

St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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



Twenty fourth Sunday of the Year (C) – 15th September 2019

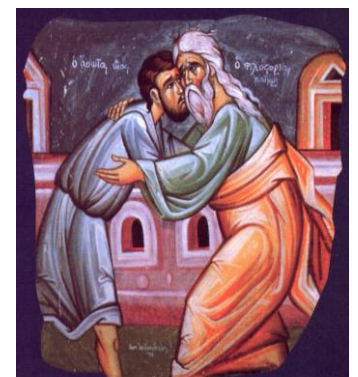
Psalm Response: I will Leave this place and go to my father

Readings:	Exodus 32:7-11. 13-14	Psalm 50	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-32
Sat 14th Sept	Exaltation of the Cross	10.30am (S.J.)	Mary & Joseph Batko	
	Twenty fourth Sunday of the Year	6.00pm (S.J.)	Pat Lane & Nora Bolt - Marina King	
Sunday 15th September		9.00 am (S.H.)	Bill Hogan – Thank you	
	Twenty fourth Sunday of the Year	10.30 am (S.J.)	Bolger family – Margaret Burke	
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Paul Power – Thank you	
Mon 16th Sept	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	10.00 am (S.J.)	Funeral Mass for Paul Power	
Tuesday 17th September	Feria	10.00 am (S.H.)	Arek and family	
Wednesday 18th September	Feria	10.00am (S.J.)	Holy Souls	
Thursday 19th September	Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Parish evangelisation	
Friday 20th September	Feria	9.15am (S.E.)	Intentions of the school	
		12.30pm (S.J.)	Mass for the sick and housebound	
Saturday 21st September	St Matthew	10.30am (S.J.)	For the people of the Parish	
	Twenty fifth Sunday of the Year	6.00pm (S.J.)	Anne and Sidney Green – Frank Hill	
Sunday 22nd September		9.00 am (S.H.)	Padraig Gillen and Charlie Standen	
	Twenty fifth Sunday of the Year	10.30 am (S.J.)	Mary McLarnon	
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Ann Bernes	

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

The Sick List: Mary Collins, Sean McCauley, Christopher Wheeldon, Margaret Gallagher, Maria Leedham, Beryl Smith, Michael Dwyel, Teresa Kearney, Joy Espanta, Maria Alcuaz, Mandy Williamson, Anthony Hayes, Gillian Horsley, Aoife Sage, Katie Niblett, Fergal Maguire, Catherine McGinty, Margaret Wainwright, Iris Bishop, Jemma Vine, Marie Cole, Corrie Walker, Susan Myers, Fay Bishop, Brenda Seul, Celine Brown, Rose Limm, Leonard Carbado, Raymond Walker, Maureen Walker, Rod and Julie Tranter, Pat Bernes, Mike Reardon, Belen, Kate Parker, Phil Crook..

Reflection: Even though in today's Gospel there are problems, the main theme is to Rejoice! A shepherd cares so much for one lost sheep that he leaves ninety-nine behind in the wilderness. A woman expends significant energy to find her lost coin, and then hosts a party that likely costs her more than the coin is worth. A father showers gifts upon his disrespectful, wasteful son, simply because the kid shows up. Such are the ways of God. Receiving and being open to mercy is our destiny, we are at our best in receiving the mercy of God and the forgiveness of another. *Rejoicing Father, You celebrate when one of your lost children is found because no one is worthless to you. We stand humbled and in awe that you would count us among your most prized possessions. Give us eyes to see the priceless value of every living soul, for the sake of the one who became human for the sake of our souls, Jesus Christ our seeker. Amen.*



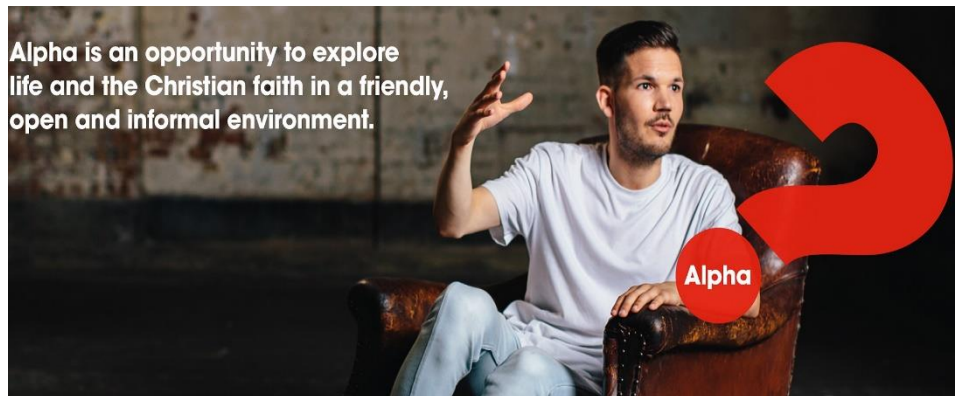
Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Martin Kennedy, Thomas Garrity, Catherine Davis, Beatrice Collins, Elizabeth Tricklebank, Winifred Tomson, Nellie Brown, Patrick Gallagher, Mary Florendine, James Hunt, Mary Hails, Joseph Fogg, Michael Fenelon, Josef Grobleney, Paddy Larvin, 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, Padraig Gillen, Daniel Wyatt.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Paul Power** who will be received into St John's on Sunday 15th September at 5.00 pm followed by a funeral Mass on Monday, 16th Sept at 10.00am; **Charles Thomas** whose funeral will be at 10.00 am on Wed 25th Sept at Church followed by burial at Glascote cemetery; and **Kathleen Cleary** who died in Ireland. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Fr Hudson's Care – The second collection next weekend will be in aid of Fr Hudson's care. Gift Aid Envelopes are available this weekend. Fr Hudson's Care transforms the lives of people at their time of need. Christ's command to 'love one another as I have loved you' underpins all the work they do. Please give generously.

