



St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

Sixth Sunday Easter (C) – 22nd May 2022

Psalm Response: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Readings:	Acts 15:1-2.22-29	Psalm	Apocalypse 21:10-14.22-23	John 14:23-29
Saturday 21 st May	Weekday of Easter	10.30 am (S.J.) 6.00 pm (S.J.)		Tony Soden Michael Murray
Sunday 22 nd May	Sixth Sunday of Easter	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)		People living with Dementia and their carers Josie Kavanagh Daniel Davies
Tuesday 24 th May	Weekday of Easter	10.00 am (S.H.)		Kitty McElhorn
Wednesday 25 th May	St Bede	10.00am (S.J.)		For people who feel isolated
Thursday 26 th May	Ascension of the Lord	10.00am (S.J.) 7.00pm (S.H.)		Paddy Sheehy Anne Rooney
Friday 27 th May	Weekday of Easter	12.00 noon (S.J.)		The sick and housebound of the Parish
Saturday 28 th May	Weekday of Easter	10.30 am (S.J.) 6.00 pm (S.J.)		Holy Souls Paddy Joe Quinn
Sunday 29 th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)		John Mannion Margaret McIntyer Margaret Beggan – Brian & June Beggan
Confession Saturday St John's Church 11.15am – 11.45 am and 5.15 – 5.45 pm				

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, Joanne Foster, David Walker, Jane McSweeney, Marie Trevelyan, Paul Connell, Mary van Roy, Bob Walker, Marie Cole, Clara Counsell, Jo Hawker, Monica Gallagher.

Reflection: The core of the Christian message is love, God loves each one of us, how does it feel to sit with this reality? If we could grasp God's unconditional love for us, life would be radically a journey of joy. To accept that God loves me is also to accept the reality that God loves all others in the same way. We are called to love ourselves and others, and it is clear from the Gospel that we are called to love the poor, the excluded, and the marginalised in a special way. We are also called to care for the earth, described by Pope Francis as "our common home", which God has entrusted us.



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Ernest Inskip, Ellen Flanagan, George Florendine, Sarah Coton, Ann Murphy, Fr. Patrick O'Connor, Thomas McGowan, Helen Titterton, Mrs. Hassell, Thomas Routledge, Francis Savin, May Connelly, Gerry Fitzimmons, Dymphna Harrison, Mrs. Morling, Fred Bates, Florence Wale, John O'Donnell, Frederick Price, Evelyn Sperry, Maciej Kowanda, Frances Knight, Jean Morris, Patrick Brennan, Cathleen Rose, Brian Connolly, Patrick McAteer, Helena Elson, Patricia Pendrey, Ethel Lee, Mary Horth, William Abrosiak, Leonard Thomas, Thomas McEntee, Patrick Maguire, George Davies, Pamela Bentley, Vincas Mazulis, Norman Rogers, Margaret Byrne, Anthony Cuffe, Winnifred Waples, Hannah Tidswell, George Mander, Michael Colmen, Frances Meehan, Florence Adderley, Andrew Hepple.

May Procession after the 9.00am Mass at Sacred Heart on May 29th. First Communion children can wear their special clothes again and strew petals over the statue of Our Lady.



Deaths: please pray for the repose of the soul of **Francis Cooney** whose funeral will be at Fradley Crem on Wednesday May 25th at 12.30 pm. **Paddy Coleman** whose funeral will take place on Wednesday 8th June at 12 noon. at Sacred Heart. **Walter Foxall** whose funeral will take place at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium on Wednesday 8th June at 10.00am We also remember in our prayers **Dave Gooch** and **Lynne Bennett** and **Kathleen Dawson** (Joe's mother) who died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Today is International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians: The event unites the Roman Catholic Church in Europe with the Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the Bishop of Rome.

Let us pray for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East. May the Christians in these lands be strengthened in their faith so that they may continue steadfastly to give witness to Jesus Christ.

