

St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

Second Sunday of the Year (C) – 16th January 2022

Psalm Response: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the people

Readings:	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 95	Corinthians 12:4-11	John 2:1-11
Saturday 15 th January Second Sunday of the Year	12.00 noon (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.H.)	The Sick and Housebound Paddy Horan		
Sunday 16 th January Second Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Ray Browne Joseph Fitzgerald and Joyce Farrington Kevin & Sylvia Williams		
Tuesday 18 th January Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Communion Service		
Wednesday 19 th January Feria	10.00am (S.J.)	George Draper		
Thursday 20 th January Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Doherty Family		
Friday 21 st January St Agnes	9.15 am (S.E.) 10.00 am (S.J.)	Pupils, staff and families at SE Communion Service		
Saturday 22 nd January Third Sunday of the Year	12.00 noon (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.H.)	Tony Soden – Raymond Cardwell & Deirdre Daly Fr Daniel McSweeney – Joe Roche & Phyllis Roche		
Sunday 23 rd January Third Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Special Intentions – Peats Family Thomas Fallon – Fr Kevin McNamara Peter Corcoran – Amelia Wayne		

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, Margaret Wainwright, Jemma Vine, Corrie Walker, Fay Bishop, Rose Limm, Raymond Walker, Maureen Walker, Julie Tranter, 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, Joyce Greer, Tolentino Fabian and Felix Gray Sutton Whittle, Maurice Murdanaigum, John Carty, Joanne Foster, David Walker, Jane McSweeney, Marie Trevelyan, Paul Connell.

Reflection: In today's Gospel Jesus reveals his glory, but not through a TV campaign or emails, as it may be done today, he just goes to a wedding, to celebrate God's wonderful gift of marriage. He also takes the opportunity to reveal the abundance of God's grace. John's Gospel speaks of Jesus' miracles as 'signs' because they always point to something deeper than the merely miraculous. The changing of water to wine is Jesus' first public 'sign' of God's presence in the world through him. It begins to inform us about who Jesus is, and about the purpose of his mission.

Lord, we thank you for good marriages. We thank you for the wonder of faithful, unconditional love shown by husband and wife, parents and grandparents. This fidelity powerfully reflects the quality of God's love for us all.



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Margaret Mattison, Patrick Gibbons, Thomas Connell, Walter Shears, Roderick Gleeson, Joseph Carroll, Maria Agatiello, Mary Berns, Michael Reardon, Frank Patrick, Giovanni Amato, Margaret Minchin, Andre Freeman, Teresa Wooton, Anne Jewkes, Alice Fitzpatrick, Agnes Sheridan, Margaret Plunton, Miss Meomartini, Brian Kerlake, John Mason, Anne Cuffe, Patricia Pitt, Judith Gibson, Cornelius Flynn, Ivy Hardwick, James Scott, Maureen Taylorson, Paul Weir, Patrick Hunt, Peter Mattison, Joseph Lee, John Hopkins, Anthony Yourell, Ewald Burg, Rose Green, Louis Nealon, Olive Ranayne, Jean Crowley, Winifred Latham, Norman Northall, Kathleen Read, Teresa Hynes, Cyril Hodgkinson, Nancy Chadwick, Joachim Lehmann, Angela Connolly, Phyllis Wiltshire, Gerrard Quinn, Frederick Chadwick, Jack York, Arthur Thomas, Coleen Tunney, Helena Sidwells, Denise Haynes, John Hever, Francis James, Annette Beech, Mary Cutler, Michael Davis, Annie Dearne, Maureen Carney, James Walter Corrigan

Fr Subba has gone home to India till February 11th to visit family and friends. He has not been back for three years. He arrived safely and sends his love. Please pray that his stay is both restful and fruitful. It will mean that some weekday Masses will have to be communion services if Fr Michael has a school Mass, funeral or is working away.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Daniel Smith**, whose funeral service will be at Sacred Heart on Mon 24th Jan at 12 noon; **Monica McLean** whose funeral service will be at St John's on Tues 25th Jan at 1.00 pm; **Arek Wasilik** whose funeral will be at Sacred Heart on Thursday 27th Jan at 10 am; **Barbara Hill** whose funeral will take place on the 2nd February at Sacred Heart at 12 noon; **Margaret Holmes** whose funeral will be at Fradley Crematorium on Wed Jan 26th at 1.30pm (*anyone wishing to speak to family about Margaret should contact Fr Michael*); **Rose McKiernan** on Tues 1st Feb at 10.30 at Sacred Heart; **Margaret Speer** whose funeral will take place on Monday Jan 31st at Sutton Crematorium at 10.45 am; **Raf Lorenzo** whose funeral will be on Thurs Feb 3rd at 11.30 at St John's with reception on Wednesday at 5pm; and **Paul Cadwallader** (Ann's son) who passed away on Tuesday and **Lil Nevin** (Fr Henry's mother) who also died on Tuesday this week aged 94. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Children's Bible Story Library: Well-done to those who have joined and are now using the library. Don't forget to bring your books back and exchange for a new one. One per child please. New members just need to sign up to join and then complete the cards inside each book and file under surname. Thank you to Nicky O'Keeffe for her tremendous work setting the library up.