We Will Welcome Fr Julian Greene next weekend. It's a pulpit swap! Fr Julian is working up in the potteries at four churches. So Fr Michael is going there next weekend so that both our congregations can hear a new voice and perspective on the Word of God. We warmly welcome Fr Julian who is well known around the Diocese for his preaching, teaching and enthusiasm.

Alpha - Dinner or Breakfast? A choice of two Alpha courses. One on Thursday evenings at Sacred Heart 7.30-9.00pm from 26th September or one on Saturday mornings 10.00-11.30am at St John's Community Rooms from next Saturday 21st September. So it's dinner or breakfast? The choice is yours. Free food, an inspiring video and discussion! Why not give it a try? Please book – see below.



Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Keep inviting! Please pick up three invites and invite people this week. Then ask them please to book too so that we know numbers via email alex@tamworthrc.church or phone 01827 769403 or via the website.

Alpha 21- Day Prayer Campaign - Keep praying for your three or more people on the prayer card at 11.02 each day. 11.02 refers to Luke Chapter 11 verse 2 where Jesus teaches us the Our Father. If you didn't start last week then just start praying today. Pick up a card at the back of church. We want people to open their hearts and minds to God. Sometimes that might seem hard but with God's help everything is possible. Now we are asking for his help, his response might be: *'well invite them to Alpha'*.

Alpha Cooks: We are looking for a few more cooks to help with our Alpha courses' food. If you are available to cook or help in the kitchen, for one of the sessions, please get in touch with alex@tamworthrc.church or phone 01827 769403. Thank-you to all who have already offered.

Alpha Team- There is a training session for the Alpha Team on Thursday 19th September from 7.30-9.00pm at Sacred Heart in the Modwen Room. This is essential for new leaders, but it would be great if all can try to attend so we can update and pray together too.

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 or Confirmation in 2020? Please get in touch soon so they can be booked onto one of our courses alex@tamworthrc.church phone 01827 769403 or speak to Fr Michael, Fr Srinu or Alex after Mass.



The Canonisation of John Henry Newman is being marked by celebrations at the Oratory in Birmingham. There is a poster in the porch. These events are on October 13th, 18th and 20th. Two of them will be led by Archbishop Bernard and all are welcome. One is in the old Latin rite known as the Extraordinary Form – see <https://www.birminghamoratory.org.uk/> for details.

Choir - Wednesday practices continue on 11th September 7.00-7.45pm at Sacred Heart Church. Saturday evening practices at St John's 5.15pm before Mass.

New members of all ages welcome **to join** either of these groups. More details please speak to Alex after Mass or just turn up when you can.

Youth Band- Youth Band will continue on Fridays 6.30-7.15pm 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 speak to Fr Michael Fr Srinu, Annie or Alex after Mass or email alex@tamworthrc.church or phone 01827 769403 for more details.

Dan is now back in the Parish, he is creating the plan for the School year, lots of exciting things have already been planned! If you would like to get involved in the youth ministry of the Church, either as a young person or volunteer, then please do contact Dan!

Phoenix youth club is returning once again this Thursday night 7-9pm. Anyone between School year 6-9 is welcome, we even have free pizza! Rumor has it a youth disco is going to be announced soon so best get to Phoenix to hear about it and get involved!

Our Friday night youth club is back each Friday from 7-9pm. This is open to anyone from School year 9-13. This week we are going to be planning what trips we want to do throughout the year!

We also always have free pizza!

Summer Scheme: We would like to thank everyone who helped out on the Summer Scheme this year! It was a great success with 88 young people attending, our beach day we had almost 130 people in total!

We would like to formally thank all the volunteers of the Summer Scheme, as we really would not have been able to do it without you. This includes:

Annette Saunders, Claire Howells, Marie Trevelyan, Catherine Siviter, Karen Morse, Julia Hale, Stephen Hansard, Monika Zyla, Victoria Forry, Kate Wright, Amber Jobe, Niamh Reynolds, Angel Neild, Patricia Hartree, Emma Wilson, Niamh Hitchings, Andy Hitchings, Mairead Hitchings, Hannah Jones, Hannah Slim, Hannah Vernon, Monika Zyla, Angela Powers, Bob Charles, Toby Duckworth, Fr. Michael White, Fr. Srinu, Fr. Subbu, Julia Hale, Suzanne Jones, Annie Hopper, Steve Pursglove, Mark Dettmer, Mary Dettmer, Kirsty Patrick, Jean Wright, Chris Forrett, Katy Craddock, Kate Wright, John Bolger, Helen Bolger, Terry McElroy, Lizzie McElroy, Kamila Paczkowska, Kathy Steggles, Ruairi Lysaght, Siobhan Lysaght, Brian Cox, Nora Cox.



