

Fifth Sunday in Lent – 3rd April 2022

The Season of Lent

“Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen”

Stations of the Cross – during Lent, each Friday (St. Joseph’s) at 6-30 p.m. and on Saturdays (St. John Kemble) at 3-30 p.m. The opportunity to reflect more deeply upon, and to join ourselves to, the sufferings of Christ, “ **for by Thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world**” and, perhaps, to remember and pray for the people of Ukraine that they may be given the strength to bear the Cross that has come upon them.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (3rd April) We remember the people of Ukraine at each Mass. **Saturday** – (St. John Kemble) 3-30 p.m. Stations of the Cross; 4-00 p.m. Maureen Laidlow (RIP) (Bella); 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Marion O’Grady (RIP) (Brendan); **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Parish & People; 10-30a.m. Alan Boland (RIP) (SJPG).

Weekday Mass Intentions: Tuesday (5th April) 6-30 p.m. Mike O’Hea (RIP) (Donie, Pat & family); Wednesday (6th April) 9-30 a.m. Brian Jones (RIP) (Doug & Karen Hardie); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Nancy (Thanksgiving); Thursday (7th April) Annie & William Cochrane (RIP) (J.Evans); Friday (8th April) School Mass 6-30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Mass Intentions next Sunday: (**PALM SUNDAY** 10th April) **Saturday** (St. John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph’s) 6-00p.m. Gillian Boland (RIP) (S.J.P.G.); **Sunday** – **N.B. NO 8-00a.m.** 10-30a.m. Michelle O’Brien (RIP) (Philip & Patrick).

Readers: **This Sunday** (3rd April) 6-00 p.m. Ceri McAteer; 8-00 a.m. Adian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Sheila Williams. **Next Sunday** (10th April) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Peter Buckingham.

Candles The Sacred Heart – The People of Ukraine; Our Lady - Thanksgiving;

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Maureen Maher (2016); Ann Gough (2018); Edna Roche (2001); Edward Davies (2001); Bridget Davies (2012); James Peoples (2008); Marion O’Grady (2015); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

The 8-00 a.m Mass This Sunday (3rd April) will be the last of the 8-00 a.m. masses (introduced to accommodate numbers during the pandemic) – we shall join together at the 10-30 a.m. Mass to celebrate Palm Sunday - however (see below) as in previous years there will be an early morning Mass (7-30 a.m.) on Easter Sunday.

HOLY WEEK Wednesday (13th April) 11-30 a.m. Chrism Mass at the Cathedral; **Holy Thursday** (14th April) 7-00 p.m. Mass of the Lord’s Supper; **Good Friday** (15th April) 2-00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion; 6-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Stations and Veneration of the Cross; **Holy Saturday** – 8-00 p.m. Easter Vigil; **Easter Sunday** – 7-30 a.m (Dawn Mass); 9-00 a.m. Mass (St. John Kemble); 10-30 a.m. Mass.

N.B. As last year, the Holy Week Services will be greatly simplified. Hopefully, God willing, next year we can return to the fuller celebration of the rituals and ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter.

Donations toward the cost of decorating the Church with flowers at Easter - and also toward the cost of flowers and shrubs in the church grounds gratefully received. Many thanks.

The Rosary and Marian Prayers of Devotion Every Tuesday at 2-00 p.m. in the Lady Chapel (for about half-an-hour). All welcome.

Holy Baptism Please keep Noah Benedict Howells in your prayers who will be baptised into the Church here in St. Joseph’s next Saturday morning (9th April).

Relaxation of Covid Restrictions There are already no restrictions on numbers attending Mass or where to sit (please ignore arrows and notices on the pews) and the wearing of masks is voluntary. Hand sanitising still provided. We shall slowly adapt to the new situation conscious that there continues to be a world-wide pandemic which may again return to our shores in a more virulent mutation of the virus. As from Palm Sunday we shall re-introduce the use of hymn books.

UKRAINE Our Lady of Kiev is probably the most famous Icon of Our Lady (**please see the Hymn Sheet and the Icon in front of the statue of Our Lady** – you may wish to light a candle) was made in 1132. It is a masterpiece, comparable for its beauty and psychological depths to the Mona Lisa and is the first great work in the Ukrainian School of Iconography. The Icon displays the great tenderness of Our Lady for her Divine Child. The Virgin's head touching the baby is a gesture of deep affection and the icon set the standard for Ukrainian icon painters which has never been surpassed. Providence has preserved the icon through centuries of war and (ironically) it was removed to Moscow in 1395.

