

St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter



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St John's Church is on St John St, Tamworth, B79 7EX

Fifth Sunday of the Year (C) – 10th February 2019

Psalm Response: Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord

Readings: 1st: Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm: 137 2nd: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Saturday 9th February	Feria	10.30am (S.J.)	Monika
Fifth Sunday of the Year		6.00pm (S.J.)	Dolores Kennedy – Jim Price
Sunday 10th February		9.00 am (S.H.)	Brendan Mulvey – Ann Gillen
Fifth Sunday of the Year		10.30 am (S.J.)	Phil Cottall – Mary Barron
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Kathleen and George Elliott – Eugene Murphy
Monday 11th February	Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 12th February	Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Funeral Mass for Michael Davis
Wednesday 13th February	Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
Thursday 14th February	Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Imelda Conniffe
Friday 15th February	Feria	9.15am (S.G.)	Holy Souls
		12.30pm (S.J.)	Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish
Saturday 16th February	Feria	10.30am (S.J.)	Val Archer
Sixth Sunday of the year		6.00pm (S.J.)	Mora Davidson – Michael O'Reilly
Sunday 17th February		9.00 am (S.H.)	Karen Sketchley & Family – Brenda Shaw
Sixth Sunday of the year		10.30 am (S.J.)	Patsy Hughes – Tracey McLean
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Colm Duffy – Jim Mitchell

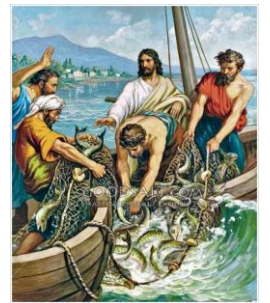
Confessions: Saturday 11 – 11.30 at St John's and 5.15 – 5.45 pm at St John's

The Sick List: *Please pray for:* Mary Collins, Sean McCauley, Christopher Wheeldon, Margaret Gallagher, Maria Leedham, Beryl Smith, Michael Dwyel, Teresa Kearney, Maurice Murdanaigum, Joy Espanta, Maria Alcuaz, K Taylor, Bill Hogan, Mandy Williamson, Anthony Hayes, Gillian Horsley, Aoife Sage, Katie Niblett, Fergal Maguire, Catherine McGinty, Margaret Wainwright, Iris Bishop, Jemma Vine, Marie Cole.

Reflection: *They left everything and followed him.*

In today Gospel we can feel Peter's sense of failure after a bad nights fishing. There is nothing extraordinary about Simon Peter and his fishing partners. They are simple fishermen, and they are simply doing what they did every day. Jesus enters into their utterly normal lives and changes everything. Jesus doesn't ask Simon to get his act together, He encounters him as he is, tells him not to be afraid, and calls him to a new mission.

We are all called to be part of God's mission in the world. We are all called daily to rethink our priorities to align with God's priorities, to use the gifts God has given us in service to others, to share the good news of Christ in word and deed.



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: John Whyles, Gladys Ballard, Lucy Beck, Margaret Flynn, Agnes Miles, Maria Brittain, Mary Tousy, Ernest Titterton, Mary Dowling, Christina West, Magdalene English, Hugh Creaney, Bill McCafferty, Reginald Tateman, Owen Cuffe, Joseph Smith, Sarah Plant, Olive Petricca, Ada Beech, Gemma Eaves, Helena Smith, Hetty Constable, Mary Longdon, Irene May, Kathleen Payne, Philip Summers, Dennis Ward, Charles Murray, Douglas Stait, Fr Pat Duffy msc, Kathleen Reed, Margaret White, John O'Rourke, Stanislaw Jarosz, Frederick Bissell, Diane Armstrong, John Alexander, Margaret Simpson, Anne Johnston, Margaret Fenn, Constance Jarvis.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Michael Davis** whose funeral reception is at St John's on Monday, 11th February at 5.00pm followed by the funeral Mass on Tuesday 12th February at 10.00am; **Dennis Chipman** whose funeral Mass will take place at St John's on Friday, 22nd February at 12.30pm; **Joyce Anderson** whose funeral service will take place at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium on Friday, 15th February at 10.30am; **Eileen Payne** whose funeral will take place at St Chad's in Hopwas on Thursday, 21st February at 2.00pm. May they rest in peace.



Confirmations for Children in Non-Catholic Schools- Is your child due to be Confirmed, but attends a non-catholic school? (They've made their First Holy Communion and are in Year 6 or above) Please get in touch as soon as possible - speak to Fr Michael or Alex Parker or email alex@tamworthrc.church to register. There will be a meeting on Wed Feb 27th at 6.00pm for parents and children.