The Kenelm Youth Trust and the Vocations Office for the Archdiocese of Birmingham warmly invite you to the **Christ is Alive Youth Ministry Conference Day** on Saturday 28th Sept, 10am - 5pm at Alton Castle.

The conference will explore the ideas and trends that emerged at Church's recent synod on young people, faith and vocational discernment. It will give food for thought as well as practical approaches to serving young people and keeping their voices at the heart of our ministry.



The day is for at youth workers, parish youth leaders, catechists, lay chaplains in schools, pastoral workers and all those involved in mission and ministry. Presentations include some great speakers and workshops.

The conference has been subsidised to enable parish volunteers to participate and tickets are £10. (This includes a bacon sandwich and tea and cake refreshments. Please also bring a packed lunch.)

Parish priests have been invited to send two delegates to the conference from each parish. Please speak to Fr Michael if you would like to represent your parish.

Children's Liturgy at Sacred restarts now. It is a great way for children to be involved in the Mass by hearing the Word of God in language they understand. But we need more help with this. Firstly, bring your children to it (primary school age) and **secondly, can you help in some way as an adult?** Please speak to one of the leaders you see running it or one of the clergy.



We are considering pilgrimages for next year. Have you ever thought of doing some of the Camino, a walking pilgrimage to the tomb of St James in Santiago northern Spain. It is the most ancient of pilgrimages that is over 1,000 years old. Millions still do it. We would look to walk the last 100 miles in a week. About 15 have already come forward. If you are interested, please put your name on the list. We have been advised to set a limit of 20.

Education Sunday- Next Sunday 22nd 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.

UCM - The next meeting of the UCM will be on Wednesday 4th September at 7.45pm in St John's Church. If anyone has any items for Mary's Meals backpacks please bring them along.

Help needed - An elderly male parishioner is in need of some help and care ideally 3 times a week. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact 07957682504

Memory Café is held every Tues morning at Sacred Heart from 10.30am – 12.30pm. **More volunteers are urgently needed.** Please contact Wendy for more info, office@tamworthrc.church or 01827 769403

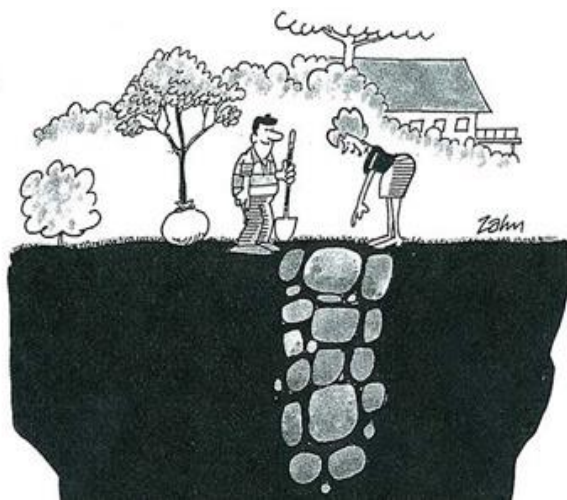
Bereavement Support Service on Friday (10–12.00am) at Sacred Heart. This is another group that need more volunteers, you don't need any special qualification, just a listening ear. Contact Wendy on office@tamworthrc.church or 01827 769403

Men's Club Tuesday 10am–12 noon A great way to spend a couple of hours. The men play chess, cards or just have a chat over a cuppa. They also have the odd day out bowling. If you are at home complaining of nothing to do then give this a try.

Sing For Fun- Do you enjoy singing? Why not come along and meet with others too. It is good for the mind and all round well-being. It is open to all. The next session is at the Hub in the Castle Grounds on Thursday 19th September 10.30- 11.30 am. Tea and Coffee available.

Annual Report and questions and AGM was published quite a while back. We spoke about it at the Archbishop's visitation but never invited questions or comments. If you have any questions about last year's report it is not too late to ask. If there were a few we could easily organise a meeting so please email in or write down any questions you might have.

Money Matters	
Envelopes	113.05
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	407.60
Total:	£ 1320.65
Building Fund	£254.43
Donation	£1,000
<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	



Calling all people who love gardens: When building work starts we want to protect and re-use plants from the garden in front of Sacred Heart (often called the 'Bereavement Garden'). That means rescuing and saving them. For that we need many hands. We also need to cut the hedge again as winter approaches. Again, that needs six people since it is so long. In total we need 15 volunteers. Can you please help?

Much of this work just involves barrowing. It is good fun when there is a crowd of us. There are also two opportunities to help. The first is on Tuesday Oct 1st. The other day is Saturday Oct 5th. You can help for as long as you like since some of us will be here all day. If you can do just one hour, that is great. Please let us know when you can help.