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"*.

The Sacrament of Confirmation Please remember in your prayers those preparing for Confirmation – Zaira and Joshua Zambrano, Carys Smitham, Tommy Parel, Maria Grabczewski, Oisin and Cian Fitchett, Eve Abell, Daniel Rowlands, Mia Faure, Joseph Payne, William Heslop, Callum Lavin, Martin and Marya Joseph and Bethany Clifford, Sophie Wheatley. The Confirmation Group meets after the 10-30 a.m. Mass. There will be no meetings on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday – but a **full rehearsal** of the Confirmation Mass on Sunday 24th April .

Note for the diary! - Archbishop George Stack will visit us on **Friday 29th April** (7-00 p.m.) to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Four confirmation candidates from the Parish of Llandeilo will join with our 17 candidates which means that 21 pews will be reserved for each candidate, their sponsor and a few family/friends also in the pew. Extra family/friends may occupy the remaining 15 pews. If you do not have a seat reserved in the pew of one of the candidates, please come early to be sure of a seat! Please keep all the candidates in your prayers for the special day.

Last Sunday's Collection: St.Joseph's - £512-22 (plus Direct Debits); St.John Kemble – £38-00. Many thanks.
N.B. Envelope Boxes – now available for collection at the back of the Church.

St. Joseph's Parish Guild Meeting Monday 4th April at 2-00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

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, Andrew Jenkins, Jason Saunders, Stephen Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Donie O'Connell, Margaret Jeffrey, Dennis Taylor, Marion Brocksopp, Peter Thomas. Owen O'Connel. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

The Church Kneeler If you so wish, you may kneel to receive Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand.
N.B. Please note – to all communicants – after the priest says "The Body of Christ" to say "**Amen**" which means "it is so" which is an affirmation of faith and thus, **throughout the Mass** "Amen" and **all congregational responses should be confidently expressed** - not hesitantly and quietly!

Please Note (Mass Intentions). **Saturday and Sunday** Masses are already reserved for a particular intention until the middle of **JULY** (and **Weekday Masses** until the beginning of **JUNE**).Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date (or nearest date). Thank you.

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL - The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. 01639 643323
N.B. The phone in the Presbytery is now re-connected. Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

ENTRANCE

- 1 Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted still, yet unbeguiled:
- 2 Sunbeams scorching all the day,
chilly dew-drops nightly shed,
prowling beasts about thy way,
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.
- 3 Let us thy endurance share
and from earthly greed abstain
with thee watching unto prayer,
with thee strong to suffer pain.
- 4 Then if evil on us press,
flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness,
help us not to swerve or fail!
- 5 So shall peace divine be ours;
holier gladness ours shall be,
come to us angelic powers,
such as ministered to thee.
- 6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side,
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

OFFERTORY

- 1 Father, I place into your hands
the things I cannot do.
Father, I place into your hands
the things that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands
the way that I should go,
for I know I always can trust you.
- 2 Father, I place into your hands
my friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands
the things that trouble me.
Father, I place into your hands
the person I would be,
for I know I always can trust you.
- 3 Father, we love to see your face,
we love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise
and in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you
and in your presence rest,
for we know we always can trust you.
- 4 Father, I want to be with you
and do the things you do.
Father, I want to speak the words
that you are speaking too.
Father, I want to love the ones
that you will draw to you,
for I know that I am one with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

- 1 Meekness and majesty,
manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony,
the man who is God.
Lord of eternity
dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility
and washes our feet.
*O, what a mystery,
meekness and majesty,
bow down and worship,
for this is your God.
This is your God.*
- 2 Father's pure radiance,
perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience
to death on a cross.
Suff'ring to give us life,
conqu'ring through sacrifice;
and as they crucify prays
'Father forgive'.
- 3 Wisdom unsearchable,
God the invisible;
love indestructible
in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity,
stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity
to the heights of his throne.

RECESSIONAL

- 1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise. *(repeat)*
- 2 In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee.
- 3 O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!
- 4 Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.
- 5 Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind
and fire,
O still small voice of calm!



All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace, the assembly of angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child; our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. Glory to thee!

Hymn to the Theotokos from St Basil's Liturgy

"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 of 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"