



St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

Feast of Christ the King Year C – 20th November 2022

Psalm Response: I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's House."

Readings:	2 Samuel 5:1-3	Psalm 121	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:35-43
Saturday 19 th November	Feast of Christ the King		10.30 am (S.J.) 6.00 pm (S.J.)	Les Morley Bill Smith – Valerie O'Reilly
Sunday 20 th November	Feast of Christ the King		9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Michael Dodds Jane McSweeney Ayasamy Family
Tuesday 22 nd November	St Cecilia		10.00 am (SH.)	Holy Souls
Wednesday 23 rd November	Feria		10.00am (S.J.)	Peggy Dempsey
Thurs 24 th Nov	Ss Andrew Dung Lac, Priests, Martyrs		10.00am (S.H.)	Sarah Hughes
Friday 25 th November	Feria		12.00 noon (S.J.)	The Sick and Housebound of the Parish
Saturday 26 th November	First Sunday of Advent		10.30 am (S.J.) 6.00 pm (S.J.)	Tony Soden Martin Warrillow
Sunday 27 th November	First Sunday of Advent		9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Teresa Jordan Eddy Donaghy Sylvia & Kevin Williams

Confession Saturday St John's Church 11.00am – 11.30 am and 5.15– 5.45 pm

Please pray for the following who are sick: Mary Collins, 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, Pat Machin, Joan Hill, Connie de Guzman, Joyce Greer, Tolentino Fabian, Maurice Murdanaigum, David Walker, Marie Trevelyan, Paul Connell, Mary van Roy, Bob Walker, Marie Cole, Clara Counsell, Jo Hawker, Monica Gallagher, Josie Williams, Joan Dauncey, Imogen Sylvester, Elsie Newbold, Olive Arrowsmith, Stan Merryweather, Mark Nelson, Olive Stewart, Kathy Warren, James McKeefry, Kathleen Richardson, Beryl Davis, Ruth Faulds, Michelle Padmore, George McGuigan, Sheila Fullbrook, Brian McCourt, Michael Boulstridge, Felix Sutton-Whittle, Rosie McKenny.

Reflection: Luke tells us today that some of the leaders kept jeering at Jesus, saying: "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, 'the chosen one.'" And they placed an inscription over his head, saying: "The King of the Jews." How many times do we stand idly by as something that we know is wrong occurs? We may join in the laughter when someone with whom we work with makes an embarrassing mistake. We may choose not to help someone who needs help. Why do we fail to speak up or get involved? Jesus forgives those who wrong him for, as he says, "they do not know what they are doing." Can we step back, recognise what we are doing or not doing, and make a concerted effort to change?



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: John Forde, Helen Howells, Michael Cunningham, Albert Green, Catherine Titterton, Thomas Clifford, Michael Kelly, George Pizzuto, Bill Jarvis, John McAuley, Maria Levesley, John Malone, Kath Johnston, Velda Kizis, Owen McDermott, Thomas Heffernan, Victor & Frances Carroll, Ann Chapman, Peter Adams, William Welland, William Hughes, Roy Downes, Margaret Wallis, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, John Davy, Thomas Byrne, Denis Hinton, Ronald Court, Antoni Bielinski, Chris Morris, Bridget Overy, Michael Tooley, Kathleen Grazier, Mary Coogan, Jeff Higgins, Mildred Hall, Kevin Leonard, John Butler, Bertie Wakelin, Ernest Walker, Joyce Thompson.



Deaths: please pray for the repose of the soul of **Liz Hanson** - funeral will take place on Wed 7th Dec at 11.15am in St John's; **Mary Cochrane** - funeral at St John's on Thurs 8th Dec at 10am; **Josie Williams, Joan Barry & Kathleen Forde** (Gee Bernstein's mum). May they rest in peace. Amen

The Blessing of Graves will take place **Today, Sunday**. Times: Wiggington at 12 noon: Glascote at 1pm; Wilnecote at 1pm and Amington at 1pm.

First Holy Communion Preparation for children who attend non-Catholic Schools meet on Monday evenings at 6.00pm-7.00pm at Sacred Heart. This is for children in Year 3 or above. **Confirmation** sessions continue Mondays at 5.45pm-7.00pm. Contact us soon if your child needs to join up.

Maranatha Prayer Chain: If you would like to ask others to help you to pray for someone, please contact parishioners Terry - terryvobrien@icloud.com or Sylvia Geldard 01827 65264.

The Housebound will be visited by Fr Michael and Fr Subba between now and Christmas. Please let us know if someone has recently become ill and is not receiving communion at home.