Confirmation Preparation- Could you spare an hour a week to help prepare children for the Sacrament of Confirmation? We just need one additional leader. It would be a great opportunity to get involved as a catechist in the parish. Support will be given. The necessary checks will need to be made for working with children. Please contact Alex Parker 01827 769403 or

email alex@tamworthrc.church asap for more details and the opportunity to get involved with this rewarding work.

Alpha- Have you tried it yet? If not, perhaps you would like to try it this time. It starts in Lent. Do you know anyone else who might like to explore questions about the Christian Faith, discover a deeper faith or come back to the faith? Invite them along- even if only to try the first couple of weeks. We do need to know numbers though so please book up soon. Speak to Alex Parker 01827 769403 or register by email- alex@tamworthrc.church

Prayer Group- Tuesdays 8.00pm-9.00pm at Sacred Heart Church in the Modwen Room. Why not give a little extra time to God. Spend a little time with Jesus' presence as we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. It is a time to praise and thank God as well as praying for our own intentions and the needs of the wider community and our world too.

Alpha Leaders, helpers and Cooks: If you are available to help on the next Alpha in any way as a leader, helper, cook, washer- up or table setter, could you please contact alex@tamworthrc.church or phone 01827 769403

Journey in Faith – Please keep in your prayers those who are taking the journey in Faith with a view to becoming Catholics at Easter.

Home Groups: The next Home Group sessions will be on Monday 11th February at Eva's Home on Deltic-off Silverlink Road and on Thursday 14th February at Margaret's home on Halford Street. If you would like to join either of these groups please contact alex@tamworthrc.church or phone -01827 769403 for more exact details of venues. New members welcome.

Youth Clubs - We are to be offering two youth clubs! The first for those in year 6-9 (Phoenix) on Thursday evenings and the second for those in year 9-13 on Friday evenings. Both run from 7-9pm and have free pizza. It is a great chance to come together, make new friends, have fun and learn about God. We are desperate for volunteers for both of the clubs, it is a great way to grow in your own faith and have fun while doing it! If you can help email: dan@tamworthrc.church



If you are in your 20's or 30's why not join our new young adults group – a chance to meet other young Catholics and just make friends, a vital part of forming any community. Next meeting is this Saturday March 9th at 7.30 pm. Contact dan@tamworthrc.church for more details.

If you Feel Your Age Group is being left out why not start something?
We are happy to help!



Young Leaders and Volunteers – We have various hands-on positions available for any young people who would like to help out in and around the Church as young leaders (year11-13) and young volunteers (year 9-13). For info contact dan@tamworthrc.church

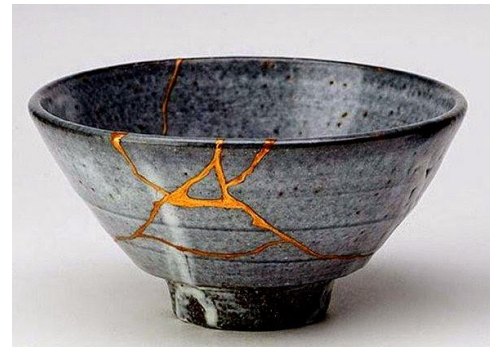
We are always looking for new members to join the Youth Band. Many have commented on how much they enjoy their music at Masses. If you are a Young person in Year 6 or above why not come along to Sacred Heart on Friday evenings from 6.30 -7.15pm in term times. We aim to serve the Parish by leading the music liturgy once a month at different Masses. If you like singing or can play a musical instrument why

not give it a try? We would love to see you. Please contact alex@tamworthrc.church for more details. Thank you to the other leaders Annie and James for giving their time and talents too.

Honesty Over Silence - On Saturday 9th March at 7pm we at St Paul's, Fazeley are hosting **Kintsugi Hope's** "Honesty Over Silence" tour - it will be an evening of live music and talks, seeking to open up conversations around difficult topics such as trust in God when life is painful, and dealing with anxiety and depression. The event is free to attend, and to help us provide the correct level of hospitality we are encouraging people to book their ticket(s) via our ChurchSuite link -

<https://peelparishes.churchsuite.co.uk/events/g3vbaejn>

Sing for Fun! The next session is at the Hub on the Castle Grounds on Thursday 21st February at 10.30- 11.30am All are welcome to come along and sing some favourites- music from the Shows and Old Time Favourites. It is a good to get out and meet new people. Singing is proven to be beneficial for the mind and can help people with a range of conditions to improve their health and wellbeing. Please contact alex@tamworthrc.church for more details.