Worship As One

Music Ministry Is God calling you? A huge thankyou to those who responded to God's calling and answered the invitation to join us in music ministry. If you have not handed in your invitation card yet please do so to a member of the music ministry Team this weekend, or at any time in the future when the time is right for you. If you can join us at our new quarterly Music session 'Worship as One'- see below:

On Thursday 20th January 7.00-8.30pm at Sacred Heart Church.

You are all invited to an evening of shared song with our parish choirs and musicians this week.

Whether you're an existing member of our parish music ministry, thinking about joining, or would just like to be part of an uplifting evening of shared faith and song, bring your instrument, bring your voice and come join us. The pandemic silenced our song for a long time. Let's rediscover it together.

Our thanks to Jo Boyce for coming over last Sunday and inspiring us with her words. In Jo's experience, people are under pressure. She (and we) want to find a way to help people to be involved but without adding another burden to their already busy lives. This is about trying to do that. Jo has some exciting ideas so please come and find out more.

Worship is central to the life of the Church. Through it we get closer to God, to each other and to fulfilling our mission as Catholics. As Alex said recently, when it is heartfelt and joyful it helps proclaim a message of Good News – especially when we have so many who visit just 'to see'.



Learning About your Faith

All you need to do is contact alex@tamworthrc.church and she will tell you what we are doing. It includes things like alpha videos, discussions and talks. It just depends on what people are looking for.

First Holy Communion preparation: Mon 17th January 2022 at 6.00pm-7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church.

Confirmation preparation for those in non- Catholic schools resumes on 17th January with Youth Alpha at 5.45-7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church.

Journey in Faith: Our Journey in Faith course has started for those who are interested in becoming a Catholic. Please contact alex@tamworthrc.church if you would like to sign up. Sessions take place on Thursdays 7.30-9.00pm at Sacred Heart. Please get in touch even if this time is not possible for you.



A View From Vocations

Fr. Royston

A Warm Welcome to Fr Royston Price from the Redemptorists. Fr Royston will preach at all masses this weekend. His focus will be on Vocation. The Redemptorists have had a long association with the Diocese. Many will know of the wonderful parish that they serve in Erdington. Fr Royston was ordained in late 2020 and then appointed to take the lead on promoting vocations around the country. It will be great to

listen to a young priest speaking to us this weekend.

There will be a retiring collection to support the Redemptorists in their Mission.

Parents Catechesis- For parents of children at St Gabriel's in Miss Caswell's Class who are preparing for First Holy Communion, there is a session on Zoom on Tuesday 18th January from 6.30-7.30pm. You will be given an envelope of resources through school and sent a Zoom link nearer the time.

Maranatha Prayer Chain: Please contact parishioners Terry - terryvobrien@icloud.com or Sylvia Geldard 01827 65264 with a simple prayer request which will be passed on to our chain of prayers.

Artwork at Sacred Heart: After her previous painting (of the woman touching the garment of Jesus) it was suggested that it should be balanced by another painting which Justyna has nearly finished, and a parishioner has kindly paid for. That should be available soon. Our thanks to Justyna and Kevin.

Our Thanks to Wojciech. Not only has he livestreamed our masses at St John's but has now done the same at Sacred Heart. This is helpful for funerals, baptisms and weddings when people can't attend.

'Synodality' is the name given to the Pope's invitation to us all to discern how God wants us to work as Church today and in the future. It involves listening to God and each other to understand where God is calling the Church. As a parish, we are called to this too. If you can help lead this in the coming two months, please contact Terry or Alex for more information.



This is, arguably, the most significant move made by the Church to discern God's Spirit working in us since the 1960's and the Second Vatican Council. Please pray for it to be fruitful. And thank-you to all the many who have now volunteered to help with this.

Irish Night Coming up on Friday March 18th to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Tickety Boo will be playing some Irish music alongside other popular songs. Tickets £5 and we bring our own food and drink.

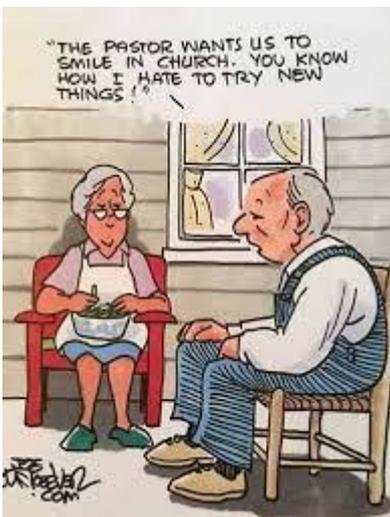
Youth Work

We run two youth groups. One for teenagers (on Fridays and one for young people in yrs 6/7/8). These are open to all. They are led by Libby who can be contacted via email on: 09elicox@gmail.com

Youth Groups: The Phoenix youth club meet each Wednesday 6.30 till 8.00pm. It is open to any young person in years 6, 7 & 8. Those aged 12 and over will need to wear a mask for the next few weeks please.

