

# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

Office: Sacred Heart Church, Silver Link Rd, Tamworth, B77 2EA

Parish Office: 01827 769403

Parish Centre Queries: 01827 288226

Fr Michael: [michael@tamworthrc.church](mailto:michael@tamworthrc.church)

Fr Subba: [subba@tamworthrc.church](mailto:subba@tamworthrc.church)

Deacon Brian Cox and Nora: [nora@tamworthrc.church](mailto:nora@tamworthrc.church)

Deacon Bob: [bob@tamworthrc.church](mailto:bob@tamworthrc.church)

Admin: Wendy: [office@tamworthrc.church](mailto:office@tamworthrc.church)

Catechesis/liturgy: [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church)

Terry (Bookings): [terryobrien@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:terryobrien@heartoftamworth.org)

Kelly-HoT worker: [kelly@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:kelly@heartoftamworth.org)

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

## Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year (B) – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Psalm Response:** *I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

**Readings:** Isaiah 50:5-9      Psalm 114      St James 2:14-18      Mark 8:27-35

Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year</b>	12.00 noon (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.H.)	Noreen Guilder For the sick and housebound of the parish
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year</b>	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Kathleen Michael Bolger Gloria & Leonard Carbado
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept    Exaltation of the Holy Cross	10.00am (S.H.)	Michael & Joan Randell
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> September    Our Lady of Sorrows	10.00 am (S.J.)	Bella and Pauric Gillen
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept      SS Cornelius & Cyprian	10.00am (S.H.)	Agnes Banks
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> September      Feria	9.30 am (SG) <b>12.15am (S.J.)</b>	School Mass offered for the school community <b>Noreen Guilder Funeral</b>
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year</b>	12.00 noon (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.H.)	Anne & Sidney Green – Kevin Gallagher Eileen Bloomer
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year</b>	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Sylvia Williams & Teresa Reader – Bill Bonser Margaret Smith People of the Parish

**Confession Saturday St John's Church 11.15am – 11.45 am**

**Please pray for the following who are sick:** Mary Collins, Maria Leedham, Beryl Smith, Joy Espanta, Maria Alcuaz, Mandy Williamson, Anthony Hayes, Gillian Horsley, Aoife Sage, Catherine McGinty, Margaret Wainwright, Jemma Vine, Marie Cole, Corrie Walker, Susan Myers, Fay Bishop, Rose Limm, Raymond Walker, Maureen Walker, Julie Tranter, Anna Flynn, Eileen Darcy, Eleanor Tucker, Dorothy Reardon, Augusto Mayores, Edwin Catli, Sheila Bonser, Fr Jim McCormack, Mary Coady, Patricia Burton, Muriel Lawley, Joan Barber, Dominic Hespe, George Williams, Ray Newbold, Nicole Thomson, Mandy Sheridan, Gary Ealing, Dennis Reardon, Marie Purslow, Emma Downes, Sini Thomas, Rita Fidoe, Pat Machin, Joan Hill, Connie de Guzman, Rafael Lorenzo, John Scarnell and Joyce Greer.

**Reflection:** The words from the Simon and Garfunkel song 'The Boxer' "A man hears what he wants to hear and disregards the rest". This certainly applies to Peter in today's Gospel. His belief is Jesus truly is the long-awaited Messiah. Like all the rest of us Peter wanted to hear this consoling message. But he found the rest of what Jesus had to say less palatable. He didn't want to hear about suffering, rejection, killing but also rising from the dead. In life there are two crosses; the cross of Satan and the Cross of Christ. We have to choose. At the beginning the former will seem light and pleasant. With the passage of time, however, it will get heavier and heavier, leading to sadness and heartbreak. The latter may seem heavy at the start but in the long run it will get lighter and lighter, leading to a happiness without end.



**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Martin Kennedy, Thomas Garrity, Catherine Davis, Beatrice Collins, Elizabeth Tricklebank, Winifred Tomson, Nellie Brown, Patrick Gallagher, Mary Florendine, James Hunt, Mary Hails, Joseph Fogg, Michael Fenelon, Josef Grobleney, Paddy Larvin, Mary Heafield, Sarah Smith, William Tully, Philip Carroll, Mary Plant, Hugh Twomey, Louise Bull, Vera Stevens, Robert Robertson Thompson, Kathryn Pomeroy, Lily Cureton, David Farrell, Anthony Shevlin, David Hepple, Louisa Keane, Nancy Kinsella, Caroline Pully, John Black, Andrew Bennett, Clifford Walters, Margaret Burke, Jean Hopkins, Oliver Meaney, Pdraig Gillan, Daniel Wyatt, Charles Thomas, Julie Norris Roberts, Irene Jones.

