



# Eglwys Gatholig Sant Joseff, Castellnedd. St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Neath.

Parish Priest – Fr. Neil Evans

St. Joseph's Presbytery, Hillside Lane, Neath. SA11 1TG. Tel: (01639)643323

email: parishofneath@gmail.com

www.parishofneath.com

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Jim Caddick

*St. John Kemble Catholic Church* : Llewellyn Street, Glynneath. SA11 5AE.  
*Serving the Catholic Community of the Neath Valley*

## Times of Holy Mass for the coming week

Day	Time and Place	Intention
<b>Sunday 27th December</b> <i>The Holy Family</i>	4:00 pm Saturday Glynneath 6:00 pm Saturday Neath 10.30am Sunday Neath	Annie Boyle (Owen & Anita) Sr. Gabriel (Spec Int) ( Y & N) Parish & People
<b>Monday 28th December</b>	NO MASS	
<b>Tuesday 29th December</b> <i>St Thomas a Becket</i>	6.30 pm Neath	Edgar, Elizabeth & Daniel Andrews R.I.P (L)
<b>Wednesday 30th December</b>	9.30 Neath 11.00 Glynneath	Edith & Florence Delve R.I.P. (L) Olive & Lyn Price R.I.P. (L)
<b>Thursday 31st December</b>	9.30 Neath	Fr. John Woods R.I.P. (SPCD)
<b>Friday 1st January</b> <i>Mary, Mother of God</i>	10.30 Neath	Kitty & Helen (Spec Int)
<b>Saturday 2nd January</b>		
<b>Sunday 3rd January</b> <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>	4:00 pm Saturday Glynneath 6:00 pm Saturday Neath 10.30am Sunday Neath	Parish & People J.N.Berni R.I.P. (R. Newton) Hanna (Spec Int)



### Confessions

Neath : on request

Glynneath: on request



### Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

After Friday Morning Mass.



**Readers for this week: 26th/27th December The Holy Family**

**Saturday Evening:** Nora Reynolds, Laurence MacPherson Jones

**Sunday Morning:** Babs Hunt, Alice Williams

**Readers for next week: 2nd/3rd January The Epiphany**

**Saturday Evening:** Adrian MacPherson Jones, Paula MacPherson Jones

**Sunday Morning :** Roger Fluck, Ann Bromage



### Church Cleaning

Team 2

**Thank you for your generosity in the last offertory collection**



Neath: 20.12.15: £681.74 Levy: £157.20  
Glynneath: 12.12.15: £67.70



### Please pray for those in our parish who are sick and housebound, especially:

Kath Wellington, Eileen Williams, Benita Whittington, Rosa Tristram,

Audrey Gammon, Peter and Hazel Huxtable, Marjorie Grant, Olive Davies, Leo Linney, Mike O'Hea,

Gladys Gallagher, Gaynor Pickrell, Lilian Lowry, Ana Maria, Gerry Rennick, Mary Holmes, Yolanda Jones, Peggy Evans, Bernard Madden, Harper Marie Beasley, David Jukes, Peter Healey, Tim O'Neill and Anita Gore.



### Of your Charity, pray for those who have died, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Arthur Wheatley, Lucy Wiltshire Mair Richards, Patrick Gallagher, Peter Navin, Vernon Tanner and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them – may they rest in peace. Amen.*



Sacred Heart Lamp is lit for:

*Michael McAteer*



Our Lady's Lamp is lit for:

*John O'Callghan R.I.P.*



St. Joseph's Lamp is lit for:

*Andrew Mills*

**CROESO—WELCOME!** To all visitors. We hope you enjoy your stay in the area.

**Christmas Message:** With great joy we celebrate the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Jesus was not born into a fairy tale nativity scene but into a harsh world of homelessness and Roman occupation. Similarly, we also do not have to “imagine” a fairy tale Jesus, inhabiting myths and legends. In His risen power Jesus awaits an invitation into the reality of our day to day lives. “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and sup with him and he with me”.

Let our response be that of the hymn writer, “O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend on us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell. O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel”.

Deacon Jim and I wish you a very happy and holy Christmas and every blessing for 2016.

**Tea and Coffee:** is served in the Hall after Mass on Sunday. Why not join us for a cuppa and a chat!

**Exposition:** Friday morning after Mass.

**First Holy Communion:** The following names have been received for First Holy Communion: Bethany Tristram, Callum Lavin, Daniel Jones, Iori Davies, Bethany Clifford, Kieran Cameron, Eve Abell, Kyla Evans, Violette Orrin. Please keep them all in your prayers. Classes will begin in the New Year.

**Confirmation:** Similarly, please keep each of the following in your prayers: Hannah Parel, Elma Parel, Emelia Evans, Patrick Comerford-Davies, Iori Comerford-Davies, Cabhan Comerford Davies, Niamh Bray, Ciara Bray, Mercedes Goldthrite, Abigail Goldthrite, Georgia Staddon, Emily Protheroe, Ryan Protheroe, Charlotte Humphries and Anastasia Lynch.

**Adult Confirmation and Reception into the Catholic Church:** If any adult is hoping to become a Catholic, or to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please have a word with Fr. Neil.

**St Joseph’s Parish Finances:** Many thanks for two further “anonymous” donations of £1,000 to the Parish Fund and £6,000 to the Boiler Room Fund. The £7,100 thus far received will be ring-fenced. We need to raise a further £2,900 to reach our target of a £10,000 reserved fund for the boiler room. Many, many thanks for all donations received.

**Buy the Boiler Bash!** - two events to boost the boiler fund.

1) Saturday 16th January 10.00 –12.00 Coffee Morning

and sale of goods stored in the hall loft!

2) Dinner at Remo’s, Windsor Road on Tuesday 26th January at 7.00 for 7.30. Two courses for £12

All proceeds from both events to the Boiler Fund!

**PRAYER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY\***

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

“If you knew the gift of God!” You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.

**Thank you:** Deacon Jim and I would like to thank you for cards and gifts received over this Christmastide and wish you every blessing for 2016 - may it indeed be a Year of Mercy for us all.

**School News**

The Friends of St Joseph’s School are pleased to inform you that the Craft Fayre realised £979.65. Many thanks for your support.

*Mrs. Brooks and all the Staff would like to thank you for your support.*

*We wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas. Nadolig Llawen*

**Diary Dates; January:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January INSET Day

**The Parish Hall:** Is available for hire at very reasonable rates. If you would like to book the hall, please contact Angela Healey on 01792 424168 or 07708105147.

**Parent & Toddler Group:** meet in the hall every Wednesday morning from 9:30 -11:30. New members welcome! !



Would you like to have a 7 day candle burn for an intention in the Church? We now have candles near the statues of the Sacred Heart, Our Lady and St Joseph, that you can request to be lit for an intention that can be published in the newsletter each week. Apart from being an age old devotional practice, the donated money can help raise funds for our Church. The envelopes are available at the back of the Church.