

BAPTISM OF THE LORD – 12th JANUARY 2025

“ 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 (12th January – The Baptism of the Lord) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Anne Williams (RIP) (The Family); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Deceased members of the Michael Family (RIP) (The Family).

Weekday Mass Times Wednesday (15th January) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph’s) John & Mary Woolcock (RIP) (Pat, Donie & family); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Elaine Reynolds (Sp.Int.). Thursday (16th) 9-30 a.m. SCHOOL MASS Karen Hardie (RIP) (Peter & Isabel); Friday (17th) 9-30 a.m. Maureen Kirby (RIP) (Peter & Isabel).

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18th to 25th January

Mass Intentions next Sunday (19th January – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph’s) Fr. Dennis Maher (RIP) (SPCD); 10-30 a.m. Milly Earle (RIP) (Des).

Readers: This Sunday (12th) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Sheila Williams. **Next Sunday** (19th) 6-00 p.m. Sian Loynes; 10-30 a.m. Sophia Hikary.

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 – Mair Thomas (RIP); Our Lady – Special Intention (C.M.) St. Joseph – Peter Piles (RIP)

Anniversaries Mervyn Blackmore (2024); Peter Flynn (2008); Robert Coffey (2016); Fr. Eugene Monaghan (2011); Valerie Rees (2010); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Holy Baptism Please remember in your prayers Finley Pascual who will be baptised here in church next Saturday morning and his parents Mark and Daisy.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2025. Application Forms are available from Fr. Neil in the Sacristy after Mass for those wishing to be considered for either of these two Sacraments. Regular attendance at Mass is an essential part of preparation for receiving these sacraments.

Missio Red Boxes Last year (2024) £548-61 was raised through the Red boxes for the work of Missio. Many thanks to Sian for overseeing the scheme throughout the year.

A Warm Winter Welcome! Come along and join the Parish Hall Committee for an afternoon of fun, laughter and surprises on Monday 20th January from 2-00 p.m. to 4-00 p.m. Light refreshments provided. Tickets £5 from Angela, Mary, Sheila or Brenda. Proceeds raised for the Church Hall.

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Last Sunday's Collection: £361-80 (plus Direct Debits) plus £100 donation to Church Funds and £250 from the Parish Guild to Parish Hall Funds. All donations gratefully received. Crib Collection £200-60. St.John Kemble - £26-40 Many thanks.

Second Collection next weekend (18th/19th) is the annual White Flower Appeal collection in support of the work of the SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children).

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.

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

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.

Piety Shop The shop is open from 9-45 to 10 -15 every Sunday morning. If you have particular requests Sheila may be able to put in a special order for you.

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

Legion of Mary Every Tuesday evening at 4-45 p.m. in the Hall. New members very welcome. .

Retrouvaille is a Catholic ministry for marriages in difficulty. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on zoom – 27 February to 2 March email info@retrouvaille.org.uk or phone 07887 296 983 for other help and further information.

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**

New Wineskins Community Prayer, Praise & Healing meeting Saturday 18th January 10-00 a.m. to Middy, St. Dyfrig's Catholic Church, Pontypridd. All welcome.

A Year of Hope: An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with CAFOD. Saturday 18 January 10-30 to Middy, online. All welcome. Register at cafod.org.uk/jubilee

Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Mark on the Year of the Jubilee – copies available at the back of the church.

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

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