Visiting The Housebound was done weekly before Covid. Most of this was done by parishioners who brought communion to them. But a lot of new people are now unable to leave their homes and we need more lay people to bring communion to an extra 16 people (over 80 in total). Are you able to help? If so, please contact Fr Subba – subba@tamworthrc.church

Journey in Faith: If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or wish to find out more about the Catholic Faith, please get in touch with us to arrange to discuss this. Contact alex@tamworthrc.church or speak with Fr Michael. Phone 01827 769403

Journey in Faith: Our candidates will complete their Journey of Faith course this Thursday. Please pray for them as they continue a life of learning about their faith.

Next Confirmation Session for those in non-Catholic schools is on Monday 23rd May, 5.45-7.00pm



First Holy Communions are taking place this weekend. Congratulations to all the children and their families. Please keep them all in your prayers.

Congratulations to St Gabriel's on their recent successful Ofsted Report: it praised the school across several areas recognising that we are blessed with a good school. This is due to great leadership, committed and skilled teaching, responsive children and encouraging parents. Well done to all involved.

Café Scripture Group: The next session is on Monday 23rd May 7.30-9.00pm. Anyone is welcome to come

along.

Church library books for adults: The adult library is now up and running. The books are on the top two shelves in the foyer at Sacred Heart. If you would like to borrow a book then please fill in the card inside the book and put it in the indexed black box under your surname. We ask that borrowed books be returned no later than after four weeks. Thank you.

Children's Bible Story Library: Well-done to all those using the Book Library. Please remember to change books after a week or two so others can use it next.

Prayer Bags: Some new prayer bags about Mary are available in both churches. We hope that you enjoy using these with your family.

Maranatha Prayer Chain: If you would like to ask others to help you to pray for someone, please contact parishioners Terry O'Brien - terryvobrien@icloud.com or Sylvia Geldard 01827 65264 with a simple prayer request which will be passed on to our chain of prayers.



Dementia Action Week comes to an end this weekend: we remember everyone who is living with dementia and their carers at all our Masses this weekend.

Pour your grace, O loving God, upon all living with dementia. It is frustrating not to find a word; it is fearful to lose one's memories. Bless them with patience, a loving and supporting family, and days of hope and accomplishment. In Christ's name we pray.



Josie Kavanagh generously donated £1,000 to the parish before she passed away. Our thanks to Josie and her family for this. May she rest in peace. Amen

Youth Work

The Kenelm Youth Trust is the Diocesan youth service with loads of activities going on in the summer. To find out more check [KENELM YOUTH TRUST - Home](#)



We run two youth groups, one for teenagers (on Fridays and one for young people in yrs 6/7/8 on Wednesdays). These are open to all. 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.

Summer Scheme dates for your diary: This will run from Monday July 25th for two weeks (weekdays) Volunteers who can help with this please get in touch with Alex Parker by email alex@tamworthrc.church or phone -01827 769403 so that we can

get the necessary DBS checks sorted and up to date.

If you would like to help with planning trips and activities do get in touch as soon as possible too.

Social Action

Food donations for the Community Shop of tins and non-perishable food are needed.

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.

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 tqbdeltic@hotmail.co.uk

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

Memory Café every Tues 10.30am-12.30pm; email Karen karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk 01827 431002

The Hygiene Bank: Thank you for your donations during April. To date we have collected 25kgs from our parish - fantastic. We still need: shampoo, conditioner, deodorants, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Singing for the Mind continues on the 1st and 3rd Thursday at the Hub in Castle grounds, 10.30 till 11.30.



“This is interesting, 70% of the respondents to our survey said they don't respond to surveys.”

A HoT Survey has been started. Thank-you to all who completed forms already. It takes about 5 minutes to complete. Can you help with it today? We have sheets and pens available. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JX3SY9Q> is where you can find the online version.

Maybe you know someone else who might complete a questionnaire too?

It helps us in three ways. It shows us how we are doing with existing services, how we might develop services in the future and enables us to get funding when we show we are doing what people want & need.

The Walking Group – Wednesday 25^h May: Amington Fields river walk - meet at Amington Church at 10am **Thursday 26th May:** Mount St Bernards & the Black Brook reservoir - meet 9.30am at Sacred Heart.

