

# THE HOLY FAMILY– 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025

## CHRISTMASTIDE

During these twelve days of Christmas, we rejoice that, “unto us is born this day, in the City of David, a SAVIOUR, Who is Christ the Lord”. It is for us, as Christians, a time of great joy as we bear witness, in a darkening world, that a Great Light has come in to the world and that all are invited to enter that Light and experience transfiguration through repentance, embracing the Good and letting go of all that hinders and enslaves us to that fallen nature from which we have been set free in Christ. May we all experience that light and freedom made manifest and shining brightly in the Babe of Bethlehem.

**Mass Intentions this Sunday** ( Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December ) Saturday ( St. John Kemble ) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People/ Jonathan Bowen ( Sp.Int. ); 6-00 p.m. ( St. Joseph’s ) Yolanda Jones ( RIP. ) ( Nantlais ); 10-30 a.m. Fr. Neil (Sp.Int.) ( Angela Healey ).

**Holy Family Psalm Response** “ Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in His ways ” ( We are now in Year A and Week 2 in the Breviary/Missal)

**Weekday Mass Times** Wednesday (31<sup>st</sup>) St. Joseph’s 9-30 a.m. Marshall & Chris Abell (RIP) ( Pat & David John ); St. John Kemble 11-00 a.m. ( **Votive Mass of Mary, Mother of God** ) Fr Neil ( Sp. Int. ) ( Lorna & Joe ). Thursday ( 1<sup>st</sup> January – **Mary, Mother of God** ) Aileen Buckingham ( RIP ) ( Peter & Isabel ).

**Mass Intentions next Sunday** ( Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January ) Saturday 4-00 p.m. St John Kemble - Fred Hipsley (RIP ) ( Everyone at St. John Kemble ); 6-00 p.m. St. Joseph’s – Marshall & Chris Abell (RIP) ( Pat & David John ). 10-30 a.m. Parish & People.

**Crib Collection** To be divided between Aid to the Church in Need and Caritas ( the homeless in ) Cardiff-Menevia.

**Christmas Chocolates.** Many thanks to Dennis for generous donations of chocolates to the congregation, school children, altar servers and coffee morning. Please keep Dennis in your prayers.

**Readers: This Sunday** (28<sup>th</sup>) 6-00 p.m. Sian Loynes; 10-30 a.m. Peter Buckingham. **Next Sunday** ( 4<sup>th</sup> January ) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Stephen Evans.

**Candles:** Sacred Heart - Altar Servers ( Sp.Int.); Our Lady – Donie O’Connell ( Sp. Int. ); St. Joseph – Dennis Huxtable.

**Anniversaries** Sheila Penry ( 2023); Carol Curnow ( 2023); Maureen Pitt ( 2021 ); Yolanda Jones ( 2023); Arthur Wheatley (2007 ); Lucy Wiltshire (2009); James Insole (2016 ); Bridget Amos ( 2017 ); Virginia Farrell ( 2016).

**Christmas Celebrations** Many thanks to all those who helped to make our Christmas celebrations such joyful occasions – those who helped to clean and decorate the church, the flower ladies for magnificent displays, the Altar servers and organists and all those involved in the arrangements of our Christmas party. We keep celebrating for the full twelve days of Christmas!

**Christmas Collection** Many thanks for the very generous Christmas Collection and for the many cards and gifts received over the Christmas period, all of which is very much appreciated. Many thanks. ( Fr. Neil ).

**Last Sunday’s Collection:** ( 21<sup>st</sup> ) St. Joseph’s £436-50 ( Plus Direct Debits ); and many thanks for the generous donation of £2,000 to parish funds. All donations gratefully received. St. John Kemble £47-00. Many thanks.

**Fr. Neil** will be slowing down and taking time off during the month of January.

**TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL** - The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. 01639 643323 Parish Website – [www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk)

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