

THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS – 14th SEPTEMBER 2025

“ 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).

VOCATIONS PRAYER Lord, make me a better person, more considerate towards others, more honest with myself, more faithful to You. Make me generous enough to want sincerely to do Your will whatever it may be. Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others. Grant Lord that those whom You call to enter the priesthood, diaconate or religious life may have the generosity to answer Your call, so that those who need Your help may find it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (14th – **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**) Saturday (St. John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Thomas Birmingham (RIP) (Catherine & family); 10-30 a.m. Ann Moruzzi (RIP) (Remo).

Weekday Mass Wednesday (17th) St. Joseph's 9-30 a.m. Maureen Kirby (RIP) (Peter & Isabel); 11-00 a.m. St. John Kemble - Fred Hipsley (RIP); Thursday (18th) 9-30 a.m David Reynolds (RIP) (Parish Guild).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (21st September) Saturday (St. John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St.Joseph's) Patrick O'Connell (RIP) (Donie, Pat & family);10-30 a.m. Leena & Luke (Special Intention).

Mass Intentions Please note Mass Intentions are now reserved into the **December** (weekdays and weekends) Please think several months ahead if you would like a Mass said for a loved one. At present, it takes about twelve weeks for a reserved Mass to be celebrated.

Readers: **This Sunday** (14th) 6-00 p.m. Gerald Smith. 10-30 a.m. Sophia Hikary. **Next Sunday** (21st) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Bethan Lee.

Readers Please come early so that you have the opportunity before Mass to look at the readings beforehand. If you are unable to keep your place on the rota please arrange for someone to take your place (!!).

Anniversaries Elizabeth Wilson (2007); Beryl Crago (2019); Kevin Widlake (2021); Jean Williams (2022);Maureen Butler (2014); Ann Williams (2023); Jean Baker (2024); Johanna Dobrzanski (2010). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Candles: Sacred Heart - Ann Williams (RIP); Our Lady – Angela Healey (Sp.Int.); St. Joseph – The Middle East, Ukraine & Sudan.

Elaine Reynolds (RIP) Please remember Elaine in your prayers and the family at this time. Elaine's Funeral Mass will take place at St. Terese, Hirwaun on Friday 19th September at 11-30 a.m. The Coffin will be received into the church of St. John Kemble at 4-00 p.m. on Thursday evening. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

James Murray (RIP) Please remember James in your prayers and the family at this time. James' Funeral Service will be held at Margam Crematorium on Friday 3rd October at 2-30 p.m. *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen*

Holy Baptism Please keep in your prayers Sylvie Ruth Killick who will be baptised in to the Church next Saturday morning.

MacMillan Coffee Morning The Parish Coffee Morning on Thursday 25th September 10-00 a.m. will be in support of Mac Millan Nurses. Please come along, bring some friends. There is a list for cake donations at the back of the church.

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Parish Hall Caretaker An opportunity has arisen for someone to take on the role of Parish Hall Caretaker. The hours are very flexible. You will be required to carry out general cleaning duties and opening and locking up the premises. The role is ideal for someone who lives close to the Hall. If you are interested please contact Brenda Grant Tel: 07817656157 to discuss details along with remuneration.

The Parish SVP would like to thank the parish for their kind donations for our project to supply an Indian village with cows which has now reached our target. The money will be collected at our monthly teas after the Sunday Mass will now go to supply buffaloes to another village in India and grants for Indian students.

Parish S.V.P. Over the last 12 months our SVP group made 942 home visits and provided lifts and assistance on 143 occasions. We help at Bridge Street breakfast club for the homeless and the Salvation Army food bank. We are always humbled and grateful for your generosity in supporting our appeals but we are a small group and our membership needs to increase. Please consider joining the SVP to help us continue to support others. If interested please approach a member of the SVP.

Matthew Mulcahy Annual Sponsored Walk Sunday 28 September from Brangwyn Hall to Our Lady Star of the Sea (Mumbles) and back. Once again members of the SVP will be raising funds for the South Sudan Baby Feeding Centres. Please support us by donating. Sponsor sheets are at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Harvest Weekend. Gifts of non-perishable food and goods for the homeless and the Neath Food Bank gratefully received over the weekend of the 4/5 October. Many thanks.

The Choir We are looking for further members to join the choir. Please have a word with a present member for further information. Many thanks to the choir for the music at our Confirmation Mass. With a larger choir our options are also enlarged. Don't be shy!

On-Line Archdiocesan Newsletter Read/Sign up today <https://bit.ly/ACMSeptNewsletter>

Social Media Free Training Learn to reach different demographics and strengthen community connections at three Zoom sessions 6-8 p.m. Social Media Fundamentals (8 October) Facebook and Instagram Mastery (15 October) Visual Design with Canva – free pro-licences provided (22 October) For more details and to sign up see <https://rcadc.org/online-social-media-training-for-your-parish-this-autumn/>

Marriage Support Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? Next programme begins 17 October www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel:+44 7887 296 983

Marriage Retreat How to Survive and Thrive in a Catholic Marriage. Saturday 15 November 10a.m. to 4 p.m. at All Hallows Church, Miskin, CF72 8PG Tickets £20 (including, practical talks from experienced Catholic marriage catechists, honest conversations, spiritual encouragement – and free “romantic dinner”!). Sign up at <https://forms.office.com/e/VTTO.f7b1VH>

Vocation to the Priesthood? Fr. Matt Roche-Saunders, Director of Priestly Vocations and Youth Mission always available for information and conversation at vocations@rcadc.org or vocations@menevia.org

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £436-95 (plus Direct Debits). St John Kemble £54-00. Many thanks. (**Second Collection** next Sunday for Home Missions).

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, Bridie Johnson, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Pat Day, Daniel John, Nora Reynolds, Adrian Macpherson-Jones, Roger Horton, Kath Davies, Paul Leaker, David Vaudin, Agnes Collins, Cynthia Cronin, Lorna Halloran, Angela Healey. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

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

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