

## The Feast of the Epiphany – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**“ 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 )**

**Mass Intentions this Sunday** ( 7<sup>th</sup> January – The Epiphany ) **Saturday** 4-00 pm. ( St. John Kemble ) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. ( St. Joseph’s ) John Morse (RIP) ( Helen & Pat ); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Ann Hanford (RIP) ( The family ).

**Weekday Mass** **Wednesday** ( 10<sup>th</sup> ) 9-30 a.m. ( St Joseph’s ) Clare Jones (RIP) ( Doug & Karen ). 11-00 a.m. ( St. John Kemble ) Terry Barry ( Sp. Int. ).

**Mass Intentions next Sunday** ( 14<sup>th</sup> January ) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. ( St. John Kemble ) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s ) Anne Williams (RIP) ( Lesley, Mark & family );. **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Elaine Clement ( RIP ) ( Helen ).).

**Fr. Neil** During January Fr. Neil will be taking days off, and lighter duties and resumption of treatment. Thank you for your prayers.

**Readers: This Sunday** ( 7<sup>th</sup> – The Epiphany ) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Stephen Evans. **Next Sunday** (14<sup>th</sup>) 6-00 p.m. Paula Macpherson- Jones; 10-30 a.m. Des Nicholas. **Please take the opportunity to arrive early and look at (and prepare) the readings beforehand. Thank you.**

**Candles:** Sacred Heart – Sheila Penry (RIP); Our Lady – Yolanda Jones ( RIP ); St. Joseph – Carol Curnow (RIP)

**Anniversaries:** Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Philip Hoptroff (2009); Michael O’Conner (2007); Eileen Williams (2016); Richard Watkins (2001);Walden Rees (2003). William Leo Linney (2019); Jenny Smith ( 2006); Alice Francis (2009); Betty Palfrey (2004). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**Patricia Curnow ( nee. Kelly ) (RIP)** Please remember Patricia in your prayers and the family at this time. Patricia’s Funeral Service will take place at Margam Crematorium this Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 12-45 p.m.

**Sheila Penry (RIP)** Please remember Sheila in your prayers and the family at this time. Sheila’s Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph’s on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 11-15 a.m.

**Carol Curnow (RIP)** Please remember Carol in your prayers and the family at this time. Funeral arrangements to be announced.

**Yolanda Jones (RIP)** Please remember Yolanda in your prayers and Nantlais at this time. Yolanda’s Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph’s on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 11-45 a.m.

Please keep Patricia, Sheila, Carol and Yolanda in your prayers and also their grieving families at this time. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen*

**Mass Intentions** Please note that weekend and weekday Mass intentions are now reserved into **March 2024** and other dates have been reserved as far as December. Please be thinking ahead by several months if you would like a Mass intention for a loved one on a particular day/date – even so, some dates are reserved a year ahead and if so Mass will be said on the nearest date available to the request. Thank you.

**Christmas Crib** Donations to the Christmas Crib this year will be divided between the work of Caritas ( Cardiff and Menevia ) and Christians living in the Holy Land ( Friends of the Holy Land and Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre ).

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**Many thanks** for the generous Christmas Collection and for the many cards and gifts received. Thank you for your many kindnesses and for your thoughtfulness. Please keep me in your prayers. Many thanks. ( Fr. Neil).

**Grateful thanks** to Dennis for his generous donation of gifts of chocolate to our Altar Servers, children and congregation over the Christmas period. Also many thanks to all those who helped to decorate the church so beautifully for our Christmas celebrations.

**A gentle reminder (!)** – please observe and respect a prayerful silence before Mass to prepare yourself for the celebration of Mass. Loud conversations are disturbing ( and upsetting ) for those who may come early to church precisely to have a time of quiet reflection (including the parish priest! ) who do not want to overhear personal conversations about family, friends, future plans etc! Plenty of time to exchange news and information after the end of Mass. Thank you.

**Holy Baptism** Please remember Sophie Ifeanyichukwa Odoh in your prayers who will be received into the Church next Saturday morning.

**Reception into the Catholic Church** Please keep in your prayers those who have expressed the desire to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. We hope to meet together each Sunday after the 10-30 a.m. Mass beginning on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January for short sessions of catechesis and prayer. If you also are praying about this possibility, please have a word with Fr. Neil.

**Parish Guild Meeting** This Monday at 2-00 p.m. in the Hall.

**Legion of Mary** Every Tuesday evening at 4-45 p.m. in the Hall. New members very welcome. Please come along.

**Parish Coffee Morning** Every Thursday from 10-00a.m. to 11-00 a.m.

**Parish Reps.** The Archbishop would like to meet with parish representatives at St. Mary's, Carmarthen, on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 10-30 a.m. to listen to any feedback from the parishes regarding (i) the proposal to unite the Archdiocese of Cardiff and the Diocese of Menevia to form one Diocese, and (ii) responses to the Synod process taking place throughout the Church. We are invited to send two Reps ( from each parish). Please see Fr. Neil.

**Last Sunday's Collection:** St. Joseph's £300-72 ( plus Direct Debits ); St John Kemble – £32-00. Many thanks. The **Second Collection** next weekend ( 14<sup>th</sup> ) the annual **White Flower Appeal** in support of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.

**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, George Johnson, Cheryl Ford, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna and Joe O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Pat Day, Daniel John, George McIntyre, David Reynolds, Adrian Macpherson-Jones, Roger Horton, Kath Davies, Robert Minty and David Hoy. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

**WARNING** Please note, cars parked in front of the garages, opposite the church gates, have been smeared in a sticky oily substance over the door handles and windscreens. Obviously this is a criminal offence and I have suggested to those affected that they report the matter to the police.

**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".*

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Parish Website – [www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk)

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