**Fr Hudson's Collection next weekend:** We are all aware of the great work of Fr Hudson's. They are the principal social care agency of the Diocese providing a range of services for people who are in need. This includes destitute women, refugees, people with disabilities, dementia care and much more. They do what HoT does, but across the whole Diocese. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of - Noreen Guilder** whose funeral will take place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 12.15pm, **Kevin Gallagher** whose funeral will take place **on the 1<sup>st</sup> October** at 12noon in St John's. Sympathy and prayers to Pat Standen and family and friends after two aunts passed away within a week, **Alice Gillen** and **Bella Gillen** whose funeral is to be arranged. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



## Learning About the Faith



**Alpha - In person or Online?** A choice of two Alpha courses. One on Thursday evenings at Sacred Heart 7.30-9.00pm from 30<sup>th</sup> September or one online on Zoom- day and time to be confirmed. So it's meeting up or Zooming in? The choice is yours. Watch an inspiring video and follow with discussion! Why not give it a try? Please book so that we know numbers via email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or phone 01827 769403

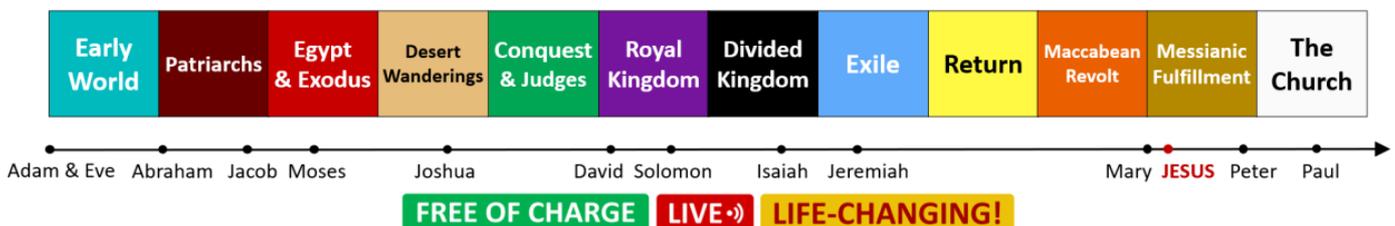
**Alpha Prayer Campaign:** Who would you like to bring into or back to the church? The first most important step is to pray for them. Ask the Holy Spirit to give them courage to come forward- and you

the courage to invite them!

**Journey in faith:** Are you, or do you know anyone else, interested in becoming a Catholic or finding out more about the Catholic Faith? Please get in touch with us soon as the course starts at the end of September. Please email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or phone 01827 769403 to speak with Fr Michael or Alex Parker to book a place and find out more.

**Sacramental Preparation:** Do you have a child at a non-Catholic school who needs to be prepared for any of the Sacraments -Confession, First Holy Communion (Year 3 or above) or Confirmation (Year 6 or above) in the coming year? Please get in touch soon so they can be booked onto one of our courses [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) phone 01827 769403 or speak to Fr Michael, Fr Subba or Alex after Mass.

## The Bible Timeline Course



**The Bible Timeline Course:** Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this free of charge, worldwide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts **Wed 29th September 2021**. Eight Wednesday sessions, @7pm. Info & Registration: [www.comeandsee.org](http://www.comeandsee.org)

**Children's Liturgy** will be restarting across the parish on the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> October. We need more adults for the Sunday morning Masses at both churches - 9.00 am, 10.30 am and 12.00 noon, so that we can have 3 teams for each Mass. Please, can you help? There will be a meeting, including training, on Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept at 7.00 pm at Sacred Heart. If you would like more details, please contact Lisa Fahy on 07976553603 or [lisafahy77@outlook.com](mailto:lisafahy77@outlook.com)

**Baptisms are now taking place again.** Does your child or grandchild or a friend's baby need to be baptised. If the answer is 'yes', please invite them to contact the parish office as soon as possible so that we can start arrangements. We are flexible about dates.

It would be a shame if this pandemic led to people not having a child baptised. It is the greatest of all Sacraments so do encourage parents to give their child this great gift of God's grace.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Teas and Coffee with a biscuit** are now being served after the 9am Mass at Sacred Heart, 50p per cup. Funds raised will be for church flowers.