Sacred Heart Craft Club meet on a Tues at 1pm to 3.30pm. Next meeting is Wednesday, **24th May**. We knit, sew, crochet, paint, sculpt, make cards, upcycle and re-use. Join us. You don't need to be an expert.

The Summer Fayre, this year is on July 10th. We need volunteers. If you can help, please tell Fr Michael or Alex

Money Matters

Envelopes	97.00
Standing Orders	920.00
Loose:	586.59
Total:	£1603.59

Ukraine £1085.28

Thank-you

Would 'loose givers' consider giving by direct debit to help the parish? Speak to Fr Michael or Wendy for more info



Saturday Café: The Café has been a great way of building community, spreading the Good News, meeting new people and showing the whole community what we do as a Church and charity.

But people who work during the week are never able to visit. Opening on a Saturday would enable us to introduce ourselves to lots of new people. Any extra profits would also be ploughed into our community work.

We would open from 9am till 1pm but we need a few volunteers. What we offer that is vital is hospitality – that's the love of God for us. As well as this being an opportunity to learn new skills you will also make new friends and become part of the 'café family'. Do you feel you could do this? If so, please contact Kelly (kelly@heartoftamworth.org) or Jen or Fr Michael.

The Games: In July there will also be an afternoon celebration **connected with the Commonwealth Games**. The torch is coming to Sacred Heart on **Wed July 20th at 3.30 pm**. The Council have asked us to create an event for children and families focussing on sport. Can we have some volunteers to help with games, refreshments and hospitality please?

Josh Wash for Kenya: Josh Jones is a parishioner at St John's undertaking a school project helping people in Kenya in 2023. He needs to raise £4,000 as part of it and will be washing cars at Sacred Heart this weekend to make a start. It's £5 for a car. Can you fill in a form and have yours done this Sunday to support him? Take one this weekend and hand it to Josh's team this weekend on your way in, please and it will be washed during Mass. Josh may leave a form under your windscreen wiper!

Kickstart: Bitesize financial support sessions to help you move forward with your finances. **'Lifting the Financial Pressure'** is the first half of the session which aims to explore practical tools to better manage money. It covers creating a budget based on your incomings and outgoings, recognising essential and non-essential spending.

'Making Your Money go Further' is the second half of the session and aims to help you manage your money. It explores simple, practical ways to save money and stick to a budget when shopping. For more info contact Pauline or Sarah on 01827 302436 or admin@tamworth-elim.org.uk

Ukraine remains very much in our prayers. So far, 37 Ukrainians have been welcomed to Tamworth with more to come. The council are trying to find ways in which to support them. We can offer them a place to meet and links with Ukrainian Churches in the Midlands. Do we have anyone who can understand Ukrainian or teach English or do some befriending? If you are interested, please contact Terry.

St Elizabeth's School Vacancy: Clerical Assistant Finance from June 2022 (term-time only) working 35 hours per week under the direction of the Office Support Manager.



'I've finished washing your car Dad. Just be careful when you open the doors, okay?'

St Elizabeth's School Quiz Night: Saturday 18th June, 7pm. Tickets are on sale at a cost of £5 per person. Teams of up to 6. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. A raffle will also be held. Tickets available from Stephanie Farnworth 07951871110 or Marie Kennedy 07745655994. We look forward to welcoming you back into school to one of our most popular events and raising funds for our school. St Elizabeth's, Claremont Road, Tamworth B79 8EN



Livestreaming Links:

St John's:
Sacred Heart:

<https://www.tamworthrc.church/stjohn>
<https://www.tamworthrc.church/sacredheart>

Embolden Us to Share Your Gospel Prayer

*Holy Trinity, we thank You for the riches we have inherited as God's children.
We thank You that by Your grace and mighty power, we have been given the privilege of serving You
and spreading the good news of the endless treasures of knowing You.
We ask for the power of Your Holy Spirit to overcome us and make us worthy vessels for Your service.
Through Your power, embolden us and guide our words as we share Your gospel with the world. Amen.*