

Parishes of The Forest of Dean and Newent

<https://www.forestrc.co.uk/>

forestrcchurches@cliftondiocese.com or newent.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office 01594 833173 Forest of Dean

PARISH PRIEST FATHER MARTIN QUEENAN

Twenty Ninth Sunday In Ordinary Time (Year C) - Sunday 19th October

Second Collection this weekend for World Mission Sunday

The Holy Father calls us all to be Missionaries of Hope and Pope Leo XIV asks people in every Catholic parish around the world to support Missio, his charity for World Mission. We stand united in prayer and solidarity with our sisters and brothers in need, as together we strive to make God's love more visible in the world. For more information please use this link: <https://missio.org.uk/what-is-world-mission-sunday/>

ALL PARISHIONERS OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES, NEWENT ARE INVITED TO:

A Special Annual Parish Meeting on **Saturday 18th October at 3pm** in Our Lady of Lourdes.

Starting with afternoon tea and meeting friends; followed by discussion and ideas for the parish in 2026.

A New Parish Pastoral Council will be nominated and elected to help towards our 'Vision For The Future', followed by Mass at 5pm as usual.

THIS SUNDAY Mass with anointing of the sick at 3pm in St Margaret Mary, Coleford followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. Everyone is invited. Please would parishioners kindly offer lifts to those who do not have transport. Thank you. **Father Martin will be available from 2pm before the Mass for Confessions.**

Meeting to discuss ideas for the development of St Joseph, Lydney

The church of St Joseph in Lydney is in need of some renovation and modernisation. In order to be clear about our needs and wishes as a community, we have arranged a meeting in the church to discuss ideas. Anyone interested in the development of our church building is invited to attend at **7pm on Monday 20th October**. Refreshments will be provided.

Reimagining Pastoral Councils - in our crazy changing world, it's more important than ever that our parishes can respond to people's needs and share the Gospel in our local communities. Pastoral Councils, rooted in prayer and driven by mission, can be places of discernment and real creativity – but sometimes they're not quite right. Over the next year, Northampton Diocese will be hosting a series of webinars to explore everything to do with pastoral councils from purpose to membership, and from resolving conflict to letting the Spirit lead. For more information and to register please use this link: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/northamptondiocese/1861328>

Pope Leo XIV will officially proclaim Saint John Henry Newman, the most recently canonised saint from England and Wales, the 38th Doctor of the Church during Mass on Saturday 1st November.

For more information on what a 'Doctor of the Church' is and why Saint John Henry Newman's teaching and wisdom not only resonated with his contemporaries, but still illuminates, instructs and inspires us today please use this link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/newman-doctor-of-the-church/>

World Youth Sunday 2025 – Celebrating the Jubilee Year

Schools and parishes across England and Wales are invited to take part in World Youth Sunday 2025, a special three-day event from 21st- 23rd November, marking the Jubilee Year. This year's programme includes a World Youth Sunday Livestream for schools (formerly World Youth Funday), Social Saturday, and celebrations in parishes for World Youth Sunday and the Feast of Christ the King. Designed to support youth ministry and Catholic formation, the event offers a meaningful way to highlight the role of young people in the Church. Developed in partnership with the Jubilee for Schools project, CAFOD, CSAN, and CES and aligned with the Catholic Schools Inspection (CSI) Framework, it's a valuable opportunity to strengthen links between schools, parishes, and the wider Church. For more information and registration head to <https://cymfed.org.uk/wys/>

CONFIRMATION Preparation Sessions

Confirmation preparation sessions will begin in the new year. If you are in year 9 or above and would like the opportunity to deepen your understanding of the faith in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, please see Fr Martin.

Parish Health & Safety Representative - the Forest Parishes need a volunteer to be the Parish Health & Safety Representative. This won't be an onerous or time consuming task. If you have a little bit of time available to support your parish and/or if you have previous experience in an H & S role please contact Peter Chisholm through the Parish Office, thank you.

