

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Sunday 7th February 2021 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RESUMPTION OF PARISH MASS

We give thanks to God that the coronavirus infection rate in Neath-Port Talbot continues to fall from just over 1,000/100,000 (the highest in England & Wales) just before Christmas to (!) **100/100,000** in the last few days. A real answer to prayer! It is great that once again we are able to meet together in the celebration of Holy Mass. **We have been asked by the Diocese to, once again, make very clear the absolute importance of continuing to strictly observe all the necessary precautions.** These precautions continue to apply even if you have received the Coronavirus Vaccine. Please wear a mask at all times, sanitise your hands before entering the church and on leaving the church. Please continue to observe social distancing, especially when invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion. **Please do not walk about the church or against the direction of the arrows** and please do not bunch up with others on entering and leaving the church or gather in a group outside of church **but continue to keep six feet apart at all times.**

Jason Saunders Julie and Stephen thank you for your prayers for Jason who was put into an induced coma in hospital for three weeks and on a ventilator. Jason – who still has a long way to go – came home on Friday!

Please continue to pray for the good health and the safety of everyone at St. Joseph's and at St. John Kemble. Please pray for those parishioners with the virus or having to self-isolate and those families who have lost loved ones in this pandemic. Please also remember all carers, doctors and nurses at this difficult and challenging time. We continue to pray that through these sufferings and trials the Lord will bring us through to Resurrection and a New Pentecost.

Many will have chosen, following government guidance, to stay away from attendance at Mass until the present lockdown restrictions are lifted. **For online/streamed Mass** in the Diocese, please see the websites of the Cathedral, Mumbles, Town Hill, Dunvant, Haverfordwest, amongst others.

WARNING! A safeguarding alert has been reported by CSAS that the online game “**Avakin Life**” has been/is a grooming platform. Two million people currently use the game – half a million using it every day.

YOUNG PEOPLE (age 18 – 30) A zoom discussion group for catholic young adults meeting on Monday evenings. Get to know other catholic young people in the Diocese. Please contact Fr. Matt Roche-Saunders at vocations@menevia.org for more information. Also check out <https://acutisproject.com/events/> providing free digital resources and training for young Catholics.

DOMSEC Livestreamed Events in 2021 A full programme of (over 25) events! See www.domsec.org.uk or www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk to access the livestreams and click “Livestream” on the menu bar. The next talk – **Creation and the Revelation of the Trinity in Genesis** (Fr.Liam Bradley) Saturday 20 February 11-00a.m. to 1-00p.m.

The Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill Please pick up a letter (on the way out of church) from Archbishop George Stack outlining very serious concerns that this Bill will remove the rights of parents to decide the right moment (and language) to discuss love and human sexuality with their children. **ACT NOW!** See <http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/welshparents?tmpl=component&print=1>

Mass Intentions this Sunday (7th February) St. John Kemble: **Saturday** 4-00p.m. NO MASS 6-00p.m James O'Donnell (RIP) (Ann-Marie O'Donnell); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Parish & People; 10-30a.m. Annie & William Cochrane (RIP) (Jean Evans);

PLEASE NOTE – To all stewards, readers and cleaners. **THERE IS NO OBLIGATION TO COME TO CHURCH IF YOU DO NOT FEEL SAFE OR COMFORTABLE TO DO SO.** Please let Fr. Neil know so that he can arrange a replacement. Thank you.

Readers: This Sunday (7th) 6-00p.m. Sian Loynes; 8-00a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30a.m. Volunteer please. **Next Sunday** 6-00p.m. Maureen MacAteer; 8-00a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30a.m. Barbara Hunt.

Stewarding This Sunday (7th) 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30 a.m. Luke and Lena. **Next Sunday** (14th) 6-00p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30a.m. John, Aimee & Olivia.

Cleaning Teams. **This Sunday** (7th) 6-00p.m. Sian & Volunteer please; 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30 a.m. Joan & Ann. **Next Sunday** (14th) 6-00p.m. Volunteers please. 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30a.m. Volunteers please.

Weekday Mass Times Wednesday (10th) 9-30a.m. Albert & Bridie Shackleton (RIP) (Mary Addis); Thursday (11th) 9-30 a.m. Aldo Vicari (RIP) (Remo Moruzzi).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (14th) St. John Kemble **Saturday** 4-00p.m. NO MASS. St. Joseph's 6-00p.m. Paddy Clifford (RIP). **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Laurence Macphearson-Jones (RIP) (Adrian and Paula); 10-30a.m. Sidney James (RIP) (Rosemary Insole).

Ash Wednesday The Ash Wednesday liturgy will be adapted and ashes sprinkled upon the crown of the head (not marking/touching the forehead). Also available, **A Service for use with Families in Lockdown at Home** please pick up a copy on the way out of church.

St. John Kemble It is intended that the celebration of Mass will resume on Ash Wednesday.

Candles The Sacred Heart - Jacki Jaynes (RIP). Our Lady – Harold Jenkins (Special Intention).

Alan Bolland (RIP) Please remember Alan in your prayers, and the family at this time. Alan's Funeral Mass will take place here, in St. Joseph's, on Tuesday 16th February at 11-30 a.m. Funeral attendance by invitation only (because of pandemic restrictions). *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Iain Davies (2009); William Jelley (2010); Joan Thomas (2017); Mabel Carroll (2000); Kit Pugsley (2005); Catherine Davies (2006); Joan Linciano (2019); Hugh Tanner (2016); Christopher Abell; Mary Martin (2001); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Thank you for last Sunday's Collection – St. Joseph's £752-62 (plus Direct Debits) White Flower Appeal £95-84. Thank you. **The Second Collection this weekend** (7th) the first of the two collections in the year in support of the **Sick & Retired Clergy.** 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 and all those who are self-isolating because of the Pandemic. Especially at this time, Jason Saunders, Tess Court, Gillian Boland, Marjorie Grant, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Donie O'Connell, Harold Jenkins. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

Pastoral Visits Please note that Fr. Neil is happy to call if you are continuing to self-isolate at home but would appreciate a visit. However - wearing masks and observing social distancing - this must be at your own risk (!). Except for emergencies, Fr. Neil will not call uninvited during the pandemic. **Please note: At present, the Sacrament of Reconciliation – by arrangement**

Driveway Appeal Many thanks for the further (anonymous) donation to the Parish Funds/Driveway Appeal of £100. All donations gratefully received. We now have **£4,725** in the Driveway Fund. **Many thanks.**