



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

www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

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 17th December <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	4.00 pm (Saturday) Glynneath 6.00 pm (Saturday) Neath 10.30 am Neath	Parish & People Michael McAteer R.I.P. (Maureen & Family) Tom hanson's Family & Friends (Spec Int)
Monday 18th December	NO MASS	
Tuesday 19th December	NO MASS	
Wednesday 20th December	9.30 am Neath 11.00 am Glynneath	End of Term School Mass] Desmond Comerford R.I.P. (The Family) Don Smythy R.I.P. (Lorraine & Mike)
Thursday 21st December	9.30 am Neath	James O'Donnell R.I.P. (Anne-Marie O'Donnell)
Friday 22nd December	9.30 am Neath	Gladys Gallagher R.I.P. (Maureen)
Saturday 23rd December	NO MASS	
Sunday 24th December <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	4.00 pm (Saturday) Glynneath 6.00 pm (Saturday) Neath 10.30 am Neath	Parish & People Joan & Paddy McGinty R.I.P. (John McGinty) Joan, Harry & Brian R.I.P. (B. Hunt)

Confessions

Neath : on request
Glynneath: on request



Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

Friday after Mass



Readers for this week : : 16th/17th December
Saturday Evening: Patrick McAteer, Ceri McAteer
Sunday Morning: Caroline Thomas, Babs Hunt

Readers for next week: 23rd/24th December
Saturday Evening: Davis Reynolds, Maureen McAteer
Sunday Morning: Sandra Davies, Roger Fluck



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

Kath Wellington, Benita Whittington, Rosa Tristram, Audrey Gammon, Peter & Hazel Huxtable, Marjorie Grant, Leo Linney, Mike O'Hea, Gaynor Pickrell, Ana Maria, Gerry Rennick, Yolanda Jones, Joan Linciano, Matilda Jones, Anita Gore, Nicky Walsh and Rita Newton.



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

John Turner, Elsie Farrell, Desmond Comerford, Tom Thomas, 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.



Church Cleaning

Team: 3

Thank you for your generosity in the last offertory collection



Neath: 10.12.17: £460.90 Levy: £82..00
SVP: £405.77

Glynneath: 9.12.17: £73.00
SVP: £25.50



Sacred Heart Lamp is lit for:

Peter Healey



Our Lady's Lamp is lit for:

Nicky Walshy



St. Joseph's Lamp is lit for:

Rita Newton (Well Being)

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!"

Parish Fundraising after Mass in December: Please support the 'Festive Cake Sale': after Mass on this Sunday 17th December. All monies raised will be donated to Parish Funds. If you are able to donate cakes on the day, please contact Aimee Wellington on 07860550281 Thank you.

Donations to Parish Funds: We are very grateful for a further "anonymous" donation of £500 to the general parish funds, to St Joseph's School for the £120.18 raised at the Christmas Carol Service and to the Children's School Council for allocating their charity fund-raising day to our own S.V.P. Group—the magnificent sum of £120. Many thanks to all our donors and benefactors.

The Catholic Directory and Year Book for 2017/18 (Wales): is available at the back of the church. Cost: £3.50.

Christmas Crib Collection: this year will be divided between the Mother Teresa Sisters working in Swansea and work with refugees. There will be just one collection at each of the Christmas Eve/Day Masses - the traditional gift to the Parish Priest.

Sr. Gabriel, 100! As many of us know, Sr. Gabriel will celebrate her 100th birthday on 29/12/2017. A reminder of the address: Sr. M. Gabriel, Poor Clare Monastery, Fallside Road, Bothwell, Glasgow, G71 8BA.

St Joseph's Comprehensive School: annual Christmas Carol Service at St Therese of Lisieux Church, Sandfields, on Monday 18th December at 6.30pm

First Holy Communion Classes: will begin in the New Year every Sunday before the 10.30 Mass. Please note we need two volunteers to help Carolyn run these classes. Please fill in application form from the back of Church. NO APPLICATIONS HAVE THUS FAR BEEN RECEIVED. It will not be possible to join the classes at a later date. First Holy Communion Mass will be held on Sunday 24th June 2018. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

St. Joseph's Sixth Form College: Annual Christmas

Party: Wednesday 20th December from 2.00-4.00 pm. Transport available. Contact School to confirm— 01639 884345 (see poster).

Donations: towards the Christmas Flower decorations would be warmly welcomed. Thank you.

World Gifts: Please take home a catalogue from the back of the church and consider bringing joy to someone by making a gift to CAFOD on their behalf. (World Gifts are available all year and are equally suitable for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, Confirmation, etc.)

Christmas Draw Tickets: are available at the back of Church, priced at £2.50 per book. Please take as many as you are able to sell to family and friends. Please return counterfoils and money by 10th December at the latest. Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Used stamps: A reminder that these are of great benefit to the Helen Keller School for the Visually Impaired in Jerusalem. In 2016 the sale of stamps realised £2,600. This enables the school to offer the pupils experiences which they would not otherwise have. All British and overseas stamps are welcome, but please remember to leave a good margin of envelope around them. Thank you.

Advent Booklet: please take a FREE copy of the Day to Day Advent Prayers and reflections.

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.

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

(Saturday and Sunday Mass Times as usual)

Sunday 24th December

Christmas Eve

Glynneath 4.00 pm Vigil Mass

Neath 6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Neath 11.00 pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day

Neath 10.30 am Christmas Day Mass

School News

A Polling Station and Ballot Box have been housed in the library. Why?? Elections have been undertaken throughout the week. The results will be announced on Monday. The newly commissioned School Council and Eco Committee will meet for their induction meetings next week.

Our Key Stage Two pupils visited the Princess Royal Theatre for a Music Workshop on Monday. All the peripatetic music teachers in Neath Port Talbot put on an amazing show. The children were able to "have a go" on instruments they would not normally experience.

Friday 22nd 3.20pm End Of Term

The Parish Hall: Is available for hire at very reasonable rates. To book the hall, please contact Angela Healey on 01792 424168 or 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 now 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 donated money can help raise funds for our Church. The envelopes are available at the back of