

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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

N.B. There continues to be a problem with the Presbytery phone line – unable to phone in or out. Apparently the storm two weeks ago damaged underground cables affecting over a thousand phone lines in Cimla/Neath and Openreach hope to re-connect all phones by the 18th. To contact Fr. Neil please either call at the presbytery or post a message through the letter box or ask someone else to call.

Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

Third Sunday in Lent – 20th March 2022

The Season of Lent

“Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen”

Stations of the Cross – during Lent, each Friday (St. Joseph’s) at 6-30 p.m. and on Saturdays (St. John Kemble) at 3-30 p.m. The opportunity to reflect more deeply upon, and to join ourselves to, the sufferings of Christ, “ **for by Thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world**” and, perhaps, to remember and pray for the people of Ukraine that they may be given the strength to bear the Cross that has come upon them.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (20th March) We remember the people of Ukraine at each Mass. **Saturday** – (St. John Kemble) 3-30 p.m. Stations of the Cross; 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Deceased Members of the Rees Family (RIP) (Martin & Nuala); **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Clare, Damian & family); 10-30a.m. Norman Evans (RIP) (J. Evans).

Weekday Mass Intentions: Tuesday (March 22nd) 6-30 p.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (Margaret Jeffrey); Wednesday (23rd March) 9-30 a.m. Barbara Green (RIP) (June & David Vaudin); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Fr. James Fealey(RIP) (SPCD); Thursday (24th March) School Mass (staff and children only); Friday (25th March – **Solemnity of the Annunciation**) 9-30 a.m. Kevin Halloran (RIP) (John & Linda Slattery); **5-00 p.m. Stations of the Cross; 6-00 p.m.** Legion of Mary Prayers & Holy Rosary. **6-30 p.m. Deanery Mass – the Legion of Mary** Sheila Burns (RIP) (refreshments in the Hall afterwards).

Mass Intentions next Sunday: (27th March - Laetare Sunday/Mothering Sunday) **Saturday** (St. John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph’s) 6-00p.m. Mavis Jones (RIP) (A. Healey); **CLOCKS CHANGE!** **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Maureen Pitt (RIP) (Legion of Mary); 10-30a.m. Gillian Boland (RIP) (The Family).

Readers: This Sunday (20th March) 6-00 p.m. Nora Reynolds; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones. 10-30 a.m. Bethan Lee. Next Sunday (27th March) 6-00 p.m. Maureen McAteer; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Tommy Parel.

UKRAINE Many thanks for the generous response to the appeal for Ukraine - £1,552-81 (St. Joseph’s) – £167-00 (St. John Kemble). **Our Lady of Kiev** is probably the most famous Icon of Our Lady (**please see the Hymn Sheet and the Icon in front of the statue of Our Lady** – you may wish to light a candle) was made in 1132. It is a masterpiece, comparable for its beauty and psychological depths to the Mona Lisa and is the first great work in the Ukrainian School of Iconography. The Icon displays the great tenderness of Our Lady for her Divine Child. The Virgin’s head touching the baby is a gesture of deep affection and the icon set the standard for Ukrainian icon painters which has never been surpassed. Providence has preserved the icon through centuries of war and (ironically) it was removed to Moscow in 1395.

Candles The Sacred Heart – Young boy (RIP)– Heath Hospital and his family; Our Lady - Ukraine; St. Joseph – Barbara Green (RIP).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rispah Kirby (2005); Anne Morgan (2000); Leonard Grey (2012); Dawn Hopkins (2012); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

CAFOD Lent Fast Day The focus this season is Lombeh, a lively 5-year old from Sierra Leone. It is a story of hope. Lombeh's fragile life was saved by simple meals consisting of sesame seed paste. If you are able to watch the short film on the CAFOD Website – you'll find it under "Lent 2022 resources for young people". With Lombeh and millions like her in mind please join our parish Walk Against Hunger at the Gnoll next Saturday, 26th March. Meet at the shed next to the Visitor Centre at 11-00 a.m. and spend some time and energy in a small act of love for all who go hungry in our world of plenty. All welcome. Don't forget to bring drinking water and suitable clothing. Easy walking around the "Second Pond" – suitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs, mobility scooters. The event will go ahead unless there are high winds or heavy rain. Thank you (Sandra).

