

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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N.B. There continues to be a problem with the Presbytery phone line – unable to phone in or out. To contact Fr. Neil please call at the presbytery or post a message through the letter box.

Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

First Sunday in Lent – 7th March 2022

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

“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!**

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.

UKRAINE Our Second Collection this weekend (and also next weekend) is in support of the people of Ukraine. **UKRAINE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES – NEATH DONATION POINT** – at NMCC Family Church, Brookdale Street, The Melin, SA11 1PB. Truck travelling to the Polish/Ukraine border next Saturday 12th March. Donations (**NOT** of Clothing or Cash) gratefully received of – First Aid, nappies, wet wipes, all toiletries (toothbrushes, soap, gel, flannels etc), medicines and bandages, blankets/sleeping bags.

Our Lady of Kiev Probably the most famous icon of Our Lady (**please see the Hymn Sheet**) 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”.*

Mass Intentions this Sunday (6th March) 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. Fred Hipsley (Good Health); 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Parish & People; **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. William John Sullivan (RIP) (Margaret, Pauline & families); 10-30a.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Robert and Brenda).

Weekday Mass Intentions: Tuesday (March 8th) 6-30 p.m. Pamela Cundle (RIP) (Ann Guest); Wednesday (9th March) 9-30 a.m. Joseph Stanislaus (RIP) (The Sivarupan Family); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) M.I.C.F. (RIP); Thursday (10th March) 9-30 a.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Deepa and Family); Friday (11th) **School Mass** (staff and children only); 6-30p.m. Stations of the Cross.

Mass Intentions next Sunday: (13th March) **Saturday** (St.John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Jean Walls (Anne-Marie) (Gaynor and David); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Sr. Carmel (RIP) (Clare, Damion & Family); 10-30a.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Sheila, David & Helen).

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

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Douglas Fursland (2015); Bernard Lee (2006); Danilo Tambini (2003); Nora Solari (2015); Edward Doyle (2009); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Candles The Sacred Heart – The People of Ukraine; Our Lady - Sheila Burns (RIP);

Readers: **This Sunday** (6th March) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Bernadette Payne. **Next Sunday** (13th March) 6-00 p.m. Sian Loynes; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Mary Walker.

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 meets after the 10-30 A.M. Mass. Attendance at Mass continues to be an essential part of the preparation process.

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.

Ministers of Holy Communion We shall commission (and re-commission) our Ministers of Holy Communion at our Mass on Tuesday 15th March. (A preparation/Q & A meeting before Mass at 5-45 p.m.) This is an important ministry of service to the housebound and we are very grateful to those who already regularly visit parishioners at home. Perhaps you might think of becoming involved with the parish S.V.P. Group or the Legion of Mary.

Congratulations to Donie celebrating his 80th Birthday. Prayers and all good wishes.

The Welsh National Pilgrimage to Lourdes 25th – 30th July 2022. A full programme, al transport, travel and full board are included in the package, Further details to follow. See www.welshnationalpilgrimage.com

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 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. 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 - £304-31 (plus Direct Debits); St.John Kemble – £52-00; The Second Collection this weekend (and next weekend) is in support of Ukraine (the many refugees now in Poland, Romania, Bulgaria). Please continue to pray for peace and for the restoration of Ukraine. Our Second Collection for CAFOD (Lent Fast Day) will be postponed to 20th March.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

- 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.



RECESSIONAL

- 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 Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthborn passions set me free,
and make me pure within.
- 2 Lord Jesus, think on me,
with care and woe oppressed;
let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.
- 3 Lord Jesus, think on me
amid the battle's strife,
in all my pain and misery
be thou my health and life.
- 4 Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.
- 5 Lord Jesus, think on me,
when flows the tempest high:
when on doth rush the enemy,
O Saviour, be thou nigh.
- 6 Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

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

Prayer after Low Mass (Promulgated by Pope Leo XIII)

ST. MICHAEL the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our defense 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 the other evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.