

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 26th JANUARY 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).

VOCATIONS PRAYER Lord, make me a better person, more considerate towards others, more honest with myself, more faithful to You. Make me generous enough to want sincerely to do Your will whatever it may be. Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others. Grant Lord that those whom You call to enter the priesthood, diaconate or religious life may have the generosity to answer Your call, so that those who need Your help may find it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (26th January) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Fr. Peter Walton (RIP) (SPCD); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Ken & Betty Hopkins (RIP) (Lorna & Joe).

Weekday Mass Times Tuesday (28th) **9-45 a.m. Funeral Mass** Ina Hooper (RIP); Wednesday (29th) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph’s) Michele Bertani (RIP) (Stephens’ family); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Elaine Reynolds (S.V.P) Thursday (30th) **11-30 a.m. Funeral Mass** Susan Evans (RIP); Friday (31st) 9-30 a.m. Jack McGowan (RIP) (Deacon Jim and Marie).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (2nd February – **CANDLEMASS**) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Alan Boland (RIP) (The family); 10-30 a.m. Rose Williams (RIP) (Karen Campbell).

Readers: **This Sunday** (26th) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Stephen Evans. **Next Sunday** (2nd February) 6-00 p.m. Ceri McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Des Nicholas.

Readers 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 (!!).

Candles: Sacred Heart - Elizabeth Fluck (Sp.Int.) Our Lady – Alma Elias (RIP); St. Joseph – JEA (Sp.Int.)

Anniversaries Rose Jones (2006); Kathleen Morgan (2011); Edwina Hinnigan (2017); Terry Lloyd (2020); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Susan Evans (RIP) Please remember Susan in your prayers and the family at this time. Susan’s Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph’s this Thursday 30 January at 11-30 a.m. The coffin will be received into the church at 5-00 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

Ina (Catherine) Hooper (RIP) Please remember Ina in your prayers and the family at this time. Ina’s Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph’s this Tuesday 28th January at 9-45 a.m.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2025. Application Forms are available from Fr. Neil in the Sacristy after Mass for those wishing to be considered for either of these two Sacraments. Regular attendance at Mass is an essential part of preparation for receiving these sacraments.

Parish Hall Committee The Committee wish to thank everyone who were able to attend the afternoon of fun on Monday 20th. We had pleasure in giving Fr. Neil £220 toward the hall repairs. Many thanks.

Last Sunday’s Collection: £342-36 (plus Direct Debits) – SPUC £134-00. St. John Kemble - £62-00 -SPUC - £19-51. Many thanks.

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The Sick & Housebound If you know of someone who (at their request) would appreciate contact with the church through a home visit from the S.V.P. please contact Anne Guest, the Secretary on 07741283098 or Pat O'Connell for a visit from the Legion of Mary.

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, David and Nora Reynolds, Adrian Macpherson-Jones, Roger Horton, Kath Davies, Susan Evans, Paul Leaker, Sid Leaker. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

The Church Hall is available for private heir. If anyone is interested in booking the venue please contct Angela Healey on 01792 424168 or 07708105147

The Jubilee Year Please take a **FREE COPY!** of the" Companion Booklet – The Jubilee" (over 90 pages!) with prayers and information about the Jubilee Year – from the back of the church.

Lent Faith Sharing Group Last year Archbishop Mark made available the Lenten Study Booklet, " We Dare to Say" and many of you took copies to study privately at home. Archbishop Mark has asked if parishes would form faith sharing groups this Lent in the Jubilee Year to study this booklet to deepen our understanding of the Lord's Prayer. We would like to hold a session one afternoon each week during Lent. If interested, could you please indicate on the sheet at the back of the church which afternoon you could attend. If you did not take a copy last year, there are a few still available at the back of the church and copies will be available at the Lent sessions. Many thanks

ST.JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL If you have a child over 2 years of age or are new to the area and are looking for a school – look no further! St Joseph's has a loving, caring ethos to bring out the full potential of your child. Please contact the school on 01639 635099 for further details.

Piety Shop The shop is open from 9-45 to 10 -15 every Sunday morning. If you have particular requests Sheila may be able to put in a special order for you.

Parish Coffee Morning Every Thursday from 10-00 a.m. to 11-00 a.m.

Legion of Mary Every Tuesday evening at 4-45 p.m. in the Hall. New members very welcome. .

Retrouvaille is a Catholic ministry for marriages in difficulty. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on zoom – 27 February to 2 March email info@retrouvaille.org.uk or phone 07887 296 983 for other help and further information.

FOOD BANK - PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING to the Neath Food Bank at the back of the church - the products Food Banks need most: Tinned veg (peas and sweetcorn); tinned tuna and mackerel; brown, basmati and long grain rice; pulses (eg: kidney beans and chickpeas); grains (eg: couscous); easy cook noodles; tinned fruit (eg: pineapple slices); wholegrain cereals (eg: wheat biscuits); oat drinks and UHT milk. **THANK YOU**

PRAYER AFTER MASS *St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our defence 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 other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

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

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