Café Home Group meet on Mon 21st Nov 7.30-9.00pm in the café. A sociable time exploring scripture together and praying. If you would like more information, please contact alex@tamworthrc.church

Parish Council Meets on Dec 7th. If you have any questions or ideas that you would like to raise, please put them in writing with your name and contact number and hand in at Mass by the end of this month.

Choirs for Christmas: We are planning for 6 Masses for Christmas and need lots of singers. If you could consider giving a little time each week to practice some carols and songs for Christmas, please come along on Wednesday evening practices at 7.00pm-7.45pm at Sacred Heart. Please contact Alex or Annie.

Youth Choir for Christmas- Are there any young people who enjoy singing who would like to help lead the music at a 4.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve at Sacred Heart or St John's. Please contact Alex if you are interested alex@tamworthrc.church or speak with Alex, Annie or one of the priests after Mass. There will just be a few practices on Friday evenings. More details next week.

Christmas Fayre



Christmas Fayre on Sunday Nov 27th: *The funds raised will go towards our food pantry and new shop. There has just been a budget where 'years of hardship' were openly spoken of. If we can alleviate some of that hardship for the most vulnerable people, that would show how we take Jesus teachings to heart. We can make a difference.*

The raffle is a big help with this. Please take a book if you can and return stubs so we can fold them. There are still loads of tickets available.

We will be running Christmas stalls that will need:

- Old Christmas Jumpers, Decorations etc will be welcome for a special 'used Christmas gifts stall'. This also helps people to enjoy the fun of Christmas by changing decorations or jumpers at low cost.
- We will also be needing children's toys (new please)
- Chocolate for a Christmas chocolate stall
- Bottles, as usual make a great stall
- Unwanted gifts.
- If you are a baker, please think about baking some cakes for our fayre too. This is a stall everyone loves!



It's next Sunday – please join us after 9am Mass.



Christmas Fayre Volunteers: Please could you help at the Christmas Fayre to help us to raise funds for the Community Shop Project which serves those in need of support in the community.

Help on the day on stalls, baking cakes, setting up etc. The more the merrier and easier it is for all. Please contact alex@tamworthrc.church phone 01827 769403 or speak with Alex or one of the priests after Mass. Sign-up sheet also at the back of Church



The Christmas Day Dinner will take place at Sacred Heart, for people who are homeless, who have recently been left homeless, or who are lonely or socially isolated. We need volunteers for setting up, hospitality, serving and clearing up. We expect to have around 50 guests. The atmosphere is always lively and festive so do join us if you can

If you can help, please let me know by email Sheree - sdpeople@aol.com or phone 0793395667.

Christmas Cards made by Patricia are on sale in both churches. Available at the back of Church.

Christmas Gifts and Cards will be available from the Piety Stalls in Both churches this weekend.

Book Libraries: A reminder that the children's and adult's book libraries are open before and after Mass for you to borrow books. Please ask if you need assistance.

Working With Young people in their teens is starting up soon. We delayed it because we need two more volunteer leaders. We will be offering support and a little training. You just need to like young people, listen, enjoy their company and help organise some good activities. We have lots of ideas already. You might be all that's missing? No experience needed.

The Phoenix Youth group is pitched at young people in yrs 6, 7 and 8 we have space, superb leaders, pizza the opportunity to have fun together. It is open to all and is on Wednesdays from 6.30 till 8.00 pm meeting upstairs at Sacred Heart. Flyers in Church porch. If you have any questions, then email rebecca@tamworthrc.church. Subs are just £1.

Leaders are needed. We need people who enjoy working with young people, work well as part of a team and are free on Fridays. Can you help? We can offer training. Contact Rebecca if you want to know more.

Following Pope Francis letter to the world Laudato Si regarding our duty to the planet a film has been made of his more specific letter to some people around the world. This is called The Letter which is available on YouTube. It's a gentle reflective but very moving film which does not shy away from "the cry of the earth; the cry of the poor "

TheLetterFilm.org

Memorial Garden: As you know, Mrs Jane McSweeney was a much-loved member of our school community at St Elizabeth's. In her memory, we would like to create a story garden that can be enjoyed by the children at the school that she loved so much. We are therefore asking for any support that can be offered like donations of time, finance or items such as plants, pots etc so we can create a space fitting for such a wonderful lady. If you can help, please contact St Elizabeth's School - 01827 214000. Thank you.

Thank-you to all who have recently done standing orders and gift aid. If you give cash, please consider doing it by standing order. It helps save us time counting and banking it and the cost of banking it too (they charge for banking cash!!). Just contact Wendy or Fr Michael if you are interested. There are forms in the porch.

