

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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Sunday 20th September 2020 - The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions – This Sunday: –**The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

St. John Kemble: Saturday 4-00p.m. Bishop Patrick McCartie (RIP) (SPCD); **St. Joseph's:** Saturday 6-00p.m. Terry Davies (RIP) (KSP); Sunday 8-00 a.m. Parish & People; 10-30 a.m. James Insole (RIP) (Rosemary):

Next Sunday (27th September) St. John Kemble: Saturday 4-00p.m. Fr. Timothy Burke (RIP) (SPCD); St. Joseph's Saturday 6-00p.m. Tony Pickrell (RIP) (Sandra); Sunday 8-00a.m. Parish & People; 10-30a.m. Teresa Chilton (RIP) (Deacon Jim & Marie Caddick)).

Twenty - Fifth Week in Ordinary Time (Week beginning 20th September) Wednesday 23rd September (St. Padre Pio) – **St. Joseph's** 9-30a.m. Ann Moruzzi (RIP) (SVP); **St. John Kemble** 11-00a.m. Kath Cutter (RIP) (P.M); Thursday 24th September – Francis & Rose (Sp.Int)

Second Collection: There are a number of second collections over the coming weeks (!) to catch up on the extended lockdown. **This Sunday – Home Missions** Next Sunday – Our Parish SVP Group. **Sunday October 4th** – CAFOD Harvest. Please note – the Box for the second collection will be on the table as you exit the church via the Lady Chapel. Thank you.

Candles: (Week beginning 20th September) The Sacred Heart – Dominic O'Keefe (RIP); Our Lady – "For Mandy's safe recovery"; Saint Joseph – Special Intention (MB).

Anniversaries: Maria Baker (2005); Johanne Dobrzanski (2010); Graham Francis (2003); Elizabeth Jenkins (2000); Peter Walsh (2006); Patricia James (2011); Michael Walsh (2009); Alfred Stanley (2006). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Ann Moruzzi (RIP) Please remember Ann in your prayers, and Remo and the family at this time. Ann's Funeral Mass will take place here at St. Joseph's on Monday 21st September. (Pandemic restrictions apply. The family would appreciate your prayers for them at 10-00a.m. on the day). *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen*

Norman Evans (RIP) Please remember Jean and the family in your prayers. Norman's Funeral Service will take place at Margam Crematorium. (Pandemic restrictions apply..*Eternal rest grant unto him ,O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Catholic Papers The Universe is once more available – for those who regularly receive a copy – with your name on it as you exit the church via the Lady Chapel. If you would like to reserve a copy please have a word with Sheila.

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 lockdown. **THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! N.B. If you are still self-isolating – this help is still available.**

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.

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.

Last Week's Collection: St. Joseph's £308-85 (plus weekly Standing Orders) – Diocesan Education £145-89; St. John Kemble £65-00 – Diocesan Education £12-60. Many thanks to all who regularly contribute - and for donations – to the parish funds. **Many thanks** for the gift of £1,000 toward the cost of new carpeting in the church. All donations gratefully received.

WE MISS YOU!

St.Joseph's and St.John Kemble

(15th September 2020 – “Our Lady of Sorrows”)

It is now nearly seven weeks (!) since we have been able to resume the public celebration of Mass in our churches (for us, on the 2/3 August), and for those who have been able to return to Mass it has been a great joy to participate once more in the celebration of Holy Mass and to meet together after Mass – observing social distancing! – to chat and catch up on all the news!

It may be many months more (and well into 2021) before we can begin to relax the necessary precautions which enable us to celebrate Mass, and it is understandable that many church members do not yet feel comfortable about returning to Mass, especially if we are about to enter a second phase of the pandemic, with new restrictions when out shopping or meeting together at home.

If you are waiting until the situation improves (when you will feel more comfortable about returning to Mass) this is just to let you know that **WE MISS YOU!** – and look forward to when you feel it is safe to return. Please note that **help is still available** should you need it, through the St.Joseph's Community Support Group, the Parish S.V.P. and the Legion of Mary. Also, Fr.Neil is happy to call if you would appreciate a visit. However (wearing masks and observing social distancing!) this must be at your own risk! – and invitation. Fr.Neil will respect that you are self-isolating and (except for emergencies) will not call uninvited during the pandemic.

Also, to thank all those who have continued to support the church financially during, and since, the lockdown, despite your own absence from the celebration of Mass. We are very grateful to you, and thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

If you are thinking of returning to Mass, please note that, at present, we are restricted (in St.Joseph's) to accommodating only about 60 people in each celebration of Mass. However, since families, couples and those living in the same “bubble” may sit together, it should be possible to accommodate a slightly larger number.

At present, about 45/50 are attending the 6-00p.m Saturday Vigil Mass, and the Sunday 10-30 a.m. Mass, and about 20 at the 8-00a.m. Mass. **You may, therefore, consider attending the 8-00 a.m. Mass** to be sure of a seat, and to “free-up” space at the other two masses (or begin by attending one of the weekday masses). At St.John Kemble we can accommodate about 10 in the church and a further 6 (or so) in the hall. At Christmas, unfortunately, at both churches, we will have to issue tickets because of the large number normally wishing to attend on Christmas Eve/Day.

Now that the schools are back we look forward also to our younger families returning to Mass, and we must continue to pray that, God willing, in 2021 we may finally come through these trials and difficulties of the last few (and next few) months, stronger in our faith and with a greater zeal to enter more deeply into the depths of the life of grace as “ we await the Blessed Hope, and the Coming, of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ”.

Please continue to keep our situation, and one another, in your prayers. May this time of trial bring us through to Resurrection and to a new Pentecost in the life of the Church. Come, Holy Spirit! Come, Lord Jesus!