Continued

Treasurer Team - the Forest Parishes need an additional volunteer to join the existing Treasurer Team to provide back up during holiday or sickness for any of the team. This is not an onerous or time consuming task but will require learning how to enter data into the Diocese Finance Recording System (tuition provided). If you have a little bit of time available to support your parish please contact Dot and Brian Lord through the Parish Office, thank you.

October month of the Rosary.

October is traditionally the month devoted to praying the Rosary. If you would like to join our Zoom Rosary group in October, we meet on Zoom every Friday at 5pm for approximately 20-30 mins. The Zoom link is open at 4.45pm to allow for joining. If you would like the Rosary Zoom link, please telephone Sam at the office on 01594 833173 or email: forestRCchurches@cliftondiocese.com

Advance Notice for Mass on All Souls' Day Monday 3rd November at 9am in St Margaret Mary, Coleford followed by tea/coffee in the Church Hall.

Next Prayer Group Meeting - Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent - Saturday 8th November at 10am
Everyone is welcome.

'Woodbine Willie' production by Searchlight theatre - Saturday 8th November at 7.15pm

This production is in Newent Community Centre. Please see attached flyer with this newsletter for information and how to obtain tickets.

NEWENT Remembrance Service - Sunday 9th November 2025

All are welcome. Service Begins at 10am in St Mary's Church, Church Street, Newent GL18 JAB.

Remembrance Day Service - in Coleford on Sunday 9th November 2025

Everyone is invited to join in the parade which assembles at 10.30am outside St Margaret Mary, Coleford, proceeding to the Clock Tower with Laying of Wreaths and a short service and prayer.

Advent Retreat Day at Brownhill - Saturday 13th December

An Advent Retreat Day has been organised at Brownhill to be led by Father Martin. The Parish has agreed to cover the cost of the coach. For the use of the Monastery and grounds, a cooked meal, and a talk by Sister Mary Philippa a voluntary donation of £30 per person is kindly asked for. An inability to pay does not preclude anyone from attending. **Please let Sam know in the Parish Office if you would like to attend and to reserve your seat on the coach, thank you.**

Christmas Day Dinner - Thursday 25th December at 1pm

supported by The Forest of Dean Saint Vincent de Paul Conference

If you are alone this Christmas or in need of company please come along to our Christmas Day dinner in the Church Hall at Saint Margaret Mary, in Coleford. Dinners will need to be booked by Sunday 26th October. To book please see Tony or Bev in Coleford, Dorota in Lydney. Or phone 07513587332 or email SecretaryB040416@svp.org.uk.

Please remember in your prayers the house-bound and sick of our parishes, as well as those who have died recently. Maureen (Mo) Blinman, may she rest in peace and rise in glory.

FUNERAL SERVICE - Maureen (Mo) Blinman at NEWENT on Friday 24th October at 12 noon.

WEEKEND MASSES

On Saturday - 5pm Vigil Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent (tea/coffee after)

On Sunday - 9am Mass in St Margaret Mary, Coleford - preceded by Rosary at 8.30am - live streamed
(tea/coffee bacon baps after in the church hall)
- 11am Mass in St Joseph, Lydney (tea/coffee after)

MASSES/SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tuesday 21st October - 10am Mass preceded by Rosary at 9.30am, followed by Adoration until 11am -
St Margaret Mary, Coleford

Wednesday 22nd October - 10am Mass preceded by Adoration at 9.30am - Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent
(tea/coffee after)

Thursday 23rd October - 10am Mass preceded by Rosary at 9.30am - St Joseph, Lydney

Friday 24th October - 10am Mass preceded by Rosary at 9.30am - Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford

The Newent CAFOD collection raised a total of £419.95 including gift aid.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

If you no longer wish to receive a copy of the newsletter via email please inform our parish administrator, Sam Buchanan, contact details at the top of the newsletter.