

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. Phone – 01639 643323

Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Sunday 21st March 2021 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

The Year of St. Joseph A daily prayer to St. Joseph. *“Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became a man. Blessed St. Joseph, to us too, show yourself to be a father, and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen”*

Mass Intentions this Sunday (21st March) **Saturday** St. John Kemble 4-00p.m. Parish & People 6-00p.m. Mike O’Hea (RIP) (Doni, Pat & family); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Charlie McCusker (RIP) (Deacon Jim & Marie); 10-30a.m. Eileen & Bill Whiting (RIP) (Sheila Williams).

Weekday Mass Times Tuesday – Funeral Mass Gillian Boland (RIP); Wednesday 9-30 a.m. Alan Boland (RIP) (Lorna and Kevin); 11-00 a.m. MICF (RIP); Thursday 25th **The Annunciation** (Solemnity) 9-30 a.m. Alan Boland (RIP) (Roger and Elizabeth); Friday 26th – Funeral Mass Harold Jenkins (RIP).

Wednesday 24th March. National Day of Prayer & Fasting for Life – for the ending of abortion and euthanasia. For further information please contact The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 17400

Mass Intentions next Sunday (PALM SUNDAY – 28th) St. John Kemble **Saturday** 4-00p.m. Harry Doherty (RIP); St. Joseph’s 6-00p.m. Fr Bill Lloyd (RIP) (Elias Family); **CLOCKS CHANGE!!** **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Parish & People; 10-30a.m. Teresa Diez (RIP) (Isabel and Peter).

Palm Sunday Due to Covid restrictions, our services/Masses from Palm Sunday through Holy Week to Easter Day will be greatly simplified. On Palm Sunday there will be no procession at the beginning of Mass and Palm Crosses will be distributed after Mass as you leave. The shorter form of the Passion Gospel from St. Mark will be read without the (usual) additional readers and without the (usual) congregational responses of the crowd.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES. PLEASE COMPLETE (TODAY) A REQUEST FORM TO RESERVE A SEAT FOR THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES – and place in the box provided. It is anticipated that there may not be enough seats for all who would like to attend. A full list of reserved places will be issued with the newsletter next weekend. Thank you.

Fridays in Lent There will be no congregational Stations of the Cross but the church will be open for private prayers and devotions each Friday in Lent from 6-00p.m. to 7-00p.m. *“Come down, O Love Divine, Seek Thou this soul of mine, And visit it, Thy Holy Flame bestowing”*

HOLY WEEK SERVICE/MASS TIMES. Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord’s Supper -7-00 p.m (No washing of feet; the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed in the Tabernacle immediately after Mass, although those who wish to remain in their seats after Mass for a time of prayer are invited to do so). **Good Friday** – Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion – 2-00 p.m. (No procession or veneration of the Cross). **Easter Vigil** – Saturday 8-00 p.m. (No lighting of the Paschal Candle from the fire outside, no congregational candles, no blessing of the congregation with Holy Water – a greatly simplified liturgy). **Easter Day**- Mass at 7-30 a.m. (9-00 a.m at St. John Kemble) 10-30 a.m.

Gillian Bolland (RIP). Please remember Gillian and the family in your prayers. Gillian’s Funeral Mass will be here in St. Joseph’s on Tuesday 23rd March - *by family invitation only* (pandemic restrictions still apply). *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Harold Jenkins (RIP) Harold died peacefully at home on Friday (the Feast of St. Joseph). Please remember Harold and the family in your prayers. Harold’s Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph’s next Friday (26th March) at midday. Attendance by family invitation. (Pandemic restrictions still apply). *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rispah Kirby (2005); Ann Morgan (2000); Bronislava Endruikaitiene (2001); Leonard Grey (2012); Dawn Sonia Hopkins (2012); Maisey Reilly (2004); Andrew Solari (2010); Domenica Fecci (2010); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

National Day of Reflection - Tuesday 23rd March is the anniversary of the first national lockdown and we are all invited to share in a time of silence and prayer at 8-00 p.m. at home as we remember all those who have lost their lives through the pandemic, and especially those from our own parish. When restrictions are lifted regarding the numbers allowed to be present at Mass, there will be an opportunity to celebrate a dedicated weekday Mass as a Requiem Mass/Memorial Tribute for those loved ones whose families were restricted in marking their loss by the pandemic regulations regarding public gatherings.

Candles Sacred Heart – Benjamin Family (RIP); Our Lady – Alma Elias (RIP); St. Joseph – Carter Family (RIP).

DOMSEC Livestreamed Events in 2021 A full programme of (over 25) events! See www.domsec.org.uk or www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk to access the livestreams and click "Livestream" on the menu bar.

Driveway Appeal Thank you for the further anonymous donations this week of £300 and of £100 which are much appreciated. We now have £47,185 (including gift aid) in the Driveway Appeal Fund. All donations gratefully received. Please remember that if you gift aid, an additional 25% is added to the value of your donation. We hope to raise a further (approx.) £13,000 in the next few months and to employ the services of a surveyor to design and cost tarmac (and draining) the driveway/carpark and installing some form of lighting for the driveway/carpark. Thank you to all who have so generously donated to this Appeal. **Many thanks.**

The Sick and Housebound Please continue to remember in your prayers all those who are sick and housebound, those in hospital and in our local care homes and all those who are self-isolating because of the Pandemic. Especially at this time, Jason Saunders, Tess Court, Marjorie Grant, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Maureen Pitt. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

ENVELOPE BOXES (from April 2021-22) – these are now available as you leave via the Lady Chapel. If you do not already regularly donate to the church through the church envelope scheme and would like to do so, please see Robert Grant for a box. Many thanks.

PLEASE NOTE – To all stewards, readers and cleaners. **THERE IS NO OBLIGATION TO COME TO CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT FEEL SAFE OR COMFORTABLE TO DO SO.** Please let Fr. Neil know so that he can arrange a replacement. Thank you.

Readers: This Sunday 6-00p.m. Ceri McAteer. 8-00a.m. Gregory Page. 10-30a.m. Berni Payne **Next Sunday** 6-00p.m. Sian Loynes. 8-00a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones. 10-30a.m. Bethan Lee.

Stewarding This Sunday (21st) 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30 a.m. Luke & Lena. **Next Sunday** (28th) 6-00p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00a.m. Christopher and Gregory. 10-30a.m. John, Olivia & Aimee.

Cleaning Teams. This Sunday (14TH) 6-00p.m. Sian Loynes & volunteer please. 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30a.m. Ann and Joan. **Next Sunday** (21st) 6-00p.m. Volunteers please; 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30a.m. Volunteers please.

YOUNG PEOPLE (age 18 – 30) A zoom discussion group for catholic young adults meeting on Monday evenings. Get to know other catholic young people in the Diocese. Please contact Fr. Matt Roche-Saunders at vocations@menevia.org for more information. Also check out <https://acutisproject.com/events/> providing free digital resources and training for young Catholics.

Thank you for last Sunday's Collection – St. Joseph's £444-19 (plus Direct Debits). St. John Kemble £59-00. Many thanks.