

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – The Second Sunday after Christmas

As announced at the Christmas Mass celebrations, the public celebration of Mass is suspended in our two churches ( except for funerals ) from Christmas Day through January ( unless the situation improves ) due to the pandemic. Please contact Fr.Neil if you would like to access the church for private prayer or for the Sacrament of Confession. The situation will be kept under review. Thankfully, over the last week the infection rate in Neath Port Talbot has fallen substantially, by nearly a third, from 953/1000,000 to 653/100,000. For this we thank God, and if the infection rate continues to fall we can look forward to resuming the public celebration of Mass at an earlier date. Please continue to pray for the good health and the safety of everyone at St.Joseph's and at St. John Kemble. ( **For online, streamed, Mass** in the Diocese, please see the websites of the Cathedral, Mumbles, Town Hill, Dunvant, Haverfordwest, amongst others ).

Please pray for those parishioners with the virus or having to self-isolate and those families who have lost loved ones in this pandemic. We continue to pray that through these sufferings and trials the Lord will bring us through to Resurrection and a New Pentecost.

**A Coronavirus Prayer.** " Lord Jesus Christ, You travelled through towns and villages ' curing every disease and illness'. At Your command, the sick were made well. Come now to our aid, in the midst of this global pandemic, and send down Your blessing and healing upon us and protect our healthcare workers. Bring us through to Resurrection and a New Pentecost. For Thy Name's sake. Amen".

**The Parish S.V.P Group/St.Joseph's Community Support Group/Legion of Mary (and others).** We are very grateful to all those who have kept in contact by phone and helped out with shopping and in other ways, often behind the scene and unknown to others, since the beginning of the first lockdown in March. **THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! N.B. If you are still self-isolating – this help is still available.**

**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. However - wearing masks and observing social distancing - this must be at your own risk (!). Except for emergencies, Fr.Neil will not call uninvited during the pandemic. **Please note: At present, the Sacrament of Reconciliation – by arrangement**

**Michael O'Hea (RIP)** Please remember Mike in your prayers whose Funeral Mass takes place at the Sacred Heart, Morriston on 14<sup>th</sup> January. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

**Anniversaries:** William Dooley (2006); Sharon Bradshaw (2010); Thomas Thomas (2011); Kimberly O'Neil (2007); Philip Hoptroff (2009); Michael O'Conner (2007); Eileén Williams (2016).

**Many thanks** to you all for the generous Christmas Collection – very much appreciated. Thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness. Deacon Jim joins me in thanking you for the many cards and gifts and Christmas greetings received over this Christmas period and we wish you all a much blessed and healthy New Year.

**The Members of the SVP** – wish to thank you all for your generous donations and gifts during this difficult time. We pray that we will soon be in a position to fulfil our commitments to you as a parish, and our wider circle of friends throughout the Diocese as soon as regulations allow, and we take the opportunity to wish you all a Happier and Healthy New Year.

**Many Thanks** to Chris and Babs, ( St.Joseph's ) and to Bella ( St.John Kemble ) for the beautiful flower arrangements and to all those who helped decorate the church for Christmas, and also to all our regular church cleaners and helpers to whom we are most grateful for all the faithful, unseen, work going on behind the scenes every week during the year. God bless you all!

**Driveway Appeal** Many thanks for the further donation to the Parish Funds/Driveway Appeal of £200. All donations gratefully received. We now have **£4,000** in the Driveway Fund. **Many thanks.**