

## The Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 17th September 2023

“ 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 )

Prayer for Ukraine ( from the Bishops 'Conference ) “*Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, Mother of God, We ask you to intercede for the people of Ukraine, For their government and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood beside your Son, Suffering on the Cross at Calvary. Give them strength and courage, Through faith, hope and justice. May we, in our turn, Support them through prayer and generosity, That lives may be saved, the injured healed, that the dead may rest in peace, And that war will end in peace*”

Mass Intentions this Sunday ( 17th September ) Saturday 4-00 p.m. ( St.John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00p.m. Benito Fiorelli (RIP) ( Brendan ); Sunday 10-30 a.m. Eileen & Bill Whiting (RIP).

Weekday Mass Intentions Tuesday (19<sup>th</sup>) St. John Kemble 11-00 a.m. Votive Mass of St. John Kemble and the Reception of Grant Aneurin Jones into the Catholic Church; Wednesday ( 20<sup>th</sup>) 9-30 a.m. Maureen O'Grady (RIP) (Brendan) Thursday (21<sup>st</sup>) 9-30 a.m. Mary Gregory ( Sp.Int.) ( Lorna & Joe O'Brien); Friday (22<sup>nd</sup>) Ernesto Pascua (RIP) ( Isabel & Peter ).

Reception of Grant Jones into the Catholic Church. Please remember Grant in your prayers as he is received into the full communion of the Catholic Church at our special Mass at St. John Kemble on Tuesday at 11-00 a.m.

Mass Intentions next Sunday ( 24<sup>th</sup> September ) Saturday 4-00 p.m. ( St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's ) Laurence Macpherson- Jones (RIP) and Adrian ( 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday ). Sunday 10-30 a.m. S.V.P. Members ( Sp.Int.)

Harvest Sunday Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Gifts of non-perishable food items gratefully received to be placed around the Altar for distribution to those in need. Also the CAFOD Harvest Collection.

Mass Intentions Please note, weekend Mass intentions are already reserved into the middle of December and weekday Mass intentions into November. Please be thinking ahead by several months if you would like a Mass intention for a loved one on a particular day/date – even so, some dates are reserved a year ahead and if so Mass will be said on the nearest date available to the request. Thank you.

Readers: This Sunday ( 17<sup>th</sup>) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Mary Walker. Next Sunday (24<sup>th</sup>) 6-00p.m. Paula Macpherson-Jones. 10-30 a.m. Bethan Lee. **Please take the opportunity to arrive early and look at (and prepare) the readings beforehand. Thank you.**

Candles: Sacred Heart – Private Intention ( MI ); Our Lady – Joan Michael ( Sp. Int. ); St. Joseph – Private Special Intention.

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Maureen O'Grady (2014); Maureen Butler (2014); Maria Baker (2005); Johanna Dobrzanski (2010); Graham Francis (2003); Elizabeth Jenkins (2000). *.Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Church Floor Sanding/Polishing and New Carpet. We are very grateful to Nuala for all the hard work obtaining quotations and overseeing the sanding/polishing of the floor ( and fitting of the new carpet on 5<sup>th</sup> October ) as our “site-manager” of the project. Many thanks also to our valiant team of strong-armed volunteers moving all the pews ( 36 of them! ) from one side of the church to the other – and then back again ( and back again! etc). Many thanks also to the cleaners for cleaning and tidying the church and returning everything back to its right place. Many thanks also for the anonymous donation of £1,000 towards the work on the floor.

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**Cleaning Team – St. John Kemble** It is proposed that once a month - after the first Wednesday Mass each month? we group clean the church – and have fish ‘n chips afterwards!! If acceptable, our first session will be after Mass on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October ( St. Francis ).

**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.

**Defibrillator** The Defibrillator has now been installed. Thank you to all those who have signed up for one of the training sessions. We hope to offer one of three possible time slots for this training session to be held in the Parish Hall – dates to be announced. Thank you to all who have generously donated to the purchase and the further donation of £60-00 which has raised the magnificent sum of £2,037-56. Many thanks.

**Legion of Mary** Every Tuesday evening at 6-00 p.m. in the Hall. New members very welcome. Please come along.

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

**First Holy Communion Classes** resume at 9-30 a.m. next Sunday in the Parish Hall before the 10-30 a.m. Mass. Please keep in your prayers – leuan Rees, Noah Wheatley, George Challenger, Henri Afolabi, Kaitlin Edwards, Keris Edwards, Bella Tariq, Luke Tariq The date of the First Holy Communion Mass will be dependent on progress (and attendance ) at the classes. Many thanks to Carolynn, Elaine and Mary for their hardwork and commitment to the children.

**Kathleen Rees ( RIP)** Please remember Kathleen and the family in your prayers. Kathleen's Funeral Service is this Wednesday (20<sup>th</sup>) at 3-15 p.m. at Margam Crematorium.

**Wedding Bells!** Congratulations to Danielle McAteer and Clifford Williams who will be married here in St. Joseph's on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Please remember them in your prayers.

**Holy Baptism** Please keep in your prayers Mia Evans who will be baptised into the Church next Saturday morning.

**Last Sunday's Collection:** St. Joseph's £300-73 ( plus Direct Debits ) – Education ( £56-61). Many thanks also for the anonymous donation of £1,000 toward the cost of work on the floor. St John Kemble – £28-00 – Education ( £15-00 ). Many thanks. **Second Collection** This Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – Home Missions. **Next Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>** – Parish S.V.P. Group. **October 1<sup>st</sup>** – CAFOD Harvest ( and our Harvest Festival ).

**Parish Committee/Guild Charity Evening** THIS MONDAY (18<sup>th</sup> September) at 7-00 p.m. with the Water Wheel Singers, prize bingo and light refreshments. Cost of tickets £7-50. Please see Angela Healey or Peter Buckingham for tickets.

**MacMillan Coffee Morning** ( and regular Parish Coffee morning ) Thursday 28 September 10-00 a.m.

**Christmas Shoe Box Appeal** For those wishing to take part in this appeal we have just a few weeks left before the shoe boxes are to be delivered to the local organisers. There are still some leaflets at the back of the church, or if you wish to donate, **a member of the S.V.P. will make up a box on your behalf.** Thank you.

**S.V.P. Matthew Mulcahy Sponsored Walk** A big thank you to all those who supported SVP members on their annual Matthew Mulcahy walk last Sunday in aid of the Sudan Baby Feeding program and St. Vincent School for street children. The amount raised here in St. Joseph's ( once all the sponsorship money has been collected ) will be a little over £500. The overall figure for Menevia should be in excess of £2,000. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

**TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL** - The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. 01639 643323  
Parish Website – [www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk)

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