

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 3th MAY 2026

During these forty days between the Resurrection of Jesus and His Ascension in to Heaven, we rejoice in the truth and the power of the Resurrection – “*He is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!*” The Risen Jesus rises through all our preconceptions and presuppositions, challenging us to look again at how we see the world – and how we **experience** it. Are we living “in the world” - or are we living “in Christ” and “from” Christ? Jesus invites us to situate ourselves within His Resurrection Presence – to “abide” in Him, as He invites us to do. May we open our hearts and our homes to receive Him in all His Resurrection power over this glorious Eastertide!

“ 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 regn of our Divine Saviour, the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love ad peace. Come, Holy Spirit in Your Power and might to renew the face of the earth” (Pope St. John XXIII).

“ Come, Holy Spirit and renew the hearts of the faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit, O Lord, and they shall be created and You will renew the face of the earth. O God, Who hast taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Mass this Sunday (Sunday 3rd May) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish& People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) Mary Pauline Sullivan (RIP) (Pauline, Margaret & familiy); Sunday 10-30 a.m. Deceased members of the Joseph family (RIP) and All Souls (Sebastian Joseph).

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Psalm Response - “ May Your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in You, O Lord”” (Sunday - Year A; Daily Mass Readings – Year II; Daily Office - Week 1

Weekday Mass Times (Wednesday 6th May) (St. Joseph’s) 9-30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Joseph Family (RIP) and All Souls (Sebastian Joseph); 11-00 a.m.(St. John Kemble) Barrie and Phillip (Sp.Int.)

Fish’n Chip Supper – with entertainment by the Sea Shanty’s **this Wednesday** 6th May. The event is **TICKET ONLY** - £10 each (purchased beforehand – not at the door). Proceeds to the Parish Hall Funds.

This Friday (8th May) 2-00 p.m. School May “ Procession”. All Welcome.

Mass next Sunday (10th May) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph’s) John Smith (RIP) (Donie, Pat & family);; 10-30 a.m. Elizabeth Fluck (RIP).

Readers: **This Sunday** (3rd May) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Bridget Zambrano. **Next Sunday** (10th May) 6-00 p.m. Sian Loynes; 10-30 a.m. Sheila Williams.

Readers Please come early so that you have the opportunity before Mass to look at the readings beforehand. If you are unable to keep your place on the rota please arrange for someone to take your place (!!).

Candles: Sacred Heart – Deceased Members of the Piles Family (RIP); Our Lady – The Middle East; St. Joseph – St. Joseph’s Infant School (Sp.Int.).

Anniversaries Norma Rees (2011); Margaret James (2011); Norma Hatherall (2020); Christopher McDermott (2018); Patricia Lloyd (2008).; Mary Adams (2007); Anita Gore (2019).

Elizabeth Fluck (RIP) Please remember Elizabeth in your prayers and the family at this time. Elizabeth’s Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph’s on Friday 15th May at 12-15 p.m. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

Catholic (Teaching) C.D. and D.V.D. Library If you would like to borrow a C.D. or D.V.D. please write your name, the name of the CD/DVD you are borrowing and the date out/returned in the book provided (in the Lady Chapel).

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Parish Discussion Group Leading on from “ Good Shepherd” or “ Vocations” Sunday last week, would anyone else like to add their names to the list at the back of the church to discuss Archbishop Mark’s Mission Plan for individuals, parishes and Diocese?

The Parish S.V.P. Over the last twelve months the St. Joseph’s S.V.P. have supported 51 beneficiaries (in their homes, care homes and hospitals) on 442 occasions. We have helped families in need and provided transport on 106 occasions Members volunteer at the Bridge Church Breakfast Club on Saturdays and we donated 200 Vinnie packs over the winter months. We support the Salvation Army Food Bank. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of parishioners and will warmly welcome new members. The Parish S,V,P are also delighted to announce that through your generosity we have collected the £800 needed for the Buffalo Project in just 18 months! We are applying for another project and the Sunday teas money will continue to fund this. **MANY THANKS** to our S.V.P. Group in their Christian witness and outreach to those in need. Our **second collection** next weekend (see below) will be in support of our Parish S.V.P. Group. Please give generously.

Parish Safeguarding see SafeguardingatStJosephsNeath@proton.me to contact Mrs Anne Guest our Parish Safeguarding Representative – also the Diocesan Team safeguarding@rcadc.org

Teachers for the First Holy Communion Class After many years Carolynn and Mary are retiring from teaching the First Holy Communion Class. We thank them very much indeed for their service and commitment over the years (and also to Elaine) and if you are able to take on this role (with others) please have a word with Fr. Neil. Each teacher will need to be DBS checked.

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, Bridie Johnson, Julie, Stephen & Jason Saunders and Luke, Lorna and Joe O’Brien, Margaret Jeffrey, Marion Brocksopp., Marlene John, Pat Day, Daniel John, Adrian Macpherson-Jones, Roger Horton, Kath Davies, David Vaudin, Agnes Collins, Angela Healey., Mark Thomas, Siobhan Fitchett, Jane Smith, Donie O’Connell, Dennis Huxtable, Colin Mulligan, Sheila Morgan, Mary Bowen, Kay Mead, Deacon Jim. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

Fr Neil. Thank you for your prayers.

On-Line Archdiocesan Newsletter Read/Sign up today <https://bit.ly/ACMSeptNewsletter>

Marriage Support Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel:+44 7887 296 983

Relaunched Instagram Page – “ **Emmaus Catholic Youth**” for regular comments, content and updates.

Last Sunday’s Collection: St. Joseph’s £394-44 (plus Direct Debits). St. John Kemble £99-00. Many thanks.

Second Collection next weekend (10th) for our own Parish S,V.P. Group. Sunday 17th May – World Communications Day; Sunday 31 May – Priests’ Training Fund.

VOCATIONS PRAYER Lord, make me a better person, more considerate towards others, more honest with myself, more faithful to You. Make me generous enough to want sincerely to do Your will whatever it may be. Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others. Grant Lord that those whom You call to enter the priesthood, diaconate or religious life may have the generosity to answer Your call, so that those who need Your help may find it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYER AFTER MASS *St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our defence 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 other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen*

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

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