

23rd Sunday in Ordinary time – 4th September 2022

“ 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).

AN INVITATION FROM THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

N.B. RETURNING TO MASS – PENTECOST SUNDAY (EXTRACT) “ The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply” – “ when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation” – “ Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person”

Mass Intentions this Sunday (4th September – We are very grateful to Canon Paul Watson for celebrating our Masses over this weekend) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St.John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Deceased members of the Veale Family (RIP) (Nuala & Martin); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Norman Evans (RIP) (J. Evans).

Weekday Mass Intentions: No weekday celebration of Mass.

Mass Intentions next Sunday: (11th September) **Saturday** (St.John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Sion Evans (RIP); (St. Joseph’s) 6-00p.m. Parish & Peopler; **Sunday** 10-30a.m. David & Hannah Davies (Sp.Int.).

Readers: This Sunday (4th September) 6-00 p.m. Nora Reynolds; 10-30 a.m. Bethan Lee. **Next Sunday** (11th September) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Tommy Parel.

Canon Paul Watson is the Parish Priest at St. David’s Priory in Swansea and we are very grateful to him for celebrating our Masses over this weekend both at St. John Kemble and at St. Joseph’s.

Candles: Sacred Heart – Brenda Grant (Good Health); Our Lady – Barrie & Gabrielle Reynolds (RIP); St. Joseph – Fr.Neil. (Good Health).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Roy Timmins (2002); Ann Green (2006); Evelyn Waters (2014); Ernest Siejka (2009); Annie Cochrane (2004); Ann Moruzzi (2020); Steven Nash (2004); David Barry (2013); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Clothes Exchange Party Update your wardrobe for £5-00! Yes, Ladies you can exchange 5 items of good quality clothing for 5 new to you items. Where? St. Joseph’s Parish Hall Saturday 17th September from 2-5 p.m.. This is just too good an opportunity to miss out on. Items of clothing to be exchanged can be dropped off at the hall on Friday 16th September between 6-7 p.m. (S.J.P.G.)

Reliquary of Relics of St. Bernadette of Lourdes at St. Joseph’s Cathedral on Monday 12 and Tuesday 13th September. It is possible for individuals and groups (perhaps sharing a car) to register attendance on the Relic Tour website stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour/ For general enquiries go to contact@stbernadette.org.uk. **Pilgrims who have not registered will not be turned away.** Further details to follow (Please see poster).

S.V.P. Appeal If you have any pre-loved trainers in good condition for men and ladies they will find a good home at Mission 25-35 who hold a breakfast club for the homeless every Saturday morning. Please bring them along or contact Angela on 01792 424168. Thank you.

Legion of Mary Meetings suspended until Wednesday 7th September at 6-00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. A warm welcome to new members.

The Synodal Process – Passing Christ’s Love On The Diocese of Menevia have published the replies from the parishes to the Synod questions. (The full response is available on the Parish Website). The Diocesan response to the Synod recommends that parishes reach out more to their communities. At our meeting on Monday 18th July, we discussed how St. Joseph’s could respond. One idea was a drop-in coffee morning as an opportunity to meet more people - on **Thursdays in the Parish Hall from 10-00a.m. to 11-00 a.m.** .It is a social occasion where everyone is welcome to come along, parishioners and non-parishioners alike. We encourage you to come along and please mention it to, and bring along, any friends and neighbours who would enjoy themselves there. Another idea was to encourage parishioners who have not yet returned to Mass following Covid, or those who have lapsed, by taking an extra copy of the Parish Newsletter and delivering to them so that they know what is happening at St. Joseph’s. Also, some people’s lift to church may no longer be available so if you think of anyone in that situation, perhaps you could consider offering them a lift. (The Parish Synodal Co-ordinators).

Headteacher Post St. Teilo’s Catholic Primary School, Tenby, are looking to appoint a full-time Headteacher starting 2nd January 2023. Salary: ISR L7 – L13. Full job description and person specification available through St. Teilo’s School Website <https://stteilos.wales/head-teacher-position> plus a video of the school etc on You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJOHvZjvOso>

Church Garden Toward the Grotto the Crab Apple Tree this year is full of apples (for making jam?). Please help yourself – take as many as you can. First come first served!

Last Sunday’s Collection: St. Joseph’s – (21/8) £345-11 (plus Direct Debits); (28/8) £310-32 (plus Direct Debits and many thanks for the “anonymous” donation of £300-00). St. John Kemble – £49-00. Many thanks.

Second Collections Next Sunday – 11th September (**Education Sunday**) the annual Diocesan Collection in support of the work of Education in the Diocese. Sunday 18th September – **Home Missions Sunday**. Sunday 25th September – **Parish S.V.P. Collection**.

Fr. Neil – recovering well and many thanks for the many cards, prayers and good wishes – all much appreciated.

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, Peggy Swan (Glynneath), Jane Boland, George Johnson, Nancy Morris, Cheryl Ford, Jason Saunders, Stephen Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O’Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Margaret Jeffrey, Dennis Taylor, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Tim Murnane. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

PRAYER AT THE BEGINNING OF THE DAY

Lord, as I step out into this day in all the frailties and imperfections of my nature, I do not know what this day will bring. I do not know if You will bring me to the end of this day. I thank You for the life You have given me thus far, and I ask Your forgiveness that I have presumed upon, abused and violated Your many graces and mercies to me.

As I step out into this day, grant me, I pray, the grace of a deeper and deeper surrender to Your Will, a letting-go of the world, and to see Jesus always in front of me as the ultimate Goal beyond all the events of today. Grant me the grace to rest securely and serenely in Your Presence, and not to be overthrown and confused by the sudden changes of life. I am a frail earthen vessel, a phial of blood, a clod of earth. Help me toward a greater respect for my fragility – that I “hang like a drop of dew upon a blade of grass” entirely dependent upon Your Will and Favour.

Help me to live from each heart-beat and not to presume beyond it. Help me not to “grab” at what surrounds me and yet always to work harder in doing good, and with a greater commitment. May my walk today be, in every step, a pilgrimage in Thee. I do not know what storms may break upon this day or how troubled a sea it may be. Bless the source and the spring of this day, and bring me safely into the harbour at the eve of the day – that I may safely anchor in the haven with Thee. Glory to Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

Parish History Booklet Copies of the reprint of the History of the Parish are still available if you would like to pick up a copy from the back of the church - £5-00