar, please speak to Fr Robert, or one of the servers.

### HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

If you, or a loved one, are admitted into hospital, please contact the hospital Chaplaincy team: (029) 2074 3230

#### Chaplains:

Fr Peter Davies

[peter.davies4@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:peter.davies4@wales.nhs.uk)

Fr David Prichard

[david.prichard@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:david.prichard@wales.nhs.uk)

---

**Saturday 2nd October**

4:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation until 5:15pm	
5:30pm	Vigil Mass: Frank Naughton	MN

---

**Sunday 3rd October—27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

11:00am	Mass: Cathedral Community	
4:30pm	Holy Rosary & Solemn Benediction	
5:30pm	Mass: Holy Souls	

---

**Monday 4th October— St Francis of Assisi**

12noon	Angelus & Holy Rosary	
12:45pm	Mass: Elmer Aldemer	AC

---

**Tuesday 5th October**

12noon	Angelus & Holy Rosary	
12:45pm	Mass: Holy Souls	

---

**Wednesday 6th October—St Bruno, Priest**

12noon	Angelus & Holy Rosary	
12:45pm	Mass: Sr Mary Alban, RIP	

---

**Thursday 7th October—Our Lady of the Rosary**

12noon	Angelus & Holy Rosary	
12:45pm	Mass: Coulson Family	HC

---

**Friday 8th October**

12noon	Angelus & Holy Rosary	
12:45pm	Mass: Holy Souls	

---

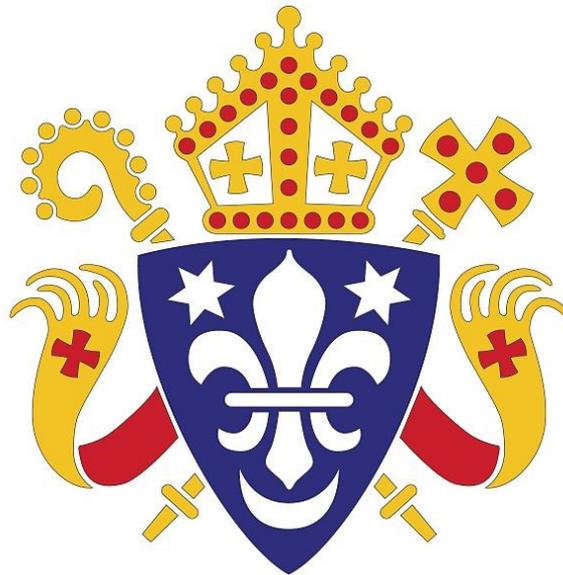
**Saturday 9th October—St John Henry Newman, Priest**

10:00am	Mass: Holy Souls	
<i>Followed by</i>	Sacrament of Reconciliation & Adoration until 12:30pm	
12noon	Angelus & Holy Rosary	
4:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation until 5:15pm	
5:30pm	Vigil Mass: Donor's Intentions	

---

**Sunday 10th October – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

11:00am	Mass: Cathedral Community	
4:30pm	Holy Rosary & Solemn Benediction	
5:30pm	Mass: Holy Souls	



In the next weeks, we face an unprecedented attack on the sanctity of life with Baroness Meacher's 'Assisted Dying Bill 2021' is due its 2nd Reading in the House of Lords with full debate on Friday, 22 October.

The term 'Assisted Dying' is euphemistic, the truth is that this bill seeks to introduce Assisted Suicide. If legalised, this Bill would allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live to be assisted in committing suicide. Catholic teaching opposes assisting suicide, since life is a gift to be cared for and preserved until its natural death. The Church is clear that we cannot directly choose to take the life of another, even if they request it. The solidarity of praying and caring for the most vulnerable at this fragile time of their lives is a profoundly Christian act which imitates Our Lady's prayer at the cross and Christ's service to the weakest.

Those in favour of the bill are making good use of language to confuse the issue and call it a compassionate and caring approach to redefine the question and obscure the actual reality and consequences of such legislation.

As Pope Francis has said, "Physician-assisted suicide is part of a 'throwaway culture' that offers a 'false compassion' and treats a human person as a problem... True compassion does not marginalise anyone, nor does it humiliate and exclude – much less considers the disappearance of a person as a good thing." He criticised "those who hide behind an alleged compassion to justify and approve the death of a patient."

### **Dangers of the introduction of Assisted Suicide**

Importantly, at this stage we need to argue the dangers of the introduction of Assisted Suicide, which include the safety of people who are vulnerable due to external pressures, and the later liberalisation of the law which is evidenced by other countries which have introduced Assisted Suicide. Many voices from the world of disability-rights and other allies are also very fearful and fighting this bill. Whilst there are clear arguments to support Catholic teachings, it is important to remember that this position is not only a matter of faith but also human reason.

Later this month, the BMA will be debating whether to change their stance to support or neutrality on this matter. I hope that healthcare professionals will enter this debate and highlight the dangers of this Bill to change and skew the meaning of medicine.

### **Take action**

There are three important actions in the next weeks: **praying, writing** and **sharing**.

First, I ask you to pray that the Bill will be defeated.

Second, I ask you to [write to the Peers](#) from your personal experience and share stories which will argue the reasons for opposing the Bill as well as narrate the importance of precious time during the final stages of life.

The testimony of healthcare and legal professionals will also be important. This needs to be done before the Second Reading on 22 October.

Third, I ask you to engage and share stories and reasons against the Bill on social media.

Briefing papers will be available on the bishops' conference website to assist you as this work develops.

Be assured of my prayers,

+John

Bishop John Sherrington

Lead Bishop for Life Issues

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/life-issues/>

In July 2021, the Bishops' Conference Department of Social Justice hosted a webinar with Baroness Ilora Finlay of Llandaf and Robert Preston, which provided a very useful and rational guide to this complex and sensitive issue: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/a-rational-guide-to-the-assisted-suicidedebate/>

If you would like a FREE copy of the book entitled 'Death By Appointment: A Rational Guide to the Assisted Dying Debate' by Baroness Ilora Finlay and Robert Preston, please contact Collette McGovern at the Conference Secretariat. The book provides an excellent evidence-based approach to the issue: [collette.mcgovern@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:collette.mcgovern@cbcew.org.uk)

'The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Dying Well' promotes access to excellent care at the end of life and stands against the legalisation of assisted suicide. Their website provides up to date political news and resources on the issue: <https://www.dyingwell.co.uk/>

'Living and Dying Well' provides excellent information on research and analysis of the evidence surrounding the 'assisted dying' debate: <https://livinganddyingwell.org.uk/> 'The Art of Dying Well' hosts a variety of resources for helping people to think about death and dying: <https://www.artofdyingwell.org/>