"...he's one of the results of our 'Risk Assessment Survey'!"

**Family Social Events** are being requested. We will do a Bonfire Night on Nov 5<sup>th</sup>. We could also do a Christmas Fayre. Can anyone help with these please?

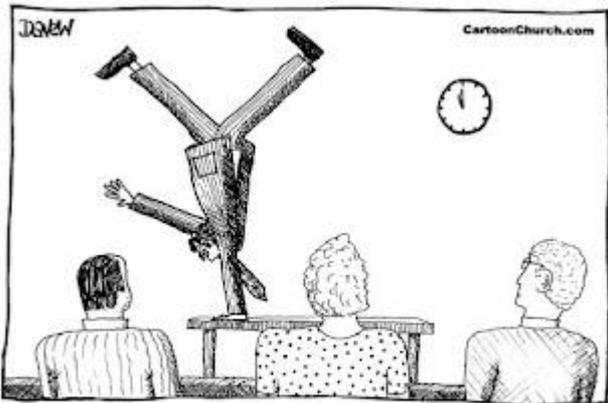
**Wear It Pink** is a charity event for breast cancer on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at Sacred Heart. We are looking for raffle prizes and cakes for a cake bake sale. Can anyone help please? It is for a cause that has affected countless families and maybe yours too? If you can then contact Annette on [net72@live.co.uk](mailto:net72@live.co.uk)

**Grab a Jab Clinic Open to 16s and over in Tamworth** People aged 16 and over in Tamworth are being urged to grab a jab at a walk-in vaccine centre at the Ankerside Shopping Centre this week. First and second doses of both the Pfizer and AstraZenica (for older adults) are available from 10am Sunday, through to Thursday. Further info at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirusvaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirusvaccine). No appointments necessary, but bring ID.

**Memorial Pedestals:** St John's and Sacred Heart Flower ladies offer to do pedestals to mark an anniversary of a loved one. To find out more or to have an arrangement made, please contact the office on [office@tamworthrc.church](mailto:office@tamworthrc.church) or speak to a member of the flower team. The cost of the flowers is £15.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Youth Work



Dave was surprised at the variety of tasks a youthworker was expected to perform.

**Our New Youth Worker Libby Cox** is introducing herself at all Masses this weekend. It's a great opportunity for our young people to say hello and find out what is being planned. Welcome to Libby. Please pray for her and support her as much as possible.

**Groups Restarting:** We will be restarting Phoenix youth club on Wednesday September 15<sup>th</sup> from 6.30 till 8.00pm. This group will be led by Annette, Marie and Libby (our new youth worker). It will be open to any young person in years 6, 7 & 8.

**The Teens Group** will also begin again on Fridays. We want to start by asking a group of young people what they think would be appealing to others. If any teens want to be part of this discussion, then please let Fr Michael know

asap. It will take place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> at 7.00pm in the Café, accompanied by a (HoT) burger or pizza and chips.

**Youth Leader Volunteers:** We have been blessed with great volunteers over the past few years but we are looking for more. Is this something you have ever considered. If you would like to speak to her about this you can meet her then or email her on [e.cox@cardinalgriffin.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:e.cox@cardinalgriffin.staffs.sch.uk)

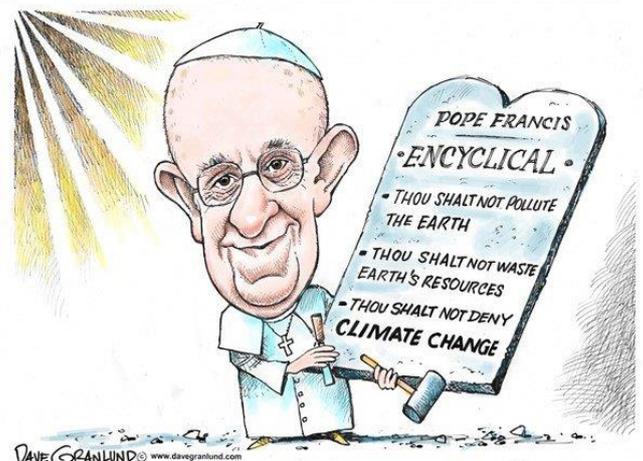
**Youth Band-** Youth Band will start back **soon** on Fridays 6.15-7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church in the Modwen Room. New members welcome. It is open to all Youth in Year 6 and above. If you enjoy singing or can play an instrument, why not give it a try. Please contact Alex [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) for more details and to register your interest.

