

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 19th February 2023

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

This Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) marks the beginning of Lent, a forty day pilgrimage to Holy Week and Easter. We shall follow the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at **6-00 p.m.** in St. Joseph's and on Saturdays at **3-30 p.m.** in St. John Kemble. Our **Lenten Deanery Station Mass** (celebrated by Archbishop Mark O'Toole) will take place at St. Joseph's, Port Talbot, on Thursday 2nd March at 7-00 p.m. We pray that this Holy Season may be a special time of grace for us.

“ 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 (19th February) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00 p.m. Peter & Brenise Derrick (RIP) (Mary & Ross); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Jean Wallis (RIP) (Anne-Marie O'Donnell).

Weekday Mass Intentions: ASH WEDNESDAY (22nd) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph's) Michael & Dorothy Walsh (RIP) (Kathleen & Family); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Peggy Swan (RIP) (June & John); 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Norman Evans (RIP) (J.Evans); **Thursday** (23rd) 9-30 a.m. William Hardie (RIP) (Karen & Doug); **Friday** (24th) 9-30 a.m. Bill Hopkins (RIP) (Sandra).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (26th February 2023) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00 p.m. Dennis Taylor (RIP) (Brendan O'Grady); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Stuart Michael (RIP) (Peter May & boys).

Readers: This Sunday (19th) 6-00 p.m. Caroline Thomas; 10-30 a.m. Des Nicholas. **Next Sunday** (26th) 6-00 p.m. Lorna Halloran; 10-30 a.m. Bernadette Payne; **Please take the opportunity to arrive early and look at (and prepare) the reading beforehand.**

Candles: Sacred Heart – Christopher and Marshall Abell (RIP); Our Lady – Ben (Healing); St. Joseph – Billy MacStay (Good Health).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Bridget Sagatis (2009); Bridget Mullane (2009); Howell Gwyn (2016); Roland Webb (2020); David Palfrey (2014); Margaret Bevan (2006); Stanley May (2008); Lilian Foundy (2000); Julia McGrath (2002); Lynda Bennett (2005); Clive Roberts (2011); Robert Turner (2001); Harold Booth (2006). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

John Carson Morris (RIP) Please remember Carson in your prayers and the family at this time. Funeral Service here in St. Joseph's, Thursday 2nd March at 10-15 a.m. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen.*

Martin Morrissey (RIP) Please remember Martin in your prayers and the family at this time. Funeral Service here in St. Joseph's, Friday 3rd March at 10-00 a.m.

First Holy Communion July 2023. Regular attendance at Mass is essential to preparation for First Holy Communion. Please submit requests to Carolyn, Elaine & Mary for consideration.

World Day of Prayer Friday 3rd March at 2-00 p.m. St. Thomas Church, Church Place, Neath.

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.

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £381-94 (plus DD) and Earthquake Appeal £437-31 (Many thanks); St. John Kemble £74-00 and Earthquake Appeal £70-00 (Many thanks).

CAFOD has been working with partners in Syria for the duration of the 12-year conflict providing humanitarian aid to families who now battle another devastating crisis. CAFOD has made an initial allocation of £100, 000 to secure urgent support – water, food, medical assistance, shelter and water kits. Anyone wishing to learn more or to make a donation is asked to visit www.cafod.org/give where there are also prayers for people in dire need. Thank you.

Kathryn and John Woolley are happy to receive visitors. Please ring John (07967417136) beforehand to make arrangements.

S.J.P.G. Cawl (Beef, Lamb or Vegetable) and Welshcake and Prize Bingo Evening! Monday 6th March 7-00 for 7-30 p.m. (when the cawl will be served) in the Parish Hall. A limit of 50 tickets - £5 a ticket (proceeds towards local Stroke Association) – so be sure to book early!

S.P.U.C. National Prayer Campaign. Please take with you the **NINTH** in the series of the prayer cards – the beautiful prayer “ **The Angelus** ” and join with this six month national prayer campaign

FOOD BANK Please leave donations to the Neath Food Bank at the back of the church - the products Food Banks need most: Tinned veg (peas and sweetcorn); tinned tuna and mackerel; brown, basmati and long grain rice; pulses (eg: kidney beans and chickpeas); grains (eg: couscous); easy cook noodles; tinned fruit (eg: pineapple slices); wholegrain cereals (eg: wheat biscuits); oat drinks and UHT milk. THANK YOU!

S.V.P If you or someone you know are in any kind of need, please contact a member of the SVP which will be in the strictest confidence. A list of members can be found at the back of the church on the SVP information board.

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), Jane Boland, George Johnson, Nancy Morris, Cheryl Ford, Jason Saunders, Stephen Saunders, Julie Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Geraint Jones, Pat Day., Fr. Neil, Donnie O'Connell. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

FLAME 2023 The Archdiocese of Cardiff and Diocese of Menevia announce that the biggest Catholic youth event in the U.K. is returning to London on Saturday 4th March. The theme of Flame 2023 – which is exactly 150 days before World Youth Day in Lisbon – takes the WYD Scripture verse “ Mary arose and went in haste ” and crystallises into the theme, “Rise Up”. Details of the event can be found at <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame> The cost to participate will be £50 and will include the ticket and transport to and from London with pick up points planned at Swansea, Bridgend, Cardiff and Newport. If you would like to participate or to receive further information please contact Rev. Christian Mahoney on 07764515864 or email Christian.mahoney@rcadc.org **If you are interested in attending this Youth Event please make the arrangements and the parish will cover the £50 cost of attending.**

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
Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk