

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

The Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath, SA11 1TG. Phone – 01639 643323

Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Sunday 25th April 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Year of St. Joseph A daily prayer to St. Joseph. *“Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became a man. Blessed St. Joseph, to us too, show yourself to be a father, and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen”*

Mass Intentions this Sunday (25th April) **Saturday** (St. John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Gwyneth Larcombe (RIP) (Elias Family); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Florence Selwood (RIP) (Martin & Nuala Rees) 10-30a.m. Alan Boland (RIP) (Remo & family).

Weekday Mass Intentions Wednesday (28th) 9-30 a.m. Alan Boland (RIP) (Philipa, Marcus & Grace); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Mr. Valummelmalayil (RIP); Thursday (29th April) 9-30 a.m. Dorothy Evans (RIP).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (2nd May) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Alan Boland (RIP) (Elias Family); **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Mary Pauline Sullivan (RIP) (Pauline, Margaret & families); 10-30a.m. Garfield and Maureen Francis (RIP) (Susan, Leyton & family).

.Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Anita Gore (2019); Annette Powell (2005); Russell Palfrey (2015); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Canon Dick Byron (RIP) Chaplain to Stella Maris Convent. Canon Byron died on Thursday after a short spell in hospital. Canon Byron was for a short while (in the late 80s) parish priest here in Neath. Please remember him in your prayers. Funeral arrangements to be announced. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Candles: Our Lady – Scott Dale (Good health);

Second Collection – this Sunday 25th April (“Good Shepherd/Vocations Sunday”) The Diocesan Priests’ Training Fund.

Driveway Appeal We now have the magnificent sum of **£50,185** (including gift aid) in the Driveway Appeal Fund. All donations gratefully received. Please remember that if you gift aid, an additional 25% is added to the value of your donation. We hope to raise a further (approx.) £10,000 in the next few months and to employ the services of a surveyor to design and cost tarmacking (and draining) the driveway/carpark and installing some form of lighting for the driveway/carpark. Thank you to all who have so generously donated to this Appeal. **Many thanks.**

Church Garden and Grounds Donations toward the cost of shrubs and flowers gratefully received. Many thanks for the “anonymous” donation of £500 (plus gift aid) and further gifts totalling £30. All donations gratefully received. We hope, over the next few years (God willing) to establish a mature garden of hardy perennials and shrubs as well as annual bedding plants and wild flowers. As some of you will know a wide variety of birds already visit the grounds and (since last October) a rabbit has taken up residence in the garden and (miraculously?) has (thus far!) survived the foxes on their nightly visits. In addition to the honey bees in the sanctuary roof, the squirrels and occasional hedgehog visits there are also (I fear!) bats in the presbytery roof. ***“ O all ye works of the Lord, O bless the Lord! To Him be highest glory and praise for ever!”*** Many thanks to Kevin, Chris, Martin, Nuala & Mary for all their hard work in the garden.

Church Garden Pond! If there is any one with the expertise on how to install a pond – mistakes to avoid etc and willing to oversee the project (with help), please have a word with Fr. Neil. Thank you.

DBS Checks As we look forward to a relaxation of social restrictions and the two-metre rule, please be reminded that all those working with children and vulnerable adults in the life of the parish must have DBS certification. Most of our volunteers have recently had their paper work updated but you may be contacted **directly** by the Diocesan Sage Guarding Officer, Mr Morgan Beake, if any of the necessary paperwork remains to be completed. Many thanks to Maria Beesley for undertaking on our behalf this demanding role in ensuring that we remain compliant with rapidly changing regulations to keep everybody safe.

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 (25th) 6-00p.m. Nora Reynolda; 8-00a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 Mary Walker. **Next Sunday (2nd May)** 6-00p.m. Ceri McAteer; 8-00 a.m. Gregory Page;10-30a.m. Des Nicholas.

Stewarding: This Sunday (25th) 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher & Gregory. 10-30 a.m. John, Aimee & Olivia. **Next Sunday (2nd May)** 6-00 p.m. Angela & Geraint. 8-00 a.m. Christopher and Gregory. 10-30a.m. Luke & Lena

Cleaning Teams. This Sunday (25th) 6-00p.m. Sian and volunteers please. 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30 a.m. Volunteers please. **Next Sunday (2nd May)** 6-00p.m. Maralyn & volunteer please; 8-00 a.m. Martin & Nuala. 10-30a.m. Joan and Ann;

ENVELOPE BOXES (from April 2021-22) – these are now available as you leave via the Lady Chapel. If you do not already regularly donate to the church through the church envelope scheme and would like to do so, please see Robert Grant for a box. Many thanks.

Many thanks - for last Sunday's Collection (St.Joseph's) of £459-30 (plus direct debits), and of £45-60 (St.John Kemble).

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. **Four talks on the Holy Spirit** by Fr Matthew Roach-Saunders on successive Tuesday nights from 6-30 – 8-30 p.m. on April 27th, May 4th, 11th and 18th. Prepare for the Coming of the Holy Spirit!

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 for the next three months **until JULY**. Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date (or nearest date). Thank you

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.

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, Andrew Jenkins, Jason Saunders, Tess Court, Marjorie Grant, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Maureen Pitt. 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. Please note that, except for emergencies, Fr.Neil will not call uninvited during the pandemic. **Please note: At present, the Sacrament of Reconciliation – by arrangement**

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".