**Notice to Altar Servers** of two events coming up in September and October Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September: National Mass for the Guild of Saint Stephen at the parish of Ss Mary & John, Wolverhampton.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October: **Proximity 2021**, this is intended to be an annual event for altar servers of all ages. It will be hosted by Oscott College, the day will be an opportunity to meet other servers from across the Archdiocese. Could any altar servers wishing to attend, please contact [patrickstanden@virginmedia.com](mailto:patrickstanden@virginmedia.com).

**Diocesan Climate Action Meeting – Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 7-9pm:** Join us in combatting climate change. The Diocese wants to ask you to help us find ways to address the climate emergency together and to respond to Pope Francis' call for an ecological conversion. Parishes have gained CAFOD Live Simply Awards. We are proud of this but we want to do more. You are invited to join our initial open meeting, **via Zoom**, in which we will talk about the work we have done and future plans. [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/climate-action-meeting](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/climate-action-meeting).

**Women in Scripture:** The Archdiocese is launching a new podcast series about our favourite heroines. Who



are they? What can they teach us? Be inspired across the ages with some of the greatest women of all time. Natalie Orefice, advisor for Parish Evangelisation, listens to dynamic women sharing the Bible for today. Available on iTunes, Spotify and Soundcloud. [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/podcasts](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/podcasts)

**Let us pray with Pope Francis** who is encouraging all countries to welcome Afghan refugees who are seeking a new life.

His holiness also prayed that displaced persons inside Afghanistan receive assistance and protection. Pope Francis said, *"In these tumultuous moments, in which Afghans are seeking refuge, I pray for the most vulnerable among them, I pray so that many countries welcome and protect all those seeking a new life,"*

**Education Sunday:** Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September is Education Sunday. Please pray for all those in education in our schools, colleges and at university, especially as they start their new terms. We remember in particular all staff in our own schools here in Tamworth.



\*\*\*\*\*

## Social Action



**Food Collections take place every night** from various food outlets and also during the day sometimes. This then supplies our HoT Community Shop. Simon Peale co-ordinates this and does a lot of collecting himself but assisted by a few others. Is anyone able to cover Saturday nights starting in September? If you can, then please contact Simon Peale – [speople@btinternet.com](mailto:speople@btinternet.com)

**Memory Café on Tues 10.30am-12.30pm** Karen 01827 431002 [karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk). We are looking for people who can offer a skill / craft that our visitors can do. Please speak to or contact Wendy [office@tamworthrc.church](mailto:office@tamworthrc.church)

**Bereavement Help Point** every Friday 10.00am – 12noon. If you or anyone you know is struggling with bereavement, come along to have a chat with someone who understands. More volunteers are needed, training will be given but the qualification is just, a listening ear.

**Shop Volunteers** continue to work quietly in the shop, commitment is just brilliant. There is always a need for more volunteers, if you feel you can help Please contact [kelly@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:kelly@heartoftamworth.org)

**HoT Shop:** From Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, the HoT Shop changed the way it worked. They are now selling bags at £4 each with a maximum of 2 bags per customer per week. Each bag can contain the quantity of items stipulated within the shop signs. To include 1 fridge and 1 freezer item per bag. Free bread items and fruit and veg available with each shop.

**Food donations for the Community Shop** – Donations of tins and non-perishables food are needed in the shop. It has been reported that there is a noticeable decline in food donation to all charities who help the people who are struggling to put food on the tables. We are so fortunate as all our parishioners are so generous.

One way you can help is by asking your employer if you can have a basket for people to donate non-perishables in which could be brought in to Sacred Heart or St John's.

**Café Volunteers** have been fantastic. We are still looking for volunteers. If you have some time to spare, however much that maybe, we would appreciate your help. As well as regular volunteers we are looking for people who can help out on a 'when needed' basis. Please contact [kelly@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:kelly@heartoftamworth.org)



**Hygiene Bank: Urgent Appeal** Our current needs are: Toothbrushes and toothpaste, children and adults. Deodorant, Shampoo, Nappies size 5,6, 7 and Clothes wash tablets. Please help if you can

**Tai-Chi has now resumed** on a Tuesday morning at Sacred Heart 11.30 – 12.30, everyone welcome.

**Lost Keys** – a set of keys have been found in the car park of St John's. Please ring the parish office if they are yours.