

Third Sunday in Lent – Sunday 12th March 2023

THE SEASON OF LENT

The Season of Lent is 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. We pray that this Holy Season may be a special time of grace for us.

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"*

" 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).

Lenten Alms Our Lenten Alms this year will go towards the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal.

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.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (12th March 2023) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Dennis Taylor (RIP) (Ann Bromage); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Stuart Michael (RIP) (Chris, Phil & family).

Hilary Hipkin (RIP) Please remember Hilary in your prayers, and the family at this time. Hilary's Funeral Service will take place here in St. Joseph's this Monday 13th March at 2-15 p.m. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Weekday Mass Intentions: Wednesday (March 15th) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph's) Helen Gethin & Irene Jenkins (RIP.) (S. Morgan); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Fr. Neil (Sp.Int.) (All at St. John Kemble); Thursday (16th) 9-30 a.m. Stuart Michael (RIP (Elias Family)); Friday (17th) 9-30 a.m. Helen Williams (Sp.Int.); 6-00 p.m. Stations of the Cross.

Mass Intentions next Sunday (19th March – Mothering Sunday) **Saturday** 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Deceased members of the Rees Family (RIP) (Martin & Nuala); **Sunday** 10-30 a.m. Peter & Hazel Huxtable (RIP) (Dennis)

Readers: This Sunday (12th) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Bethan Lee. **Next Sunday** (19th) 6-00 p.m. Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30 a.m. Tommy Parel. **Please take the opportunity to arrive early and look at (and prepare) the reading beforehand.**

Candles: Sacred Heart – Special Intention (M); Our Lady – Ira Thomas (RIP); St. Joseph – Archbishop Mark (Sp.Int.)

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Gladys Finnegan (2009); Elwyn Oakley (2008); Fr. Eddie Murphy (2012); Peter Huxtable(2019); Raymond Delahunty (2019); Terence Wall (2004); John Howells (2002); Margaret Harland (2013); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen*

Paul Curnow (RIP) Carol's son, Paul, died suddenly on Monday. Please remember Paul, and the family in your prayers at this time. Funeral arrangements to be announced. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

S.J.P.G. Cawl (Beef, Lamb or Vegetable) and Welshcake and Prize Bingo Evening! An enjoyable evening was had by all and the magnificent sum of £500 was raised for the local Stroke Association. Many thanks to our Parish Guild and all those involved in making the evening such a success. Next Event – Coronation Tea Party (!).

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.

Parish Hall Are there any parishioners with an hour to spare. We are looking for someone with expertise and enthusiasm for D.I.Y. to help out with some small repairs? Please contact Brenda on 01639 636326 or 07817656157.

New Deanery Structure As from Ash Wednesday, there will now be just three deaneries in the Diocese and Port Talbot Deanery is now subsumed into the larger "St. John Lloyd Deanery" which extends from Hay-on-Wye down to (and including) Swansea. Our new Dean is Canon Jason Jones. We thank Mgr Canon Joe Cefai for his work as Dean over many years and we wish Canon Jason well in his new responsibilities.

Warm Space Hub Parish Hall Mondays 11-00 a.m. to 2-00 p.m. A warm welcome awaits! FREE REFRESHMENTS. (Hot & Cold Food) Occasional Films. Board games. Singalongs. Jigsaws. Bingo. Friendships. No charge! All welcome!

Youtube Please check out, "The Biblical Roots of Ash Wednesday" (Dr. Pitre) and other items of interest at "Catholic Productions".

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £319-90 (plus DD) CAFOD - £270-00; St. John Kemble £36-00. CAFOD - £24-00. (Many thanks).

Envelope Boxes Now available from the back of the church. Please note, you may have a different numbered box than last year. If you would like to donate via the envelope scheme please have a word with Robert Grant.

S.P.U.C. National Prayer Campaign. Please take with you the **TENTH** in the series of the prayer cards – (The Sacred Heart of Jesus) " **A Prayer of Offering by the Sick for the Unborn**" 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.

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