The Brownies also operate from Sacred Heart Church. Go to www.girlguiding.org.uk

Social Action



Our Parish puts a lot of effort into caring for those in need. Much of this is done through Heart of Tamworth. He speaks about this all through the Gospels. A sign of authentic discipleship is that we do the same.

Some of the Work HoT does is shown below:

Food Collections take place every night from various food outlets and also during the day sometimes. This then supplies our HoT Community Shop. Simon People leads this but help always needed.

Food donations for the Community Shop of tins and non-perishables food are needed. Could you ask your employer if you can have a basket for people to donate and bring them to Sacred Heart or St John's?

Over 400 food parcels were delivered by HoT before Christmas. Well done to the team involved in this. It was a great achievement. Big thanks to all the volunteers who did meals at Sacred Heart on Christmas Day, as well as delivering meals to people unable to come out.

Over 240 turkeys were also delivered – most went to Let’s Feed Brum, a charity in Birmingham that brings food to homeless people and people in need. Huge quantities of other food was distributed too. Particular thanks go to Simon Peale for hunting down food and Kelly for gathering volunteers.

Hygiene Bank: Latest update: We are very grateful for everyone's support. Needed: Tampons, Toothpaste & Brushes, Deodorant, washing tablets, shampoo bars (£1 from Home Bargains)

Writing Club: Interested in joining the Sacred Heart Writing Club? Want to explore different aspects of writing, story writing, poetry, factual etc? Go to Terry: 07422722540.
terryobrien@heartoftamworth.org

Memory Café every Tuesday 10.30am-12.30pm for more details please contact Karen 01827 431002 karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk.

Bereavement Help Point: We now hold two Help Points: 1. **Friday from 10.00am till 12noon**, held upstairs at Sacred Heart in the Kenelm room.



2. Thursday evening 6.00pm – 7.00pm, held in the café at Sacred Heart. If you are struggling with a recent, or not so recent loss and would like to talk to someone, just come along to either Help point (Thursday evening is the quieter time) you will be made very welcome. No appointment is needed.

The Walking Group will not meet for a couple of weeks due to circumstances brought about by covid.

Sacred Heart Craft Club meet every Tuesday at 1pm to 3.30pm. We knit, sew, crochet, paint, sculpt, make cards, upcycle and re-use. Join us. You don't need to be an expert.

The Tamworth Stroke Patients and their Carers Group meet on the first Friday of the month at St John’s at 1-30pm. All welcome. Contact Trevor Baker on 07934351144 or tgbdeltic@hotmail.co.uk

Tai-Chi: Tuesdays at Sacred Heart 11.30 – 12.30, everyone welcome

Family Group, run by Homestart, is on Thursday mornings at Sacred Heart. It runs from 9.30 till 11.00 – just £1.50; all welcome. Contact Amanda - homestart.tam@btconnect.com

Bins and Things: It’s not so glamorous but we need to keep on top of bins, recycling and composting etc. Has anyone got two hours per week to help with this please? It all ties in with our community work and our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint. If you do, then please speak to Fr Michael.

Money Matters	
Envelopes	76.00
Standing Order	920.00
Loose	627.21
Total:	£1,623.21
<i>Thank-you</i>	

Volunteers are needed in all sorts of areas: It is our generous volunteers who make sure all our activities and services can run. We depend on you for this. Can you do something? Rather than spread the requests for volunteers over the whole bulletin, we have grouped these opportunities together.

Role	Where	Contact
Helping with Children’s Worship	at both churches	lisafahy77@outlook.com
Volunteers in café much needed. Welcoming, serving, till work etc	HoT Café Weekends	kelly@heartoftamworth.org
An evening a week collecting food from to support HoT food shop	Aldi, M&S, Sainsbury’s etc	sppeople@btinternet.com
Recycling and Composting	Sacred Heart	michael@tamworthrc.church
Welcoming and supporting people who have lost someone	Bereavement Group	office@tamworthrc.church
Cleaners urgently needed	Sacred Heart Church	nora@tamworthrc.church

Readers at Children’s Worship at 12 noon Masses: In short, we are short of both! As the Mass with the most people and children it makes a big difference when more are involved in helping. It also helps existing volunteers to have people share the roles with them. Please speak to Fr Michael if you can join the readers’ rota of children’s worship.

