

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 24th July 2022

“ 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).

“Holy Spirit, Lord of Light, from the clear celestial height, Thy pure beaming radiance give. Come, Thou Father of the poor, come with treasures that endure, Come Thou Light of all that live. Light Immortal, Light Divine, Visit Thou this soul of mine, Wash the stain of guilt away. Bend the stubborn heart and will, Melt the frozen, warm the chill, Guide the steps that go astray” Come, Holy Spirit!

AN INVITATION FROM THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

N.B. RETURNING TO MASS – PENTECOST SUNDAY (EXTRACT) “ The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply” – “ when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation” – “ Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person”.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (24th July) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St.John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Michael Dougher (RIP) (Brendan O’Grady); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Matthew Phillips (RIP) (Nuala and Martin Rees).

Weekday Mass Intentions: Tuesday 6-30 p.m. NO MASS; Wednesday 9-30 a.m. Ken Williams (RIP) (Pat, Donie & family); 11-00 a.m. (St.John Kemble) MICF (RIP); Thursday 9-30 a.m. Fr. Christopher Lightbound (RIP); Friday 9-30 a.m. Lorraine & Mike Maloney (Sp. Int.).

Mass Intentions next Sunday: (31st July) **Saturday** (St.John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph’s) 6-00p.m. Bendan Harvey (RIP) (John & Linda Slattery); **Sunday** 10-30a.m. Attilio Bassi (RIP) (Marcellina Bacchetta and Gisella Tambini).

Readers: **This Sunday** (24th) 6-00 p.m. Volunteer please. 10-30 a.m. Sheila Williams. **Next Sunday** (31st) 6-00 p.m. Caroline Thomas; 10-30 a.m. Stephen Evans.

Candles The Sacred Heart – Annie & William Cochrane (RIP); Our Lady - Lourdes Pilgrims;

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; John Sweeney (2009); John David Watkins (2016); Lorenzo Linciano (2014); Anthony Roberts (2002). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Bernard Cruse (RIP) Please remember Bernard in your prayers who died recently in Dublin. Many will remember him as an altar server and member both of the Legion of Mary and of the SVP. Please also keep his family in your prayers.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes Please keep our pilgrims in your prayers during their pilgrimage to Lourdes.

DOMSEC (Diocese of Menevia School of Evangelisation and Catechetics) will be livestreaming (i) **“Faith and Human Suffering”** Tuesday 26th July 6-30 p.m. (Fr. Matt Roche-Saunders). Please visit www.domsec.org.uk

Couples for Christ invites you to rediscover God's Love! At the Sacred Heart Centre, Morrision (SA6 6HX) every Saturday for 8 weeks from 11th June 2-5 p.m. " Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever". For further information please contact Arnel and Bridget – 07902 930831 (see poster).

The Synodal Process – Passing Christ's Love On The Diocese of Menevia have published the replies from the parishes to the Synod questions. (The full response is available on the Parish Website). The Diocesan response to the Synod recommends that parishes reach out more to their communities. At our meeting on Monday 18th July, we discussed how St. Joseph's could respond. One idea was a drop-in coffee morning as an opportunity to meet more people and to try this on Thursday 4th August in the Parish Hall from 10-00a.m. to 11-00 a.m. .It is a social occasion where everyone is welcome to come along, parishioners and non-parishioners alike. We encourage you to come along and please mention it to, and bring along, any friends and neighbours who would enjoy themselves there. Another idea was to encourage parishioners who have not yet returned to Mass following Covid, or those who have lapsed, by taking an extra copy of the Parish Newsletter and delivering to them so that they know what is happening at St. Joseph's. Also, some people's lift to church may no longer be available so if you think of anyone in that situation, perhaps you could consider offering them a lift. (The Parish Synodal Co-ordinators).

Mrs Clare Dineen. All good wishes to Mrs. Dineen who has announced her early retirement as Head of St. Joseph's School – from the end of the Autumn Term. We are very grateful to Clare for all her hard work and wish her every blessing in her retirement.

Reliquary of Relics of St. Bernadette of Lourdes at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Monday 12 and Tuesday 13th September. Further details of prayers/devotions to follow.

Legion of Mary Meeting every Wednesday at 6-00 p.m. A warm welcome to new members.

Parish History Booklet Copies of the reprint of the History of the Parish are still available if you would like to pick up a copy from the back of the church - £5-00

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's – £352-60 (plus DD); Many thanks. St. John Kemble – tba.

The Sacrament of Confession Fr. Neil will be available to hear confessions from 5-30 p.m. before the Saturday Vigil Mass. Please arrive in plenty of time. Confessions can be either face-to-face or use the privacy of the cubicle. **Confession can also take place at other Mass times (including weekdays).**

The Church Kneeler If you so wish, you may kneel to receive Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand.

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, Peggy Swan (Glynneath), Jane Boland, George Johnson, Nancy Morris, Cheryl Ford, Jason Saunders, Stephen Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Margaret Jeffrey, Dennis Taylor, Marion Brocksopp, Peter Thomas. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer.list (with their permission) please supply their names.

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*".

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