

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. Phone – 01639 643323

Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Saturday 1st January - Mary, Mother of God

Second Sunday after Christmas – 2nd January 2022

THE PARISH SYNODS

The date of the next meeting is now **re-scheduled** for this **Wednesday 5th January** at 2-00 p.m. in the Hall. All are invited to contribute to consultation process. The next two questions to be considered are –

(i) How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? What space is there for the voice of minorities, especially people who experience poverty, marginalisation, or social exclusion?

(ii) How are divergences of vision, or conflicts and difficulties addressed? What particular issues in the church and society do we need to pay more attention to? How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics, culture, civil society and people who live in poverty?

A suggestion box is placed at the back of the church for those who wish to contribute but are unable to attend the meetings. Those in either parish with transport difficulties or who may be housebound or reluctant (during this pandemic) to meet socially with others but would like to contribute ideas/reflections, please ask someone to post your ideas into the box. May the Holy Spirit guide us in our understanding of what He is saying to the Church at this time.

Mass Intentions this Sunday: The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God on Saturday (St.John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Josef Nedza (RIP) (Nancy); (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Marshall and Christopher Abell (RIP) (The Family); **The Second Sunday of Christmas on **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Parish & People 10-30a.m. Deceased family & friends (RIP) (Rosemary Insole).**

Weekday Mass Intentions: Tuesday 4th January 6-30 p.m. Julia Butler (RIP) (Paula & Adrian); Wednesday 5th January (St.Joseph's) 9-30 a.m. Ann Hanford (RIP) (The Family); (St.John Kemble) 11-00 a.m. M.I.C.F. (RIP); Thursday 6th January **THE EPIPHANY** 9-30 a.m. Clare Jones (RIP) (Doug and Karen).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (9th January – The Baptism of Jesus) **Saturday** – 4-00 p.m. (St.John Kemble) Sarah May (RIP) (Nancy); 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph's) Eileen Cavill (RIP) (James and Glenda); **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Parish & People; 10-30a.m. Fr Gerard Galvin (RIP) (Grant Family).

Sr.Carmel (RIP) The Poor Clares Please remember Sr.Carmel in your prayers and also the Poor Clare Sisters. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen*

Maureen Pitt (RIP) Please remember Maureen and the family in your prayers. Maureen's Funeral Mass will be here in St.Joseph's on Monday 17th January. Further details to be announced. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Anthony Oakley (RIP) Please remember Anthony in your prayers and the family, Anthony's Funeral Service will take place here in St.Joseph's at 11-00 a.m. on Wednesday 12th January. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let [perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.*

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Vernon Tanner (2002); Virginia Farrell (2016); William Dooley (2006); Sharon Bradshaw (2010); Thomas Bernard Thomas (2011); Kimberly O'Neil (2007); Philip Hoptroff (2009); Patrick G (2009); Peter Navin (2010); Bridget Amos (2017); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Candles The Sacred Heart – Winnie and Jack Nixey (RIP); St.Joseph – Carter Family (Deceased Members); Our Lady – Jacki Jaynes (RIP).

Readers: This Sunday (2nd January) Saturday 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Des Nicholas. **Next Sunday** (9th January) 6-00 p.m. Sian Loynes; 8-00 a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30 a.m. Bernadette Payne.

Cleaning Teams. This Sunday (2nd January) 6-00 p.m. Sian & Mary; 8-00 a.m. Martin & Nuala; 10-30 a.m. Volunteers please. **Next Sunday** (9th January) 6-00 p.m. Maralyn & Nora; 8-00 a.m. Martin & Nuala; 10-30 Joan & Ann.

Christmas Collection, Gifts & Cards Many thanks for the very generous Christmas Collection and for the very many generous gifts enclosed with Christmas Cards and greetings. Thank you for your kindnesses and generosity and especially for your prayers. All very much appreciated.

Last Sunday's Collection: St.Joseph's - £366-40 (plus Direct Debits); St.John Kemble – No Mass.

Afghanistan CAFOD Crisis Appeal There will be a special collection for Afghanistan this Sunday 2nd January.

First Holy Communion Classes. Classes resume this Sunday 9th January. Because of the large number making their first Holy Communion and so as to accommodate family/friends the **First Holy Communion Mass** will be on **Saturday 29th January at 10-30 a.m.** (First Confession – Saturday 22nd January at 10-30 a.m. in the Church).

First Holy Communion Classes Please keep in your prayers as they prepare for their First Holy Communion Ronan Abell, Lucy Owen, Jack Challenger, Ava Mallows, Julia Karczynska, John Grabczewski, Amelia Tristram, Julia Kuligowska, Efan and Bodi Lewis, Shuyalini Sivarupan, Joseph Owen, Brendan Fitchett, Lowrie Smitham, Ivy Walters, Dorothea Boland. **Attendance at Mass is an essential part of preparation** for receiving Holy Communion. **Classes resume this Sunday 9th January.** Because of the large number making their first Holy Communion and so as to accommodate family/friends the **First Holy Communion Mass** will be on **Saturday 29th January 10-30 a.m.** **Please note** – we only have 18 pews to accommodate 16 candidates! This means that only **one pew** will be reserved for each family so please take this into account before inviting family and friends! (**First Confession** – Saturday 22nd January at 10-30 a.m. in the Church).

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 resumes in February during which time attendance at Mass continues to be an essential part of the preparation process.