Aleks (in the caravan) is planning to return to Latvia. We are looking to buy a van so he can bring his belongings and tools back and earn a living. Any donations towards the van would be welcomed.

We need 3 Office Chairs. We are happy with used chairs. Please ring the parish office on 01827 769403 or email office@tamworthrc.church if you can help.

The Archdiocese is seeking a visionary Director of Education Services to serve its 237 schools. Catholic Education is vital to the Archdiocese, which has placed young people and families at the heart of its vision. The schools will play a significant role in building even closer relationships and co-responsibility between parish, school and home. Applications end Mon 28 November. Visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs to find out more or visit [Archdiocese of Birmingham \(joinarchdioceseofbirmingham.co.uk\)](http://Archdiocese of Birmingham (joinarchdioceseofbirmingham.co.uk))



Money Matters	
Envelopes	57.00
Standing Orders	1000.00
Loose:	674.68
Total:	£1731.68
<i>Thank-you</i>	
<i>Would 'loose givers' consider giving by direct debit to help the parish? Speak to Fr Michael or Wendy for info</i>	

Love in Action



Food Parcels: Heart of Tamworth will once again be packing and delivering over 400 food parcels to families in need over the school holidays. We hope to add a selection box to each parcel. All donations are greatly received by Friday 9th December and may be dropped to Sacred Heart or St Johns.

Games Club: Every Thursday at Sacred Heart 1pm - 3pm. A great way to meet new people while playing your favourite board games. Open to all, free to attend, no need to book, refreshments provided.

The Second collection this weekend will be for the Catholic Youth Service, now called the Kenelm Youth Trust. It does amazing work at Alton Castle, Soli House and supporting youth work across the Diocese. Please give it as much support as you can.

Hygiene Bank: Times are difficult for all, but we need your continued support so that we can help local people in need. We need: toilet paper, deodorant, shower gel, clothes wash tablets/sachets and period pads. There are drop of points at Church and at Boots store.

Senior Gentlemen's Club: Meet on Tuesday morning 10.00 – 12noon at St John's Community rooms (at the side of St John's Church). Other activities: put the world to rights, dominoes & chess, crown green bowling, trips, annual Christmas meal. £2 per week for the kitty for the trips and events. Contact Bill Field on 07985581794 – billfield123@btinternet.com

Advice and Help With Water Bills: If you are struggling to pay your water bills, please look at <https://www.south-staffs-water.co.uk/household/my-bills-and-payments/my-bill-explained/other-charges-and-tariffs/assure-tariff>



HoT Food Shop



Food for the Shop: Greencore Tamworth, a large food distributor, delivered 6 pallets of food this week, all of it fresh. Our thanks to Greencore. Please keep an eye out for it on Facebook because sometimes we get so much of one thing it helps us if people come along and buy it at very low cost to stop waste and provide some funds for the food we have to buy.

Thank-you to those who have offered to help collect food. If you can help, please contact Kelly asap.

Building a New Shop is to make the experience more dignified but also to create a community environment so we can engage more with people who visit. The plan is also to develop space for clothing, children's books and toys. On Nov 27th we plan to run the Christmas Fayre in order to raise some funds for the new shop.

Bereavement Help Points on **Friday from 10.00am till 12noon**, at Sacred Heart and on **Thursday evening 5.30pm – 7.00pm**, held in the café. If you are struggling with loss and wish to talk to someone, just come along (Thursday evening is quieter); you are welcome to simply turn up.

A Helping Hand: We need volunteers to be an 'ear' for people coming to the Bereavement Help Point. Please contact Wendy at the parish office or email office@tamworthrc.church.



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

The Memory Café meets every Tuesday 10.30am-12.30pm; for info email karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk

The Walking Group: please check with your own networks for what is happening this week.

Sacred Heart Craft Group. The next meeting is on Tuesday 22nd November from 1pm- 3pm. New members always welcome.

Pre-Christmas sale of SHCG's handmade items after 9am and before 12pm Masses on Sunday 20th November. They are unique Christmas gifts. They are also raffling this hand-knitted Nativity scene which will be drawn on 27th November at the Christmas Fair. Tickets £2 each or 3 for £5.



Thaddeus Trust Family Support Group: The Trustees would like to invite you to our second meeting for families who have a member of their family with a learning disability, on Tuesday 22nd November 2022 from 1-0 p.m. to 3-0 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church. We would like to explore further with you all, some of the issues around services. We will look at ways of helping you to access new opportunities for your son or daughter, brother or sister. Please ring or text Eve Wilson on 01827 437689 or Mobile 07717473032