

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 3rd November 2024

“ 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.

ASSISTED SUICIDE On 29 November Parliament will vote on whether to introduce Assisted Suicide into the NHS. To protect the most vulnerable in our society please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/contactmp for details of easy contact with MPs to register your opposition to the Leadbeater Assisted Suicide Bill. (and see posters).

Mass Intentions this Sunday (3rd November) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Peter Healey (RIP) (Angela); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Kathryn Woolley (RIP) (John Woolley).

We welcome **Archbishop Mark** to celebrate our 10-30a.m. Mass this Sunday. Please keep His Grace in your prayers in his responsibilities overseeing the new Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia.

Second Collection this Sunday The annual Sick & Retired Collection to support Diocesan Clergy now in retirement – Canon Laurence Pelosi, Canon Michael Fluck, Canon Michael Lewis, Canon Michael Smith amongst others. Please give generously – and take a Gift Aid form if you pay tax to increase the value of your donation. Many thanks.

Weekday Mass Times Wednesday (6th November) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph’s) Lavington Family (RIP) (Dennis Huxtable); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Dorothy Evans (RIP); Thursday (7th) 9-30 a.m. Denis Downey (RIP) (James & Glenda Cahill); Friday (8th November – The Saints of Wales) 9-30 a.m. Rev. David Chadwick (Ordination).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (10 November) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph’s) Katherine Sheehan (RIP) (S.V.P.); 10-30 a.m. Margaret Allen (RIP) (The family).

Readers: This Sunday (3rd November) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Peter Buckingham. **Next Sunday** (10th) 6-00 p.m. Ceri McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Sheila Williams

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 – Holy Souls; Our Lady – Holy Souls; St. Joseph – Parliament, Society and the Leadbeater Bill

Anniversaries Roger Bennett (2012); Gerald O’Brien (2005); Kathryn Woolley (2023); Leslie Collins (2007); Brendan McPeake (2020); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

S.V.P. Christmas Shoebox Appeal Many thanks to everyone who supported the appeal and also to the school. Last Sunday **220 (!)** boxes were collected from the hall for children in need in Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. Many thanks to Angela for all the hard work co-ordinating the distribution and collecting in of all the boxes.

Congratulations and all good wishes to Cynthia (Cronin) celebrating her 90th birthday this Saturday. Every blessing on your special day!

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Month of Holy Souls If you would like loved ones remembered at every Mass during November please submit a November Dead List enclosed in a Holy Souls envelope – available at the back of the church. **Please note** - there is no requirement to enclose a stipend (money) in the envelope. Mass stipends for dates in November will continue to be received in the usual way.

Diary Dates! (i) Please keep in your prayers Luke and Meinir who will be received into the Church at our 10-30 a.m. Mass on Sunday 17 November. (ii) Sunday 1st December at 5-00 p.m. Our Lady of the Assumption, Briton Ferry – A Christmas Concert the Cancer Challenge Singers Tickets £5-00 (see Geraint Jones); (iii) Sunday 15 December – Childrens’ Party (for everyone!) after the 10-30 Mass – in the weeks beforehand please sign the list of children attending and donations of food. (iv) Sunday 22 December at 6-00 p.m. Christmas Lessons & Carols in church followed by refreshments in the Hall.

Christmas Raffle We are grateful to Peter for once again arranging the Christmas Raffle (to be drawn at the Christmas Party – 15 December). Raffle tickets will be available from the back of the church from next Sunday.

Christmas Flowers Donations toward the cost of DECORATING THE CHURCH AT Christmas gratefully received. Please see Chris, Babs or Paula.

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.

The New Lectionary. From Advent Sunday we shall be using the new Lectionary for our readings in church with a new translation of the biblical text – thus the congregational Sunday Missals will become out-of-date. If you would like to order a new three-year Missal or the one year Missal (Year C for 2024-25) copies are available for you to look in the sacristy and a list for you to order a new Missal. **Please sign up by this weekend** to receive your copy in time for Advent. (Copies can also be ordered later on).

Last Sunday’s Collection: £386-35 (plus Direct Debits) plus £500 for parish hall funds from the Parish Guild (see below). Many thanks. All donations very gratefully received. St.John Kemble £39-00, Many thanks.

Concert Evening. The Parish Hall Committee would like to thank everyone for their generosity and support of the recent Entertainment Evening. The feedback we had was that everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time. The funds raised toward the cost of the hall repairs was the great total of £500.Thank you again.

The Rev. Deacon David Chadwick. Please remember David in your prayers who will be ordained to the Priesthood next Saturday (9th) at the Oratory in York. (David was a student at Aberystwyth University) We pray for God’s blessing on him and his future ministry.

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 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 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.

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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