APF (Red Mission Boxes) . A volunteer is needed to empty 6 boxes in the Bryncoch and Cimla area. If you would be able to help in this parish ministry please have a word with Sian Loynes or Fr.Neil. Thank you to those who have continued to empty the boxes especially during the Covid period.

Parish History Booklet Copies of the reprint of the History of the Parish are still available if you would like to pick up a copy from the sacristy - £5-00.

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

The Year of St.Joseph A daily prayer to St.Joseph. *"Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became a man. Blessed St.Joseph, to us too, show yourself to be a father, and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen"*

ENTRANCE

- 1 Hail, Queen of heav'n, the ocean star!
Guide of the wand'rer here below!
Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care;
save us from peril and from woe.
Mother of Christ, star of the sea,
pray for the wanderer, pray for me.
- 2 O gentle, chaste and spotless maid,
we sinners make our prayers through thee;
remind thy son that he has paid
the price of our iniquity.
Virgin most pure, star of the sea,
pray for the sinner, pray for me.
- 3 Sojourners in this vale of tears,
to thee, blest advocate, we cry;
pity our sorrows, calm our fears,
and soothe with hope our misery.
Refuge in grief, star of the sea,
pray for the mourner, pray for me.
- 4 And while to him who reigns above,
in Godhead One, in Persons Three,
the source of life, of grace, of love,
homage we pay on bended knee,
do thou, bright Queen, star of the sea,
pray for thy children, pray for me.

OFFERTORY

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
'All hail,' said he, thou lowly maiden
Mary,
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!
For know, a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honour thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers
foretold;
most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!
- 2 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said.
'My soul shall laud and magnify his
holy name.'
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world
will ever say
'most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!

HOLY COMMUNION

- 1 Sweet sacrament divine,
hid in thy earthly home,
lo! Round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesus, to thee our voice we raise,
in songs of love and heartfelt praise,
sweet sacrament divine.
- 2 Sweet sacrament of peace,
dear home of every heart,
where restless yearnings cease,
and sorrows all depart,
there in thine ear all trustfully
we tell our tale of misery,
sweet sacrament of peace.
- 3 Sweet sacrament of rest,
Ark from the ocean's roar,
within thy shelter blest
soon may we reach the shore,
save us, for still the tempest raves;
save, lest we sink beneath the waves
sweet sacrament of rest.
- 4 Sweet sacrament divine,
earth's light and jubilee,
in thy far depths doth shine
thy Godhead's majesty;
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray,
that earthly joys may fade away,
sweet sacrament divine.

RECESSIONAL

- 1 O purest of creatures! Sweet mother, sweet maid;
the one spotless womb wherein Jesus was laid.
Dark night hath come down on us, mother, and we
look out for thy shining, sweet star of the sea.
- 2 Deep night hath come down on this rough-spoken world.
And the banners of darkness are boldly unfurled;
and the tempest-tossed Church, all her eyes are on thee.
They look to thy shining, sweet star of the sea.
- 3 He gazed on thy soul, it was spotless and fair;
for the empire of sin, it had never been there;
none ever had owned thee, dear mother, but he,
and he blessed thy clear shining, sweet star of the sea.
- 4 Earth gave him one lodging; 'twas deep in thy breast,
and God found a home where the sinner finds rest,
his home and his hiding-place, both were in thee;
he was won by thy shining, sweet star of the sea.

AVE MARIA! GRATIA PLENA!

Rosa Mystica

1.

The rose in a mystery, where is it found?
—Is it anything true? Does it grow upon ground?—
It was made of earth's mould but it went from men's eyes
And its place is a secret and shut in the skies.
Refrain—

*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
Find me a place by thee, mother of mine.*

2.

But where was it formerly? which is the spot
That was blest in it once, though now it is not?—
It is Galilee's growth: it grew at God's will
And broke into bloom upon Nazareth hill.
*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
I shall look on thy loveliness, mother of mine.*

3.

What was its season then? how long ago?
When was the summer that saw the bud blow?
Two thousands of years are near upon past
Since its birth and its bloom and its breathing its last.
*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
I shall keep time with thee, mother of mine.*

4.

Tell me the name now, tell me its name.
The heart guesses easily: is it the same?—
Mary the Virgin, well the heart knows,
She is the mystery, she is that rose.
*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
I shall come home to thee, mother of mine.*

5.

Is Mary the rose then? Mary the tree?
But the blossom, the blossom there, who can it be?—
Who can her rose be? It could be but one:
Christ Jesus our Lord, her God and her son.
*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
Shew me thy son, mother, mother of mine.*

6.

What was the colour of that blossom bright?—
White to begin with, immaculate white.
But what a wild flush on the flakes of it stood
When the rose ran in crimsonings down the cross-wood!
*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
I shall worship His wounds with thee, mother of mine.*

7.

How many leaves had it?—Five they were then,
Five like the senses and members of men;
Five is their number by nature, but now
They multiply, multiply who can tell how.
*In the gardens of God, in the daylight divine
Make me a leaf in thee, mother of mine.*

8.

Does it smell sweet too in that holy place?—
Sweet unto God, and the sweetness is grace:
O breath of it bathes great heaven above
In grace that is charity, grace that is love.
*To thy breast, to thy rest, to thy glory divine
Draw me by charity, mother of mine.*

5 Oh, blissful and calm was the wonderful rest
that thou gavest thy God in thy virginal breast;
for the heaven he left he found heaven in thee,
and he shone in thy shining, sweet star of the sea.

GERARD
MANLEY
HOPKINS