

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY – 23rd AUGUST 2026

“ 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). Come, Holy Spirit!

Mass this Sunday (Sunday 23rd August) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Patronal Festival of St. John Kemble (Parish & People 0; 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Yolanda Jones (RIP) (Marion & Jane); Sunday 10-30 a.m. Patricia Thompson (RIP) (The Family).

Weekday Mass Times (Wednesday 26th August) (St. Joseph's) 9-30 a.m. The Veale family (RIP) (Martin & Nuala); 11-00 a.m. (St. John Kemble) Ioan Perkins (RIP.)

Mass next Sunday (30th August) Saturday 4-00 p.m. (St. John Kemble) Elaine Reynolds (RIP) (SVP); 6-00 p.m. (St. Joseph's) Ioan Perkins (RIP) (Paula & Adrian); 10-30 a.m. Parish & People.

Month of August Except for weekend and weekday Masses Fr. Neil will be taking days off in August.

Twenty-First Sunday - Psalm Response “ O Lord, Your merciful love is eternal; Discard not the work of Your hand” (Sunday - Year A; Daily Mass Readings – Year II; Daily Office - Week 1)

Readers: This Sunday (23rd) 6-00 p.m. Gerald Smith; 10-30 a.m. Bethan Lee. **Next Sunday** (30th) 6-00 p.m. Patrick McAteer; 10-30 a.m. Tommy Parel.

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 – Gwenan Lock (Sp.Int.); Our Lady – Colin Mulligan (RIP); St. Joseph – Paul Morgan (Sp.Int.).

Ioan Perkins (RIP) Please remember Ioan in your prayers and Joan at this time. Ioan's Funeral Service takes place at the Chapel of Rest in Cadoxton this Wednesday 26th August at 12-15 p.m. followed by burial at Llantwit Cemetery at 1-00 p.m. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Colin Mulligan (RIP) Please remember Colin in your prayers and the family at this time. Colin's Funeral Mass will take place here in St. Joseph's on Thursday 3rd September at 1-45 p.m. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

Anniversaries Mary Widlake (2016); Ieuan Evans (2024); Owen Davies (2008); Giovanni D'Angeli (2011); Sheelah Kinsey (2014); Julian Bester (2012); Doreen O'Brien (2016); Aileen Lester (2008). *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Last Sunday's Collection: St. Joseph's £409-84 (plus Direct Debits). St. John Kemble £82-00. An “ anonymous ” donation of £500 to parish funds. All donations gratefully received. Many thanks.

Platon Theodoulou We welcome Platon (11) into the full communion of the Catholic Church at our 10-30 a.m. Mass this Sunday. Platon and his father, Marios, come to us from the Orthodox Church. Please keep them, Liliya and Leonides in your prayers.

Ministry of Welcome. To further develop our ministry of welcome, “meeters and greeters” will welcome and hand out our newsletters to visitors at the start of Mass. If you would like to be involved please add your name and phone number to the list at the back of the church. Thank you. (Parish Mission Study Group).

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The Matthew Mulcahy Sponsored Walk will this year support the education of street children in Madagascar by the Ursuline Sisters. The walk will be on Sunday 13th September from Stella Maris Convent (Uplands, Swansea) to Our Lady Star of the Sea - and back! All are welcome to join the walk but – if you prefer! – sponsorship forms are at the back of the church. Thank you.

Altar Flowers Donations to the cost of the flowers would be much appreciated. Many thanks.

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, 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, Sheila Morgan, Mary Bowen, Kay Mead, Deacon Jim, Dennis Gorman. If you would like others to be remembered in this prayer list (with their permission) please supply their names.

The Sick & Housebound If you know of someone who (at their request) would appreciate contact with the church through a home visit from the S.V.P. please contact Anne Guest, the Secretary on aguest77@yahoo.com or Pat O'Connell for a visit from the Legion of Mary.

The Guild of St. Stephen for Altar Servers and the Maryvale Institute run an annual 6-month course for adult Altar Servers exploring the history of the Liturgy, the Sacraments, skills and theology of service etc, delivered online in one hour monthly evening sessions. There are no pre-requisite education requirements. Deadline for registration is 15th September. Visit guildofststephen.org/certificate or contact Deacon Phil Briers at certificate@guildofststephen.org

Piety Shop The Piety Shop will be open for quarter of an hour before Mass on Saturdays (5-30 to 5-45 p.m.) We would like to form a rota of volunteers so that the shop can also be open on a Sunday morning (10-00 to 10-15 a.m.). to cover these times. Please have a word with Mary Isaac (07399 565232) or Brenda Grant (07817 656157).

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

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)

The Choir We are looking for further members to join the choir. Please have a word with a present member for further information. With a larger choir our options are also enlarged. Don't be shy!

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.retrouaille.org.uk Tel:+44 7887 296 983 Next dates 2nd to 4th October (Tel; 0788 7296983).

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

“ 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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