



Eglwys Gatholig Sant Joseff, Castellnedd. St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Neath.

Parish Priest – Fr. Neil Evans

St. Joseph's Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath. SA11 1TG. Tel: (01639)643323

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Permanent Deacon: Rev. Jim Caddick

St. John Kemble Catholic Church : Llewellyn Street, Glynneath. SA11 5AE.
Serving the Catholic Community of the Neath Valley

Times of Holy Mass for the coming week

Day	Time and Place	Intention
Sunday 16th December <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Gaudate Sunday</i>	4.00 pm (Sat) Glynneath 6.00 pm (Sat) Neath 10.30 am Neath	All at St John Kemble (Spec. Int.) (Rita) Patricia Lloyd R.I.P. (Benetia Whittington) Parish & People
Monday 17th December	NO MASS	
	6.00 Neath	An Evening of Carols with the Junior children
Tuesday 18th December	6.30 pm Neath	Peter Healey R.I.P. (Angela)
Wednesday 19th December	9.30 am Neath 11.00 am Glynneath	End of Term School Mass Katherine Sheehan R.I.P. (The School) Francis, Rose and Family (Spec. Int.)
Thursday 20th December	9.30 am Neath	Desmond Comerford R.I.P. (The Family)
Friday 21st December	9.30 am Neath	James O'Donnell R.I.P. (Anne - Marie)
Sunday 23rd December <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	4.00 pm (Sat) Glynneath 6.00 pm (Sat) Neath 10.30 am Neath	Parish & People Barry Lloyd R.I.P. (Benetia Whittington) Bryan, Joan & Harry R.I.P. (Babs Hunt)

Confessions

Neath : on request
Glynneath: on request



Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

Friday after Mass



Readers for this week: : 15th/16th December *3rd Sunday of Advent*
Saturday Evening: David Reynolds, Maureen McAteer,
Sunday Morning: Babs Hunt

Readers for next week: 22nd/23rd December *4th Sunday of Advent*
Saturday Evening: Sian Loynes, Lorna Halloran
Sunday Morning: Sandra Davies Roger Fluck



Church Cleaning

Team: 1

**Thank you for your generosity
in the last offertory collection**

Neath: 02.12.18: £450.31 Levy: £71.20

Glynneath: 08.12.18: £43.65



**Please pray for those in
our parish who are sick
and housebound,
especially:**

Kath Wellington, Benetia Whittington, Rosa Tristram, Peter Huxtable, Marjorie Grant, Leo Linney, Mike O'Hea, Gaynor Pickrell, Ana Maria, Yolanda Jones, Joan Linciano, Matilda Jones, Anita Gore, Nicky Walsh, Ann Moruzzi, Kath Woolley, Roger Fluck, Shaun Dunworth, and Lorna O'Brien .



**Of your Charity, pray for
those who have died, and
those whose anniversaries
occur at this time:**

Michael McAteer, Madeleine Lewis, Kevin O'Brien, Elsie Farrell, Desmond Comerford, Tom Thomas, Gladys Gallagher, Jacqueline Joseph Ena Hynes, Grace Phillips, Vernon Doyle and all whose anniversaries occur about this time. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them – may they rest in peace. Amen.*



Sacred Heart Lamp is lit for:

Private Intention



Our Lady's Lamp is lit for:

Dolores Walters R.I.P.



St. Joseph's Lamp is lit for:

Peter Healey R.I.P.

WELCOME! To all visitors. We hope you enjoy your stay in the area. Do join the gathering in the Hall after Mass on Sunday morning if you are able.

Silence and Prayer before Mass: In both churches there has been a request to observe silence and prayer before Mass. "Before Mass we can speak with God. During Mass God can speak to us. After Mass we can speak to each other!"

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve Monday 24th December
Glynneath 4.00 pm Vigil Mass
Neath 6.00 pm Vigil Mass
Neath 11.00 pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Tuesday 25th December
Neath 10.30 am Mass of Christmas Day

Christmas Message: As we celebrate, with great joy, the birth of Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem, we are comforted and encouraged by the thought that He who was content to be born in the poverty and roughness of a stable, may also look with pity and mercy on the roughness and untidiness of our own lives and so we offer as a prayer the words of the Christmas hymn, "O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for Thee." Deacon Jim and I wish you all a holy, happy and blessed Christmas.

Donations: towards the cost of Christmas Flowers gratefully received. Please see Chris or Babs (St Joseph's) and Bella (St John Kemble)

St. Joseph's School Christmas Concert: this Monday evening (17th) at 6.00 pm in Church. All welcome.

Annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Party: The Head Pupils of St Joseph's Secondary School invite you to join them on Wednesday 19th December 2.00-4.00 pm. Please contact the school to confirm attendance -01639 884305.

The Christmas Collection: There will be just one collection at each of the Christmas Masses. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church. The Christmas Collection is traditionally a gift to the parish priest.

The Directory and Year Book 2019: with full details of the Catholic Diocese in Wales, names, addresses, news items, calendar of the year etc is now available at the back of the Church. (£4).

Festive Cake Sale: for Parish funds after Mass on Sunday 23rd December. Please contact Aimee Wellington on 07860 550281 if you are able to donate any cakes.

Music at Mass: We are very grateful to Luigi and Sionaid for playing the organ at Mass. Are there other organists who could help, key board players or other musical instruments?

Extra cantors to choose and lead the singing or a small choir would also enhance our celebration of Mass –any volunteers?

Candle stands: Please begin by lighting votive candles at the highest level on the stand so that arms and sleeves are not brushing against candles lower down. **Children should be accompanied at all times when lighting candles.**

Mass Requests: If you would like loved ones remembered at Mass on particular dates please advise several months in advance. Thank you.

Sick Calls: If Fr Neil is not available to respond to a sick call, please contact Deacon Jim on 07816 750864. Deacon Jim is also Chaplain for Neath Port Talbot Hospital. Fr. Jason Jones is Chaplain for Morriston Hospital on 07792 003905. If staying in hospital remember to advise staff you are happy to receive a visit from the Chaplain—otherwise your religious affiliation remains confidential to the staff.

Thank you: for all the Children's gifts. We were overwhelmed by your generosity. Many children will receive a gift this Christmas. Many thanks. (St Joseph's S.V.P.)

Vocations Prayer

Lord, make me a better person,
More considerate towards others,
More honest with myself,
more faithful to you.
Make me generous enough
to want sincerely
to do your will whatever it may be.
Help me find my true vocation in life
and grant that through it
I may find happiness myself
and bring happiness to others.
Grant, Lord, that those whom you call to
enter the priesthood, diaconate,
or religious life,
may have the generosity to answer your call,
so that those who need your help may find it.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord,
Amen.

School News

The Infant children entertained families and friends with performances of The Inn Spectors. As always they rose to the occasion and were all amazing. The school was a sea of colour on Friday as everyone put on their Christmas Jumpers. The money raised will be donated to the local Homeless.

Please join us on Monday at 6 pm in the church for an Evening of Carols with the Junior children.

Friday 21st End Of Term

The Parish Hall: Is available for hire at very reasonable rates. To book, please contact Angela Healey on 01792 424168/07708105147.



Parent & Toddler Group:

meet in the hall every Wednesday morning from 9:30 -11:30. New members welcome!



Would you like to have a 7 day candle burn for an intention in the Church? We have candles near the statues of the Sacred Heart, Our Lady and St Joseph, that you can request to be lit for an intention that can be published in the newsletter each week. Apart from being an age old devotional practice, the donations can help raise funds for our Church. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.