

The Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 10th 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 (10th September) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Ann Moruzzi (RIP) (Remo). **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Milly Earle (RIP) (Des).

Weekday Mass Intentions Wednesday (13th) 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Grant (Sp.Int.); Thursday (14th) 9-30 a.m. Ross Bowen (RIP) (Angela & Geoff Bradley).

Mass Intentions next 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).

Readers: This Sunday (10th) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Bridget Zambrano. Next Sunday (17th) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Mary Walker. **Please take the opportunity to arrive early and look at (and prepare) the readings beforehand. Thank you.**

Candles: Sacred Heart – Ian Thompson (Sp.Int.); Our Lady – Elizabeth Fluck (Sp.Int.); St. Joseph – Billy O'Connell (recovery).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Steven Nash (2002); David Barry (2013); Clementina Underwood (2006); Bernard Madden (2016); Elizabeth Wilson (2007); Beryl Crago (2019); Kevin Widlake (2021); David Hunt (2003); Jean Williams (2022)..*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 5th 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.

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 4th 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.

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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 – Ieuan 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.

Parish Safe-Guarding. Safe guarding of children and vulnerable adults is of the highest priority. We are very grateful to Mrs Anne Guest who has taken on the role of Parish Safe-Guarding Officer. Anne will be reviewing and up-dating the paperwork of all those who work with (or visit) children and vulnerable adults on behalf of the parish. If you have any concerns about safe-guarding issues, Anne can be contacted on 07741283098.

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

Reception in to the Catholic Church A few people have expressed an interest in being received in to the Catholic Church. If you are thinking about this please have a word with Fr. Neil

Feast of St. John Kemble The Mass will now be deferred until Tuesday 19 September at which we will receive Grant into the full communion of the Catholic Church. Please keep Grant in your prayers.

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £466-63 (plus Direct Debits); St John Kemble – £43-20 Many thanks. **Second Collection** this Sunday (10th) for **Education Sunday** in support of the provision of catholic education in our own Diocese. **Next Sunday 17th** – Home Missions. **Sunday 24th** – Parish S.V.P. Group. **October 1st** – CAFOD Harvest (and our Harvest Festival).

Parish Committee/Guild Charity Evening on Monday 18th 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 six 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.

The S.V.P The St. Joseph's SVP Conference's main work is supporting house-bound fellow parishioners. If you know of anyone who would appreciate our support or a visit – and gives their permission for us to approach them, or if you would like to join us in our work, please contact Anne Guest on 07741283098 and leave a message. Thank you.

S.V.P. Matthew Mulcahy Sponsored Walk in support of the St. Vincent School in South Sudan, on Sunday 10th September starting at the Brangwyn Hall at 2-00 p.m.. Please join us in our walk to Our Lady Star of the Sea (and back) and/or **please sign the sponsorship form** at the back of the church. Thank you.

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, Kathryn Woolley (Glynneath), George Johnson, Cheryl Ford, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Geraint Jones, Fr. Neil, Pat Day, Daniel John, George McIntyre, David Reynolds, Ian Thompson, Adrian Macpherson-Jones. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

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
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