

PALM SUNDAY – 29th MARCH 2026

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

The Ministry of Jesus reaches its climax and consummation in the self-offering of Jesus on the Cross. That same Body which the Eternal Word took to Himself in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary is offered up in sacrifice at Calvary, for the sins of the whole world. In death, Jesus destroyed death when He rose from the tomb on the third day. Risen, ascended and glorified, we now feed on Him by faith until He returns on the clouds of heaven. " Christ has risen! Christ is risen! Christ will come again! Alleluia!" I wish you all a holy week and a happy Easter.

Mass Intentions this Sunday (Sunday 29th March – **PALM SUNDAY**) Saturday 3-30 p.m. Stations of the Cross. 4-00 p.m. St John Kemble - Parish & People; 6-00 p.m. St. Joseph's – Mavis Jones (RIP) (Angela & Maralyn). **CHANGE OF CLOCKS** (forward) 10-30 a.m. M.T.Abraham (RIP) (Leena, Luke & family.).

" 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).

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday (30th) 7-00 p.m. **Churches Together Holy Week Service** here in St. Joseph's on at 7-00 p.m. – entitled " Draw near to God ". Please come along and support this service.

Tuesday (31st) 11-00 a.m. **Chrism Mass** at St. David's Cathedral in Cardiff.

Wednesday (1st April) 9-30 a.m. (St. Joseph's) Teresa Diez Fernandez (RIP) (Isabel& Peter). 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Barrie Thomas (All at St. John Kemble).

HOLY THURSDAY (2ND April) 7-00 p.m. **Mass of the Lord's Supper** followed by the opportunity to Watch and Pray before the Blessed Sacrament until 10-00 p.m. (and Confession)

GOOD FRIDAY 2-00 p.m. **Liturgy of the Lord's Passion** 6-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Veneration and Stations of the Cross. 5-00 p.m. to 7-00 p.m. (Str. Joseph's) church open for private prayer.

HOLY SATURDAY **Easter Vigil** 8-00 p.m. **EASTER DAY** 9-00 a.m. (St. Joihn Kemble) 10-30 a.m. (St. Joseph's).

Mass Intentions next Sunday **EASTER SUNDAY** (5th April) **9-00 a.m.** (St. John Kemble) Barrie Thomas and Phillip (Sp.Int.); 10-30 a.m. Karen Hardie (RIP) (Doug Hardie).

Palm Sunday - Psalm Response " My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?" (Sunday - Year A; Daily Mass Readings – Year II; Daily Office - Week 2)

Readers: **This Sunday** (Palm Sunday) 10-30 a.m. Maureen McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Bernadette Payne. **Next Sunday** (Easter Sunday) 10-30 a.m. Mary Walker.

PLEASE NOTE DURING LENT The **Gospel Acclamation** (before and after the Acclamation) will be sung from Hymn **188** (to the tune of "All glory, laud and honour"). At the end of Mass after " O Sacrament Most Holy", we shall sing, " *O Jesus! Who for love of me, Didst bear Thy Cross to Calvary, In Thy sweet mercy, grant to me, To suffer and to die with Thee*" (to the tune, " When I survey the wondrous Cross").

Candles: Sacred Heart – Sid Leaker (RIP); Our Lady – Ioan Perkins (Sp.Int.); St. Joseph – Norman Evans (RIP)

Donations for flowers to decorate the church at Easter gratefully received. Many thanks.

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Congratulations and all good wishes to Gaynor and David celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary this coming Friday (3rd April) – with our prayers and best wishes.

Anniversaries Marion O’Grady (2015); David Collier (2008); Margaret Jenkins (2014); Mary Protheroe (2016); Maureen Maher(2016); Ann Gough (2018).

Maria’s Party Joan and Eddy would like to thank everyone who came to celebrate Maria’s 18th Birthday.

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, Elizabeth Fluck, 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.

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

Last Sunday’s Collection: St. Joseph’s £494-75 (plus Direct Debits); St. John Kemble £75-00.Many thanks.

PLEASE NOTE The Second Collection Boxes of Envelopes are now available for collection at the back of the church. If you also would like to donate regularly through the envelope scheme please see Robert.

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

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.

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

“ 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.”

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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