

TO CONTACT THE PARISH/FATHER NEIL

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Parish Website – www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12th September 2021

The Year of St. Joseph A daily prayer to St. Joseph. *“Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became a man. Blessed St. Joseph, to us too, show yourself to be a father, and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen”*

Mass Intentions this Sunday (12th September) **Saturday** (St. John Kemble) 4-00p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Edna McAteer (RIP) (Donie, Pat & family); **Sunday** 8-00a.m. Lawrence Macpherson-Jones (RIP) (Maureen McAteer); 10-30a.m. Brian Collins (RIP) (Agnes).

Weekday Mass Intentions Wednesday (15th September) **St. Joseph's** 9-30a.m. Lawrence Macpherson-Jones (Adrian & Paula); **St. John Kemble** 11-00a.m. (“For all at St. John Kemble” (R.J.); Thursday (16th September) **St. Joseph's** 9-30 a.m. Edna McAteer (RIP) (Jean Evans).

Mass Intentions next Sunday (19th September) **Saturday** (St John Kemble) 4-00 p.m. Parish & People; (St. Joseph's) 6-00p.m. Mary & Ken Harvey (RIP) (Brendan & Jan Harvey); **Sunday** 8-00 a.m. Sion Parry Evans(RIP); 10-30a.m. Eileen & Bill Whiting (RIP) (Sheila & David Williams).

Anniversaries: Of your charity, remember in prayer those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ann Moruzzi (2020); Bernard Madden (2016); Beryl Crago (2019); David Hunt (2005); Maureen O'Grady(2014); Maureen Butler (2014); *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Requiem Masses During the pandemic it was not always possible to accommodate all those wishing to attend funeral services. If you would like to remember a loved one at a Memorial/Requiem Mass at a special weekday Mass to which family and friends can be invited, please have a word with Fr. Neil.

Candles: Our Lady – Cathy Fry (Sp.Int); The Sacred Heart – Gabrielle Wisken (RIP); St. Joseph – Norman Evans (RIP).

Readers: **This Sunday** (12th) 6-00p.m. Nora Reynolds; 8-00 a.m. Adrian & Paula Macpherson-Jones; 10-30a.m. Barbara Hunt **Next Sunday** (19th September) 6-00p.m. Patrick McAteer; 8-00a.m. Gregory Page; 10-30a.m. Mary Walker

Cleaning Teams. **This Sunday** (12th September) 6-00 p.m. Sian & Mary; 8-00 a.m. Martin & Nuala; 10-30a.m. Volunteers please. **Next Sunday** (19th September) 6-00p.m. Maralyn & Nora; 8-00a.m. Martin & Nuala; 10-30a.m. Joan & Ann

First Holy Communion Class The following children began classes before the pandemic – Ronan Abell, Lucy Owen, Jack Challenger, Ava Mallows, Julia Karczynska, John Grabczewski, Amelia Tristram, Alexa Jones, Julia Kuligowska, Efan and Bodi Lewis. If there are others who would now like to be included (including Shuyalini Sivarupan, Joseph Owen, Brendan Fitchett, Lowrie Smitham) please submit names to Fr. Neil. Attendance at Mass is an essential part of preparation for receiving Holy Communion. Classes will take place at 9-30 a.m. in the Parish Hall before the Sunday 10-30 a.m. Mass **and begin (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE) on Sunday 19th September.**

Wedding Bells! Congratulations to Adrienne Hendry and Tim Giddings who will be married here in St. Joseph's on Friday 1st October.

Holy Baptism Please remember in your prayers Lincoln Williams, son of Ceri & Alwyn Williams, who will be baptised here in St. Joseph's next Sunday afternoon.

Fr.Neil and Covid Many thanks for the many cards and phone messages over the last two weeks and for all the offers of help. The infection rate in Neath Port Talbot/Swansea remains very high. Please continue to keep our situation in your prayers.

Second Collections This weekend (12th September) Education Sunday. **Next Sunday (19th)** Home Missions. **Sunday 26th September** Our Parish SVP Group. **Sunday October 3rd** CAFOD Harvest Collection

SVP Sunday – 26th September. There will be refreshments in the Parish Hall after the 6-00p.m. Vigil Mass (Saturday 25th) to celebrate and give thanks for our SVP Group. All welcome.

Harvest Sunday – 3rd October (CAFOD Harvest Collection) Donations to the Food Bank gratefully received.

CAFOD – is responding to significant crises across the world at the present time, in Haiti, Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria, and working to ensure the safety of partners in Afghanistan. Please visit cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news for further details. Your generosity compassion and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult days. Thank you.

Please Note If you wish to reserve a particular date or day for a Mass Intention, please note that Saturday and Sunday Masses and weekday Masses are already reserved for a particular intention **until the end of October**. Please think several months ahead if you would like to reserve a particular date (or nearest date) . Thank you

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. (Please sanitize the cubicle when leaving). Confession can also take place at other Mass times (including weekdays).

DOMSEC Livestreamed Events in 2021 A full programme of (over 25) events! See www.domsec.org.uk or www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk to access the livestreams and click "Livestream" on the menu bar. On **Friday/Saturday 17th/18th September** at 11-00a.m. " Diocesan Scripture Day/Scripture Tour and Art Exhibition". **Tuesdays 6-30p.m. – 8-30p.m. September 21st, 28th; October 5th, 12th** " The Happy Life: St.Thomas Aquinas on Happiness and Virtue".

Altar Relics at St.Joseph's When a church is consecrated, holy oil is daubed on the walls of the church (marked by the wall candles around the church) and holy relics of the Saints are placed in the Altar. Thanks to Sandra's further research in the Parish Archives we have recently rediscovered the details of the holy relics in the Altar at St.Joseph's. The holy relics (a gift from Rome) are those of St.Speciosus and of St.Clement.

St.Speciosus and his brother St.Gregory were contemporaries of St.Benedict and among his first disciples. They founded the Benedictine community at Terracina between Rome and Naples on the Mediterranean coast. Speciosus died in (approx.) 555AD and his feast day is 15th March. Interestingly, in the Eastern Orthodox calendar the feast day of his brother, St.Gregory, is 12th December which is the date on which St.Joseph's was consecrated.

St.Clement could be either St.Clement Hofbauer (d.1820) – (is it a co-incidence that his feast day is the same as that of St.Speciosus - 15th March ?) – or, St.Clement of Rome, the third successor to St.Peter ("Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius...") Hopefully further information may come to light.

St.Speciosus, pray for us! St.Clement, pray for us!

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. *Holy Spirit, Lord of Light, from the clear celestial height, Thy pure beaming radiance give. Come, Thou Father of the poor, come with treasures that endure, Come Thou Light of all that live. Light Immortal, Light Divine, Visit Thou this soul of mine, Wash the stain of guilt away. Bend the stubborn heart and will, Melt the frozen, warm the chill, Guide the steps that go astray. Come, Holy Spirit!*