

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 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** ( 29<sup>th</sup> April ) Saturday 4-00 p.m. ( St. John Kemble )Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. ( St. Joseph’s ) Tom & Bree Slattery (RIP) ( John & Linda Slattery ); 10-30 a.m. Malcolm Holloway (RIP) ( Robert Grant )

**Weekday Mass Times** ( Wednesday 22nd ) ( St. Joseph’s ) 9-30 a.m. Russell Palfrey (RIP) ( Linda & family ); 11-00 a.m.( St. John Kemble ) Dorothy Evans ( RIP ).

**Mass next Sunday** ( Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 ).

**Fourth Sunday of Easter - Psalm Response** - “ The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want”” ( Sunday - Year A; Daily Mass Readings – Year II; Daily Office - Week 4 )

**Readers:** **This Sunday** ( 26<sup>th</sup> ) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Tommy Parel. Next Sunday ( 3<sup>rd</sup> May ) 6-00 p.m. Mandy Smith; 10-30 a.m. Bridget Zambrano.

**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 – Dorothy Evans (RIP); Our Lady – Fr. Neil ( Sp.Int. ); St. Joseph – The Middle East

**Anniversaries** Owen O’Donnell ( 2022); Russell Palfrey ( 2015); Francis Thomas ( 2011); Gary Derrick (2020); Gwyneth Evans ( 2016 ).; 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.*

**Holy Baptism** Please keep Tommy Selby in your prayers who will be baptised in to the Church next Saturday morning.

**Fish’n Chip Supper** – with entertainment by the Sea Shanty’s has been arranged for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. The event is **TICKET ONLY** - £10 each ( purchased beforehand – not at the door ) – so be quick! Tickets from Brenda and Nora. Proceeds to the Parish Hall Funds.

**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** Archbishop Mark has forwarded to each parish a series of reflections on personal, parish and diocesan mission for us to discuss how we can encourage church growth and growth in faith. A copy of the Archbishop's original Pastoral Letter is available at the back of the church. If you might be interested in joining this ( all-age ) group please write your name, contact details and which afternoon or evening is best for you on the sheet at the back of the church. Hopefully we can arrange a time suitable for all.

**Day by Day Prayers & Readings** If you have signed up for a copy these can now be collected from the back of the church.

**Red Boxes/Missio** Thank you to all those who support Missio through the red boxes and thank you to Sian for overseeing the scheme which in 2025 raised £834-11 from the parish. Many thanks.

**Parish Safeguarding** see [SafeguardingatStJosephsNeath@proton.me](mailto:SafeguardingatStJosephsNeath@proton.me) to contact Mrs Anne Guest our Parish Safeguarding Representative – also the Diocesan Team [safeguarding@rcadc.org](mailto: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.** Treatment begins on Tuesday – three sessions over three weeks. 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](http://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 £450-79 ( plus Direct Debits ) – Donation for Hall Fire Door £100. St. John Kemble £80-00. Many thanks.

**Parish Hall Caretaker** We are looking for a person willing to take on this role. This involves opening and closing the hall for coffee mornings, hall bookings and general cleaning duties. Remuneration - £40/week. If you are interested please contact Brenda Grant on 07817 656 157

**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](http://www.catholicchurchneath.org.uk)

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