

## TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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

Parish Website – [www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk)

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Easter Message** This last year has been a great challenge. We mourn those who have lost their lives in the pandemic and we continue to struggle with the disruption of family life and the social and economic consequences which may be with us for many years to come. We have been reminded of the fragility of life and of the importance of counting ( and giving thanks for ) the blessings of each day, not knowing what further challenges may yet lie ahead of us in the months and years to come. What we do know is that the months and years ahead, no matter how difficult they may be, are preparing the way for the Coming of the Lord whenever that Day may be and thus ( as we say in every Mass ) we “ await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ” and “look forward to the resurrection of the dead”. Those days are ahead of us because He, Whose resurrection from the dead we celebrate on this glorious Easter morning is now ascended into heaven, “ and from heaven we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ Who will change our mortal bodies to be conformed to His own glorious body” ( Philippians 3 v 21 ). Christ is “the first fruit from the dead” ( 1 Corinthians 15 v 20 ) – but there are more fruit of His Resurrection to come! “ but each in his own order: Christ the First Fruit, then, at His Coming, those who belong to Christ” ( v23 ). Thus Job affirms the resurrection - “ I know that my Redeemer lives and, though worms destroy this body yet, IN MY FLESH (!) shall I see God”. “Thine be the glory! Risen, conquering Son, Endless is the victory, Thou o’er death hast won.” Hail the day that sees Him rise! Alleluia!

**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”*

**Mass Intentions this Sunday** ( Divine Mercy Sunday – 11th) **Saturday** ( St. John Kemble ) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; St. Joseph’s 6-00p.m. Michael McCarthy (RIP) ( Elias Family ); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Laurence Macpherson-Jones (RIP) ( Deacon Jim & Marie Caddick ); 10-30a.m. Michelle O’Brien (RIP) ( Lorna, Joe & Patrick ).

**Weekday Mass Intentions** Wednesday ( 14th ) 9-30 a.m. MICF (RIP); 11-00 a.m. Karin Edwards (RIP); Thursday (15th April ) 9-30 a.m. Benetia Whittington (RIP) ( Nicola & family)

**Mass Intentions next weekend** (18th April ) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St John Kemble) Parish & People.6-00 p.m (St. Joseph’s) Alan Boland (RIP) ( Yolanda & Nantlais Jones ) **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Laurence Macpherson Jones (RIP) ( Adrian & Paula ); 10-30a.m. Jack Wigley (RIP) ( Ann Guest & family ).

**.Anniversaries:** Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Thomas Callaghan (2004); Raffaella Aprea (2004); James O’Donnell (2007); Edna May McCarthy (2011); Vincenzo Colamazal (2010); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**Alan Boland (RIP).** We are very grateful to have received £825 toward parish funds in lieu of flowers in Alan’s memory. Please continue to remember Alan in your prayers and Marion and the family.

**Patrick Hayes (RIP)** Please remember Patrick in your prayers who died on Easter Monday. Pat and Muriel moved to Leicester two years ago to be near family. Please remember Patrick and Muriel and the family in your prayers. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.*

**Candles:** Sacred Heart – Mona Healey (RIP);



**ENVELOPE BOXES** (from April 2021-22) – these are now available as you leave via the Lady Chapel. If you do not already regularly donate to the church through the church envelope scheme and would like to do so, please see Robert Grant for a box. Many thanks.

**Holy Places ( Good Friday Collection )** £58-92. Many thanks.

**Easter Collection** Grateful thanks for the very generous Easter collection and for cards and gifts received over the Easter period. May God bless us all during these forty days celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus and looking forward to the Ascension and the coming down of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

**Driveway Appeal** Many thanks for two further donations of £1,000 ( plus gift aid) and of £500 to the driveway appeal. We now have the magnificent sum of **£50,185** (including gift aid ) in the Driveway Appeal Fund. All donations gratefully received. Please remember that if you gift aid, an additional 25% is added to the value of your donation. We hope to raise a further (approx.) £10,000 in the next few months and to employ the services of a surveyor to design and cost tarmacking ( and draining ) the driveway/carpark and installing some form of lighting for the driveway/carpark. Thank you to all who have so generously donated to this Appeal. **Many thanks.**

**Ethiopia** Belated thanks to all for the recent CAFOD Lent Fast Day collections. Please continue your prayers and daily walks in solidarity with water collectors like Abdella ( see [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)). While Abdella's community is away from the fighting, many adults and children have innocently been caught up in the middle of the conflict in Tigray, another region of Ethiopia. A Mass for the safety of those people and an end to fighting was celebrated on Friday evening. CAFOD has previously worked on projects with the people of Tigray, enabling the easy accessibility of water supplies. Thank you again. ( Sandra).

**Church Garden and Grounds** Donations toward the cost of shrubs and flowers gratefully received. Thank you.

**PLEASE NOTE** – To all stewards, readers and cleaners. **THERE IS NO OBLIGATION TO COME TO CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT FEEL SAFE OR COMFORTABLE TO DO SO.** Please let Fr. Neil know so that he can arrange a replacement. Thank you.

**Readers: This Sunday** (11<sup>th</sup> April) 6-00p.m. Lorna Halloran; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones 10-30a.m. Sheila Williams. **Next Sunday** (18<sup>th</sup>) 6-00p.m. Kevin Halloran. 8-00a.m. Gregory Page. 10-30 Tommy Parel.

**Stewarding: This Sunday** ( 11<sup>th</sup> ) 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30 a.m. John, Aimee & Olivia. **Next Sunday** (18<sup>th</sup>) 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher and Gregory. 10-30a.m. Luke & Lena.

**Cleaning Teams. This Sunday** (11<sup>th</sup>) 6-00p.m. Sian & Volunteer please. 8-00 a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30a.m. Volunteers please. **Next Sunday** (11<sup>th</sup>) 6-00p.m. Volunteers please. 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30a.m. Joan & volunteer please.

**DOMSEC Livestreamed Events in 2021** A full programme of (over 25) events! See [www.domsec.org.uk](http://www.domsec.org.uk) or [www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk](http://www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk) to access the livestreams and click "Livestream" on the menu bar. **Next Saturday** 17 April 11-00a.m. to 1-00p.m. "Prayer in the Bible and the Bible in Prayer" (Canon John Idris).

**Please Note** If you wish to reserve a particular date or day for a Mass Intention, please note that Saturday and Sunday Masses and weekday Masses are already reserved for a particular intention for the next three months **until JULY**. Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date ( or nearest date ). Thank you

**Pastoral Visits** Please note that Fr. Neil is happy to call if you are continuing to self-isolate at home but would appreciate a visit. Please note that, except for emergencies, Fr. Neil will not call uninvited during the pandemic. **Please note: At present, the Sacrament of Reconciliation – by arrangement**