

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time– 6th February 2022

Mass Intentions this Sunday (6th February) **Saturday** – 4-00 p.m. (St.John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph's) Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Boland Family); **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Terry Lloyd (RIP) (Damian, Clare & Family); 10-30a.m. Paddy Clifford (RIP) (The Family).

The Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Today, 6th February, is the 70th Anniversary of the Queen's Accession to the Throne following the death of King George VI on 6th February 1952. We wish Her Majesty every joy and God's blessing, with our prayers, on this special day and historic occasion.

REVISION OF COVID REGULATIONS

It can be difficult keeping up to date with the various changes to the Covid Regulations but it is now possible to significantly modify the restrictions that we have been under for the last two years. However I believe that we should continue to proceed cautiously since there remains the very real possibility that at some time in the days ahead we may have to return once again to tighter restrictions.

The pews will continue to be roped off and the arrows/floor markings remain in place but there is no longer the requirement to observe social distancing (thus up to eight people can sit in each open pew) and both the main door and the side door may be used to enter/exit the Church with no need to observe the floor arrows. There is no longer any requirement for the pews to be sanitised after each Mass and the sanitising of hands is now optional (though recommended). **MASKS must continue to be worn** – unless medically exempt.

For the time being the Holy Water stoups will remain covered and please continue to place your Offertory Collection in the Box provided. We shall continue to print hymn sheets and the Sunday 8-00 a.m. Mass will continue until Easter Day. All being well and by God's Grace, if the situation continues to improve, these last remaining restrictions will all be lifted on Easter Day.

Many, many thanks to all those who have faithfully and regularly stayed behind after Mass over the last two years to ensure that all the pews have been sanitised. The celebration of Mass would not have been possible without this commitment. Thank you.

Weekday Mass Intentions: Tuesday (8th February) 6-30 p.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Donie, Pat & Family); Wednesday (9th February) 9-30 a.m. Fr. David Eccleshare (RIP) (SPCD); 11-00 a.m. Desmond Courtney (RIP) (Elizabeth, Kieron & Family). There will also be three School Class Masses or Services this week but, sadly, parents and parishioners are not able to attend because of L.E.A. Covid regulations.

Mass Intentions next Sunday: (13th February) **Saturday** (St.John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Kay Buttle (RIP) (Elizabeth, Kieron & Family); (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Gaynor and David); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Parish & people; 10-30a.m. Emilio Rossi (RIP) (Remo).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ann Buddy (2010); Iain Davies (2009); William Jelley (2010); Joan Thomas (2017); Mabel Carroll (2000); Kit Pugsley (2005); Catherine Davies (2006); Joan Linciano (2019); Hugh Tanner (2016); Mary Martin (2001). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Please Note (Mass Intentions). Saturday and Sunday Masses and weekday Masses are already reserved for a particular intention until the **BEGINNING OF APRIL** Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date (or nearest date). Thank you.

Candles The Sacred Heart – Mary & Ross (Sp.Int.); Our Lady - Margaret Jeffrey (Good Health).

Readers: This Sunday (6th February) 6-00 p.m. Lorna Halloran; 8-00 a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30a.m. Sheila Williams. Next Sunday (13th February) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Peter Buckingham.

Cleaning Teams. Please see notice above – thank you!

Refreshments after the 10-30 a.m. Mass We are very grateful to the volunteers who prepare refreshments in the Parish Hall after the Sunday Mass – currently three groups (S.J.P.G; S.V.P.; Tanzania Ambulance Appeal). We would be grateful for a fourth group to serve tea & coffee (for parish funds).

The Sacrament of Confirmation Please remember in your prayers those preparing for Confirmation – Zaira and Joshua Zambrano, Carys Smitham, Tommy Parel, Isabella and Maria Grabczewski, Oisín and Cian Fitchett, Eve Abell, Daniel Rowlands, Mia Faure, Joseph Payne, William Heslop, Callum Lavin, Martin and Marya Joseph and Bethany Clifford, Sophie Wheatley. Note for the diary! - Archbishop George Stack will visit us on **Friday 29th April** (7-00 p.m.) to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Confirmation Group will resume on **Sunday 20th February** after the 10-30 A.M. Mass. Attendance at Mass continues to be an essential part of the preparation process.

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. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

Last Sunday's Collection: St.Joseph's - £373-38 (plus Direct Debits); St.John Kemble – £20-00. Many thanks. Grateful thanks also to the Parish Guild for the very generous donation of £500 to parish funds. Many thanks. All donations and gifts to parish funds gratefully received.

