SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 1ST JUNE 2025

"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).

Mass Intentions this Sunday (1st June) Saturday (St. John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Michael Norhoyle (RIP) (B. O'Grady); 10-30 a.m. Patricia Phillips (RIP) (Anne Guest & family).

Weekday Mass Times Wednesday (June 4th) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph's) John Hickey (RIP) (Peter & Isabel); 11-00 a.m., (St. John Kemble) Lynn Barry (Sp. Int.); Thursday (5th) 9-30 a.m. John Hickey (RIP) (S.V.P.). Friday (6th) Shaun Elias (RIP) (The family).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (8th June – <u>PENTECOST</u>) Saturday (St. John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Terry Issac (RIP) (Mary); 10-30 a.m. Ouday Hikary (Sp. Int.) (The family).

<u>Mass Intentions</u> Please note Mass Intentions are now reserved until the beginning of August (weekdays) and the beginning of September (weekends) Please think several months ahead if you would like a Mass said for a loved one. At present, it takes about eight weeks for a reserved Mass to be celebrated.

Readers: This Sunday (1st June) 6-00 p.m. Sian Loynes; 10-30 a.m. Bridget Zambrano. Next Sunday (8th) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Stephen Evans

<u>Readers</u> Please come early so that you have the opportunity before Mass to look at the readings beforehand. If you are unable to keep your place on the rota please arrange for someone to take your place (!!).

<u>The Sacrament of Confirmation</u> Many thanks to all those who helped to make the Confirmation Mass and the Buffet in the Hall afterwards such a great success. We look forward to the next parish community events, including our annual International "Food Festival" (!) after Mass on Sunday 6th July and our First Holy Communion Mass on Sunday 13th July.

<u>Hall Caretaker</u> After many years as caretaker Sheila will be retiring at the beginning of June. If you know of someone who might be interested please have a word with a member of the Parish Hall Committee. We are very grateful to Sheila for her commitment to the work over past years.



<u>Candles:</u> Sacred Heart - Confirmation Candidates (Thanksgiving); Our Lady - John Hickey (RIP); St. Joseph - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza and the Sudan.

<u>Anniversaries</u> Liam Tilbrok (2010); John Hickey (2018); Moira Burke (2021); Allan Pughsley (2016); Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

<u>The Choir</u> We are looking for further members to join the choir. Please have a word with a present member for further information. Many thanks to the choir for the music at our Confirmation Mass. With a larger choir our options are also enlarged. Don't be shy!

<u>Gentle Reminder!</u> Please do not whisper (!) the congregational responses in the Mass – or leave it to others – they are to be <u>proclaimed!</u> (ie: "And with your spirit!")

<u>Bishop Mark Jabale</u> (RIP) Bishop Mark, Bishop of Menevia (2001 – 2008) died peacefully in retirement at Belmont Abbey (age 91). His Funeral Mass takes place this Thursday (5th June) at 12 noon in Belmont Abbey. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

<u>Churches Together Walk of Witness</u> Next Saturday (7th). Start 10-30 a.m. Orchard Place. Walk around town/Music (Hymns) in the Park Bandstand by Bethal Elim. (Weather permitting).

Parish Guild Meeting This Monday (2nd) at 1-00 p.m. in the Hall.

"Fleeting Shadows" A fictionalised account of the genuine attempt to establish Gnoll College ("The Western University of Great Britain") here in Neath in 1857 (referencing the real Neath characters involved) written by local author (!) our own Sandra Davies (co-author with Alan Boland of "St. Joseph's Parish: A Short History" – also still available!) copies of which will be available from the Sacristy from next weekend for £10 – all proceeds going to support CAFOD.

Health & Safety. There will shortly be a Fire Evacuation exercise from the church. To facilitate this we need to have volunteers to act as Fire Marshalls in every Mass to help evacuate the church. Please sign the list at the back of the church if you are able to help with this. Many thanks. Please note that because of visitors tripping over the up-turned pew kneelers we shall instead leave the kneelers down when not in use.

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £435-24 (plus Direct Debits); St. John Kemble - £62-05. Many thanks.

<u>First Holy Communion in 2025.</u> Regular attendance at Mass is an essential part of preparation for receiving this sacrament. Classes take place before Mass at 9-30a.m. The First Holy Communion Mass – Sunday 13th July.

<u>Volunteer Training Sessions</u> Do you volunteer with children or young people? Would you like to know more about protecting children from harm? The Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia is working with the Lucy Faithfull Foundation to deliver free "live" on-line training. Wednesday 11th June – Digital Resilience 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday 24th September - Understanding Harmful Sexual Behaviour 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday 12th November – Child sexual exploitation awareness 6 to 8 p.m. To book your place please contact <u>safeguarding@rcadc.org</u>

<u>The Archdiocese Safeguarding Team</u> are seeking to recruit a number of volunteers to act as "support persons" across Cardiff-Menevia. Full training and out of pocket expenses will be provided. You will need to apply for the role, attend an interview in June and training in September. Please contact us for further information on safeguarding@rcadc.org

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, Bridie Johnson, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Pat Day, Daniel John, Nora Reynolds, Adrian Macpherson-Jones, Roger Horton, Kath Davies, Paul Leaker, David Vaudin. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL - The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. 01639 643323 Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk