

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Sunday 31st January 2021 – Fourth 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 187/100,000 in the last few days. 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.**

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, Duvant, Haverfordwest, amongst others.

A Coronavirus Prayer. " Lord Jesus Christ, You travelled through towns and villages ' curing every disease and illness'. At Your command, the sick were made well. Come now to our aid, in the midst of this global pandemic, and send down Your blessing and healing upon us and protect our healthcare workers. Bring us through to Resurrection and a New Pentecost. For Thy Name's sake. Amen".

PLEASE NOTE – ST. JOHN KEMBLE It has been decided to continue the suspension of the celebration of Mass at St. John Kemble, Glynneath until it is felt safe to return to Mass.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (31st) St. John Kemble **Saturday** 4-00p.m. NO MASS. St. Joseph's 6-00p.m. Bridget Flaherty (RIP) (Brendan O'Grady). **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Terry Lloyd (RIP) (Damian, Clare & family); 10-30a.m. Nancy and Dennis Murphy (RIP) (Maureen Pitt).

Mass Intentions next 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 (31st) 6-00p.m. Ceri MacAteer; 8-00a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30a.m. Des Nicholas; **Next Sunday** (7th) – 6-00p.m. Sian Loynes; 8-00a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30a.m. Sheila Williams

Stewarding This Sunday (31st) 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30 a.m. John, Aimee & Olivia.. **Next Sunday** (7th) 6-00p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30a.m. Luke & Lena.

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

Weekday Mass Times Tuesday (2nd February) CANDLEMAS 6-30p.m. Lilian Jones (RIP) (Karen& Doug); Wednesday NO MASS. Thursday 4th February 9-30 a.m. Norman Evans (RIP) (Jean Evans);

Candles The Sacred Heart - Stan May (RIP).

Maureen Phillips (RIP). Please remember Maureen in your prayers, and the family. Maureen has been a resident at the Gnoll Park Nursing Home for several years and her Funeral Mass will take place at the Sacred Heart Church in Morrision – details to be confirmed. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Dorian Schaffer (RIP). Please remember in your prayers Dorian Schaffer (RIP) age 25, cousin of Carolyn whose funeral took place on Thursday 28th January in Austria. (Thank you. Carolyn) *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: Terry Lloyd (2020); Luisa Salmi (2016); Josephine Bray (2005); Elizabeth Ley (2011); Antonietta Bester (2012); Ann Buddy (2010); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Please Note If you wish to reserve a particular date or day for a Mass Intention, please note that Saturday and Sunday Masses and weekday Masses are already reserved for a particular intention until the end of March (Palm Sunday – the beginning of Holy Week). Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date (or nearest date) – in other words, from Easter and beyond. Thank you.

Thank you for last Sunday's Collection – St. Joseph's £913-84 (plus Direct Debits); St.John Kemble £110-00.Thank you. **The Second Collection this weekend (31stJanuary)** the Annual **White Flower Appeal** in support of the SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children). **Next Sunday** – the Second Collection, the first of the two collections in support of the Sick & Retired Clergy. Thank you.

Message from SPUC Respond to Welsh Government's Consultation to stop Home Abortions.

The Welsh Government is holding a consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send dangerous abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortions at home. We need as many pro-life supporters as possible to complete the Welsh Government's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing paper which gives a step by step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/Wales-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>. The consultation ends on 23 February 2021.

The Parish S.V.P Group/St.Joseph's Community Support Group/Legion of Mary (and others). We are very grateful to all those who have kept in contact by phone and helped out with shopping and in other ways, often behind the scene and unknown to others, since the beginning of the first lockdown in March. **THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! N.B. If you are still self-isolating – this help is still available.**

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, Alan Boland, Gillian Boland, Marjorie Grant, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins. 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**