

FIFTH SUNDAY – 9th FEBRUARY 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 (9th February) **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. Ina Hooper (RIP) (The family).

Weekday Mass Times Wednesday (12th) 9-30 a.m. [St. Joseph’s) Ina Hooper (RIP) (Donie, Pat & family); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Special Intention (Nancy); Thursday (13th) 9-30 a.m. Roger Fluck (RIP) (Peter & Isabel)

Mass Intentions next Sunday (16th February) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Special Intention (Nancy) 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph’s) Parish & People;; 10-30 a.m. John Hicky (RIP) (Peter & Isabel).

Readers: This Sunday (9th) 6-00 p.m. Gerald Smith; 10-30 a.m. Bernadette Payne. Next Sunday (16th) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Mary Walker.

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 - John & Bet Thomas (RIP); Our Lady – Special Intention (C.M.); St. Joseph – Roger Fluck (RIP).

Anniversaries Catherine Davies (2006); Joan Linciano (2019); Hugh Tanner (2016); Ruth Potter (2007); Bernadine McCann (2007); Rita Newton (2018); Gerald Shillingford (2020); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Caroline Chapman (RIP) Please remember Caroline in your prayers and the family at this time. Caroline’s Funeral Service will take place here in St. Joseph’s on Monday 17th February at 12 midday. *Eternal rest grant to her O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Sunday Choir It would be good to celebrate our 10-30 a.m. Mass as a Sung Mass – to sing the Gloria, Kyrie, Agnus Dei etc as well as to widen our repertoire of hymns, arias and anthems. If you would be willing to be part of a Sunday Choir please have a word with Fr. Neil.

Last Sunday’s Collection: £385-91 (plus Direct Debits). All donations gratefully received. St.John Kemble - £32-50. Many thanks.

Direct Debit & Gift Aid. If you would like to contribute to the church either by Direct Debit or to Gift Aid your contribution/donation (or to do both) please have a word with Robert our treasurer for further details.

Lent Faith Sharing Group We would like to hold a session one afternoon each week during Lent. If interested, could you please indicate on the sheet at the back of the church which afternoon you could attend. If you did not take a copy of “We dare to say” last year, there are a few still available at the back of the church and copies will be available at the Lent sessions. Many thanks

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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, Paul Leaker, Sid Leaker, David Vaudin. 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.

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**

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.

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.

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

The Jubilee Year Please take a **FREE COPY!** of the” Companion Booklet – The Jubilee” (over 90 pages!) with prayers and information about the Jubilee Year – from 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.

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.

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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