Kintsugi – 'the art of discovering treasure in life's scars'



World Day of Prayer: This will be on Friday March 1st 2019. Open to men and women. It would be lovely to have some parishioners involved in this. Please contact alex@tamworthrc.church or phone Margaret 01827 68488 for more details. Please do get in touch soon.

Food: XPO food distribution have given lots of slightly damaged food packs to HoT for distribution. We have brought them to

Homestart, Foodbank, Cornerstone's and other charities but still have many items they would not use. If you want to take something and make a donation, then that money can be used in our work with HoT.

Memory Café is held every Tues morning at Sacred Heart from 10.30am – 12.30pm. If you know of anyone who is living with memory loss, encourage them to come along.

Bereavement Support Service runs on Friday mornings (10am – 12.00 noon) at Sacred Heart and the second group at St John's on a Thurs evening 5.30pm – 7.30pm.

AA continue to meet every Monday and Friday at St John's at 7.00 pm. New members always welcome.

GA (gamblers Anon) are meeting at St John's every Monday evening at 7.00 pm. New members welcome.



Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service Safe and Sound Free Event at Sacred Heart on April 8th. It will include five workshops - Fire safety in the home – Scam and internet safety – Basic life support – Assistive technology – Wellbeing. Participants will take part in all these workshops between 9.30am and 12.30pm. Bring along a packed lunch and stay to become a Dementia Friend 1pm – 2pm. To book a place (only 40 places available) email safeandsound@staffordshire.gov.uk or call 01785 898791.

Volunteers are always needed – As you read the Annual Report you can see that without the great number of volunteers that come forward, we wouldn't be able to do half of what we do..... Please, if you can give just a small amount of your time to help with any of the below, we ask you to contact the relevant people

1. *Work with homeless and marginalised people (speak to Simon on Simon-People@tamworth.gov.uk)*
2. *Youth work with all ages (contact dan@tamworthrc.church)*
3. *Alpha (leading, learning, cooking etc), liturgy (musicians or singers) and catechesis - please speak to alex@tamworthrc.church*
4. *For working with bereaved or people with dementia go to Wendy*
5. *For building work contact bob@tamworthrc.church*
6. *For cleaning, office work or other ideas please contact the parish office.*



Are You On Facebook and/or Instagram?

If the answer is 'yes' then please join our St John the Baptist Parish where we can give the latest information so easily. It is also a great way of welcoming other people to our community and showing them what is going on in the parish, advertising events and sending invitations.

Can you also encourage family and friends to join up with us? It means we can let them know about events or even just post 'thoughts for the day' as a way to support them spiritually, even if they are not Church goers. Our numbers are growing so thank-

you to all who have already done this.

Author Chris McDonnell is giving a talk on **Thomas Merton**, on Sun 24th February 2019 at St Mary's Parish Centre, Vivian Rd, Harborne, B17 0DN. Start at 1.30pm tea, 2.00 talk, Q&A, discussion. Everyone is welcome. There is no charge. Contact: mjriordan@hotmail.co.uk

Annual Report: We have some hard copies of the annual report available in the sacristy. There have been lots of positive comments from people in and outside of the parish but **if you have any questions, then please let us know.** We can then arrange a meeting to deal with all such queries. It is still available on the website.



Have We Got Your Email Address? If you have not had emails off us in recent weeks then the answer is 'no'. It makes it easier for us to get in touch and update you occasionally if we do have it, can you write it down on a slip of paper in the porch please? Thank-you to all who have already done that. We now have about 850 email addresses of parishioners?

Bishop Robert Byrne the assistant Bishop in Birmingham has been appointed Diocesan Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle. Please pray for him as he takes up this appointment soon. Please pray also for Archbishop Bernard, that he will get the help he needs to lead our Archdiocese in some challenging years ahead.

Seeds - we have packets of flower seed. Has anyone the skill to propagate them? We are happy to buy materials needed. Speak to Fr Michael if you want to know more.

Compliments and Complaints: In the interests of transparency and accountability we are putting together a complaints and compliments (hopefully!) policy. When things go wrong, as they do, it is important that people know their concerns will be listened to and dealt with in a timely and considerate way. But it is also helpful that it is balanced with time taken to acknowledge what is positive. This will be available in the porch and on our website soon.

Fr Michael is away till Friday – *Christmas days off!* Fr Srinu has to say Mass at St Francis of Assisi Secondary School on Wednesdays so that morning service will be a communion service.

Money Matters	
Envelopes	100.71
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	391.48
Total:	£1292.19
Building Fund	314.46
<i>Thank-you.</i>	
Gift Aid: Signing a Gift Aid form will increase your gift by 25% at no cost to you. For more info call the parish office or email office@tamworthrc.church	