

Twenty - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 29th September 2024

“ 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).

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 to 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.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (29th September) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph’s) Gaynor Pickrell (RIP) (Elias family); 10-30 a.m. Parish S.V.P. Group.

Weekday Mass Times Wednesday (2nd October) 9-30 a.m.**NO MASS** (St. Joseph’s); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Wendy Roderick (RIP) (Grant); Thursday (3rd) 9-30 a.m. **School Harvest Mass** Fr John Cochran (RIP) (SPCD); Friday (4th St. Francis) 9-30 a.m. Fr. Anthony Cogliano (RIP) (SPCD).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (6th October) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) George Johnson (RIP) (Deacon Jim and Marie); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Ian Thompson (RIP) (Cathy and Hannah Thompson)

Readers: This Sunday (29th) 6-00 p.m. Gerald Smith; 10-30 a.m. Des Nicholas. **Next Sunday** (6th) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Bernadette Payne.

Readers Please come early so that you have the opportunity before Mass to look at the readings beforehand. If you are unable to keep your place on the rota please arrange for someone to take your place (!!).

Candles: Sacred Heart – Special Intention (M.B.); Our Lady – The Middle East (Peace); St. Joseph – Ukraine.

Anniversaries Patricia Evans (2007); Alice McCabe (2007); Laurence O’Neill (2008);Bernard McCormack (2010); Mary Heffernan (2015); Andrew Vicari (2016); Peter Copping (2015)..*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Jean Baker (RIP) Please remember Jean in your prayers and the family at this time. Jean’s funeral service will take place at Margam Crematorium at 10-30 a.m. on Monday 7th October. *Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Congratulations to our SVP Group celebrating the 90th Anniversary of their foundation here in the parish this weekend. We thank them – and their predecessors – for their dedication in visiting the house-bound and various fund raising events – (see two items below) - supporting those in need. Our second collection this week will enable them continue in this good work. Please give generously.

The Annual SVP Matthew Mulcahy Sponsored Walk is taking place next Sunday 29th September. SVP members are walking from Brangwyn Hall at 2-00 p.m. to Our Lady Star of the Sea where we will have refreshments before the return walk. Sponsor forms are at the back of the church and any parishioners who would like to join us are more than welcome. All funds raised will go to the South Sudan baby feeding project. Many thanks in advance for your support. (Parish SVP Group)

S.V.P. Christmas Appeal Once again the conference will be supporting the shoe box appeal for Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. There are leaflets at the back of the church, please read them carefully and only include the items specified. If you would like a pre-decorated shoe box please see Angela. Closing date for shoeboxes is no later than the 26/27 October.

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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.

Entertainment Evening Monday 21st October 6-30 for 7-00 p.m. An evening of entertainment with popular singer Christine Lee Jones. Tickets £8 includes light refreshments with tea & coffee. In addition bingo and a raffle will be organised. Proceeds toward the Hall repairs. Tickets available from Angela, Sheila & Peter.

Catholic Mothers South Wales An initiative from Fr. Andrzej (Margam). Are you a Catholic mother interested in learning about and deepening your faith whilst creating a fellowship of like-minded mothers in a relaxed and child-friendly environment? **First Monthly Meeting** – Monday 7th October at Our Lady of Margam from 12 midday to 1-00 p.m. (see www.margamcatholic.com and the poster) – followed by the first Monday of each month. **Study:** “ Divine Mercy for Moms. Sharing the Lessons of St.Faustina” led by Michele Faehnie and Emily Jaminet. **Children:** All welcome. Refreshments will be provided. **Parking:** Spacious free car park. **Play and Pray Group:** A free group runs in the Community Hall before the meeting from 9-30 a.m. to 11-00 a.m. for all children and parents. All are welcome!

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, Bridie Johnson, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Pat Day, Daniel John, David and Nora Reynolds, Adrian Macpherson-Jones, Roger Horton, Kath Davies, Susan Evans, Paul Leaker, Sid Leaker. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

Fr. Neil will be continuing his treatment this week. Thank you for your prayers. Please remember all those undergoing treatment and in hospital at this time (see list of the Sick & Housebound above).

The Sick & Housebound If you know of someone who (at their request) would appreciate contact with the church through a home visit from the S.V.P. please contact Anne Guest, the Secretary on 07741283098 or Pat O'Connell for a visit from the Legion of Mary.

The Church Hall is available for private heir. If anyone is interested in booking the venue please contct Angela Healey on 01792 424168 or 07708105147

FOOD BANK - PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING 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!**

Harvest Sunday Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th October. Offertory gifts of tinned food and dry-foods (see list above) gratefully received for Neath Food Bank and the homeless. Second Collection CAFOD Harvest Collection.

Training Days (i) **For Ministers of Holy Communion** – at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Mumbles, Saturday 12 October and 19 October 11-00 a.m. to 1-00 p.m. Please bring a packed lunch. (ii) **For Readers** – at Sacred Heart, Morriston Saturday 25 October 11-00 a.m. to 1-00 p.m. (Rosary 10-15 a.m. and Mass 10-30 a.m.

Second Collection this weekend (29th September) for our own S.V.P. Group. **Next Sunday** CAFOD Harvest Collection.

Last Sunday's Collection: £402-46 (plus Direct Debits) Home Missions £103-25. Donations in memory of George Johnson (RIP) £200. All donations gratefully received. Many thanks. St.John Kemble £26-00 and £12.

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

