

The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 15th October 2023

“ Renew Your wonders in this our day, as by a New Pentecost. Grant to Your Church that, being of one mind and steadfast in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and following the lead of blessed Peter, it may advance the reign of our Divine Saviour, the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love and peace. Come Holy Spirit, in Your power and might to renew the face of the earth”. (Pope St.John XXIII)

Prayer for Ukraine (from the Bishops 'Conference) “*Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, Mother of God, We ask you to intercede for the people of Ukraine, For their government and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood beside your Son, Suffering on the Cross at Calvary. Give them strength and courage, Through faith, hope and justice. May we, in our turn, Support them through prayer and generosity, That lives may be saved, the injured healed, that the dead may rest in peace, And that war will end in peace*”

Mass Intentions this Sunday (15TH October) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St.John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00p.m. Helen Culpan (RIP) (Sheila Penry); Sunday 10-30 a.m. Bishop Mark Jabale (90th Birthday).

Weekday Mass Intentions Wednesday (18th – St.Luke) 9-30 a.m. Stuart Michael (RIP) (The family) 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Jonathan (Sp.Int.). Thursday (19th) Anthony Stephens (RIP); Friday (20th) David Campbell Wood (Karen & Doug).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (22nd October) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Stephen Hopkins (RIP) (Lorna & Joe O'Brien). Sunday 10-30 a.m. Pamela Cundall (RIP) (Anne & family).

Readers: This Sunday (15th) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Sheila Williams. Next Sunday (22nd) 6-00 p.m. Gerald Smith; 10-30 a.m. Peter Buckingham. **Please take the opportunity to arrive early and look at (and prepare) the readings beforehand. Thank you.**

Candles: Sacred Heart – S.V.P. Members (RIP.); Our Lady – Lydia Carter (RIP); St. Joseph – Peter Hunkin (RIP).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Anthony Stephens (2014); Ron Jones (2000); Margaret Morris (2004); Tom Hanson (2019); Pam Sweeney (2000); Teresa Jenkins (2003); Patricia Thomas (2004); Teresa Pokoyski (2012); Patrick Gray (2014). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Mass Intentions Please note, weekend Mass intentions are already reserved into the middle of December and weekday Mass intentions into November. Please be thinking ahead by several months if you would like a Mass intention for a loved one on a particular day/date – even so, some dates are reserved a year ahead and if so Mass will be said on the nearest date available to the request. Thank you.

Volunteers please It would be good if we can encourage new volunteers to come forward (on a four week rota) to support our small group of dedicated cleaners to help keep the church looking neat and tidy. If you are able to help please sign the sheet at the back of the church.

ST.JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL If you have a child over 2 years of age or are new to the area and are looking for a school – look no further! St Joseph's has a loving, caring ethos to bring out the full potential of your child. Please contact the school on 01639 635099 for further details

Defibrillator The Defibrillator has now been installed. Thank you to all those who have signed up for one of the training sessions. **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR TRAINING** on the forms at the back of the church. There are three training sessions available. **THIS FRIDAY 20TH** October at 4-00 p.m. **Thursday 26th** October 2-00 p.m. and at **6-30 p.m** (please note this change to a later time for those unable to attend a training session earlier in the day).

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £461-20 (plus Direct Debits). Many thanks for the further donation of £1,000 toward the cost of the new carpet. All donations very gratefully received. St John Kemble – £45-00 (On average, our collections have dropped quite considerably at St. John Kemble in recent months).

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Evening of Song and Entertainment The Parish Hall Committee are holding an evening of Song & Entertainment on **Monday 6th November** in the Parish Hall 6-30 p.m. for 7-00 p.m. With Christine Lee Jones (Stars in their Eyes, T.V & Radio personality) Buffet included. Cost £7-50. Also, Bingo & Raffle (not included!!) See Angela Healey or Peter Buckingham for tickets. Book now!

Congratulations to David & June Vaudin who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary last Thursday (12th) and to Mary & Mervyn Blackmore celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary this Thursday (19th). Many congratulations to both couples.

Ian Thompson (RIP) Ian died on Friday 6th and his Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph's on Wednesday 25th October. Further details of times to be announced. Please remember Ian in your prayers and the family at this time. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Legion of Mary Every Tuesday evening at 6-00 p.m. in the Hall. New members very welcome. Please come along.

Parish Coffee Morning Every Thursday from 10-00a.m. to 11-00 a.m.

First Holy Communion Classes each Sunday in the Parish Hall before the 10-30 a.m. Mass. Please keep in your prayers – Ieuan Rees, Noah Wheatley, George Challenger, Henri Afolabi, Kaitlin Edwards, Keris Edwards, Bella Tariq, Luke Tariq The date of the First Holy Communion Mass will be dependent on progress (and attendance) at the classes. Many thanks to Carolynn, Elaine and Mary for their hardwork and commitment to the children.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal The Appeal closes on the 22nd October. All boxes will be taken to the church hall where Mrs Glenys Jones from the Organisation will collect them and give a brief talk on how and why and to whom your gifts are distributed. Thank you for all your support in this Christmas Appeal. So far about 40 boxes of Christmas gifts have been donated. Many thanks.

The S.V.P The St. Joseph's SVP Conference's main work is supporting house-bound fellow parishioners. If you know of anyone who would appreciate our support or a visit – and gives their permission for us to approach them, or if you would like to join us in our work, please contact Anne Guest on 07741283098 and leave a message. Thank you.

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. Especially at this time, Kathryn Woolley (Glynneath), George Johnson, Cheryl Ford, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Geraint Jones, Fr. Neil, Pat Day, Daniel John, George McIntyre, David Reynolds, Adrian Macpherson-Jones. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

FOOD BANK Please leave donations to the Neath Food Bank at the back of the church - the products Food Banks need most: Tinned veg (peas and sweetcorn); tinned tuna and mackerel; brown, basmati and long grain rice; pulses (eg: kidney beans and chickpeas); grains (eg: couscous); easy cook noodles; tinned fruit (eg: pineapple slices); wholegrain cereals (eg: wheat biscuits); oat drinks and UHT milk. THANK YOU!

PRAYER AFTER MASS *St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen*

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL - The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. 01639 643323
Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