The Sacrament of Confirmation Please remember in your prayers those preparing for Confirmation – Zaira and Joshua Zambrano, Carys Smitham, Tommy Parel, Isabella and Maria Grabczewski, Oisín and Cian Fitchett, Eve Abell, Daniel Rowlands, Mia Faure, Joseph Payne, William Heslop, Callum Lavin, Martin and Marya Joseph and Bethany Clifford, Sophie Wheatley. Note for the diary! - Archbishop George Stack will visit us on **Friday 29th April** (7-00 p.m.) to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Confirmation Group meets after the 10-30 A.M. Mass. Attendance at Mass continues to be an essential part of the preparation process.

The Rosary and Marian Prayers of Devotion Every Tuesday at 2-00 p.m. in the Lady Chapel (for about half-an-hour). All welcome.

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, Peggy Swan (Glynneath), Jane Boland, George Johnson, Nancy Morris, Cheryl Ford, Andrew Jenkins, Jason Saunders, Stephen Saunders, Yolanda Jones, Elizabeth Fluck, Lorna O'Brien, Betty Hopkins, Rose Williams, Donie O'Connell, Margaret Jeffrey, Dennis Taylor, Marion Brocksopp, Peter Thomas. Owen O'Connell. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

Last Sunday's Collection: St.Joseph's - £344-71 (plus Direct Debits) Ukraine - £1,552-81; St.John Kemble – £37-00 – Ukraine £167-00. Many thanks. The Second Collection this weekend is for **CAFOD (Lent Fast Day)**

N.B. Envelope Boxes – now available for collection at the back of the Church.

The Church Kneeler If you so wish, you may kneel to receive Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand.
N.B. Please note – to all communicants – after the priest says "The Body of Christ" to say "**Amen**" which means "it is so" which is an affirmation of faith and thus, throughout the Mass, "Amen" and all congregational responses should be confidently expressed - not hesitantly and quietly!

The Sacrament of Confession Fr. Neil will be available to hear confessions from 5-30 p.m. before the Saturday Vigil Mass. Please arrive in plenty of time. Confessions can be either face-to-face or use the privacy of the cubicle.
Confession can also take place at other Mass times (including weekdays).

The Welsh National Pilgrimage to Lourdes 25th – 30th July 2022. A full programme, air transport, travel and full board are included in the package, Further details to follow. See www.welshnationalpilgrimage.com

Please Note (Mass Intentions). **Saturday and Sunday** Masses are already reserved for a particular intention until the **MIDDLE OF JUNE** (and **Weekday Masses** until the **Middle of April**). Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date (or nearest date). Thank you.

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*".

ENTRANCE

- 1 From heaven You came, helpless babe,
entered our world, Your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve,
and give Your life that we might live.
*This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow Him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

- 2 There in the garden of tears
my heavy load He chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' He said.

- 3 Come see His hands and His feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

- 4 So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone Him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

OFFERTORY

- 1 O Jesus Christ, remember,
when thou shalt come again,
upon the clouds of heaven,
with all thy shining train;
when every eye shall see thee
in deity revealed,
who now upon this altar
in silence art concealed.

- 2 Remember then, O Saviour,
I supplicate of thee,
that here I bowed before thee
upon my bended knee;
that here I owned thy presence,
and did not thee deny,
and glorified thy greatness
though hid from human eye.

- 3 Accept, divine Redeemer,
the homage of my praise;
be thou the light and honour
and glory of my life.
Be thou my consolation
when death is drawing nigh;
be thou my only treasure
through all eternity.

Prayer after Low Mass

(Promulgated by Pope Leo XIII)

ST. MICHAEL the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our defense 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 the other evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

- 1 Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.
Come, bow before him now,
with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

- 2 Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

- 3 Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place,
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

RECESSIONAL

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
'and he is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight,
thy unction grace bestoweth:
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

OUR LADY OF KIEV



All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace, the assembly of angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child; our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. Glory to thee!

Hymn to the Theotokos from St Basil's Liturgy

"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 of 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"