PARISH SYNOD RESPONSES Please see below responses from the three recent Parish Synods. Because of the low attendance at these meetings (10 at the first meeting and 5 at the next two meetings) the views expressed may or may not reflect wider opinion in St Joseph's and St.John Kemble, and so our Parish Facilitators suggest there should be the opportunity for you to respond to the responses(!) before they are forwarded to the Diocese as representing the views of the whole parish. If these are not your own views/responses you may wish to add to or offer your own responses to these questions. Please use the Suggestion Box – (your response can be anonymous if you wish) - at the back of the church or hand your contribution to Gregory Page, Angela Healey, Sandra Davies, Geraint Jones or Stephen Evans.

Fr.Neil was deliberately absent from these Parish Synods to enable a space for free discussion without the catechetical guidance of the teaching of the Church. Although Pope Francis has made clear that the worldwide consultation of the Church should not challenge the teaching of the Church but only how that teaching is to be lived out and presented, it is clear from our own parish responses and, no doubt, from parish responses from around the world that it is precisely the teaching of the Church that, in some aspects, some respondents have questioned. Nevertheless the views expressed at and through the Parish Synods will be forwarded to the Diocese without detraction. However, it should not therefore be assumed that these parish responses reflect Fr.Neil's views!

The Parish Facilitators ask that you pray for and listen to the Holy Spirit before making your own comments and suggestions.

1/ What are our dreams for the Church? The Church is no longer vibrant. Too insular. We should be more outward looking – join with other denominations and be less confrontational. If anyone approaches at a wedding/baptism/funeral etc, we should grasp the opportunity to welcome them.

2/ Are we ignoring some people that God is using to send us His message? The Church should be more welcoming to divorced, gay people and those who consider themselves in the wrong gender. Women need a greater role. Deacons? The church needs to pray about possibly reviewing the policy of giving Communion to divorced and gay couples.

3/ What hinders us from being active in the Church's Mission? Church and parish should as a whole demonstrate openly the joy of our faith. Promote Catholic teaching and Sacraments to all non-catholics at Catholic schools if they wish to be included.

4/ How are conflicts and difficulties addressed? Scandals must be fully and transparently addressed. We appreciate a solo priest in every parish cannot do everything – but hopefully will be open to ideas from the parish.

5/ What keeps us from speaking out about our parish? We felt we needed a Parish Council to listen to parishioners' ideas and concerns. Sometimes easier to approach fellow parishioners than a priest. We would like a greater variety of services and music. (eg: Annual Mass for the Dead, Blessing of the Sick, Advent Carol Service)

ENTRANCE

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the
night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true
Word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
- 3 Be thou my breast-plate, my sword for
the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high
tower,
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of
my power.
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty
praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my
days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!
- 5 High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright
heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

OFFERTORY

- 1 Gifts of bread and wine, gifts we've
offered,
fruits of labour, fruits of love:
taken, offered, sanctified,
blessed and broken; words of one who
died:
'Take my body; take my saving blood.'
Gifts of bread and wine: Christ our Lord.
- 2 Christ our Saviour, living presence here,
as he promised while on earth:
'I am with you for all time,
I am with you in this bread and wine.
Take my body, take my saving blood.'
Gifts of bread and wine: Christ our Lord.
- 3 Through the Father, with the Spirit,
one in union with the Son,
for God's people, joined in prayer
faith is strengthened by the food we
share.
'Take my body, take my saving blood.'
Gifts of bread and wine: Christ our
Lord.

HOLY COMMUNION

- 1 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my hands, take them for
your work.
Take them for your service Lord.
Take them for your glory, Lord,
Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my hands.
- 2 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my eyes, may they shine
with joy.
Take them for your service, Lord.
Take them for your glory, Lord.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my eyes.
- 3 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my lips, may they speak
your truth.
Take them for your service, Lord.
Take them for your glory, Lord.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my lips.
- 4 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come take my feet, may they walk
your path.
Take them for your service, Lord.
Take them for your glory, Lord.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my feet.
- 5 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my heart, fill it with
your love.
Take it for your service, Lord.
Take it for your glory, Lord.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my heart.
- 6 Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my life, take it for your own.
Take it for your service, Lord.
Take it for your glory, Lord.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my life.

RECESSIONAL

- 1 Holy Virgin, by God's decree,
you were called eternally;
that he could give his Son to our race.
Mary, we praise you, hail full of grace.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.
- 2 By your faith and loving accord,
as the handmaid of the Lord,
you undertook God's plan to embrace.
Mary, we thank you, hail full of grace.
- 3 Joy to God you gave and expressed,
of all women none so blessed,
when in mankind your Son took his place,
Mary, we love you, hail full of grace.
- 4 Refuge for your children so weak,
sure protection all can seek.
Problems of life you help us to face.
Mary, we trust you, hail full of grace.
- 5 To our needy world of today
love and beauty you portray,
showing the path to Christ we must trace.
Mary, our mother, hail, full of grace.