

St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

Third Sunday of the Year (C) – 23rd January 2022

Psalm Response: Your words are spirit, Lord and they are life

Readings:	Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10	Psalm 18	Corinthians 12:12-30	Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21
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		
Tuesday 25 th January St Francis de Sales	10.00am (S.H.) 1.00pm (S.J.)	Liam Ryan Funeral Service for Monica Maclean		
Wed 26 th January Ss Timothy and Titus	10.00am (S.J.)	Sean Bolger		
Thursday 27 th January Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Funeral Mass Arek Wasilik		
Friday 28 th January St Thomas Aquinas	9.15 am (S.E.) 10.00 am (S.J.)	School Mass for Holy Souls Communion Service		
Saturday 29 th January Fourth Sunday of the Year	12.00 noon (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.H.)	Catherine Matthews The people of the Parish		
Sunday 30 th January Fourth Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	John & Gillian Solanky Tony Eivers – Bridget & Michael Hegarty The Davies Family		

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

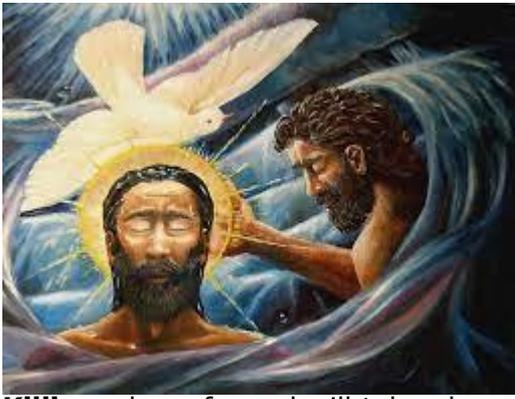
Please pray for the following who are sick: Mary Collins, Maria Leedham, Beryl Smith, Joy Espanta, Maria Alcuaz, Mandy Williamson, Anthony Hayes, Gillian Horsley, Aoife Sage, Margaret Wainwright, Jemma Vine, Corrie Walker, Fay Bishop, Rose Limm, Raymond Walker, Maureen Walker, Julie Tranter, Augusto 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: A 'year of favour' was a season when God would 'visit his people' - God would come and overturn a situation where his people had been at the mercy of enemies. He would relieve the oppressed, set free the imprisoned, cure the disabled and those who had succumbed to illness. It would be a whole new age - God would lift his people out of their distress. God says to us today 'You are the one I choose today to bring good news to the poor and oppressed. The Holy Spirit is upon you. I am sending you!' Jesus is the servant king. We are called to be the same. In our giving and receiving as one Body, we enable each other to experience enrichment by trying to overcome poverty, by banishing our blindness and removing oppression.



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon J. Lane, Mildred Reynolds, Evelyn O'Reilly, James Salt, Geraldine Mulligan, John Shine, Philip Murdoc, May D'Arcy, Digger Wood, Roy Buxton, William Miles, Eric Mason, Annie Allen, Bernard Keogh, Ellen Chadwick, Eileen Albrighton, Winnie Evans, Rita Flanagan, Owen Cotterill, George Dagnall, Vincent Arbraitas, Edgar Lawrence, Thomas Taylorson, Eileen Salt, Stanley Hinds, William Jordan, Bethan Sorohan, Mary Alice Davies, Dion Latham, Thomas Cassidy, Emil Walezek, Bertha Wheeler, Joseph Keane, John Girvan, Kathleen Elliott, Nancy Serrage, George Jones, Mary McGrath, Ann Panting, Theresa Ensley, Marie Taylor, James Collins, Anthony Eivers, Anne Pearson, Stewart Masefield, Joyce Stack, Dennis Chipman, Theresa Woodcock, Joyce Anderson, Patricia Mary Faulkner.

Happy Birthday to Muriel Lawley who will be celebrating her 100th Birthday. We wish you a great day's celebrations. God Bless



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Daniel Smith**, whose funeral will be at 12 noon on Monday Jan 24th at Glascote Cemetery; **Monica McLean** whose funeral will be on Tuesday 25th Jan at St John's Church; **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; **Barbara Hill** whose funeral will take place on the 2nd February at Sacred Heart at 12 noon; **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; **John**

Killian whose funeral will take place on Thursday 10th February at Nuneaton Crematorium at 2.45; **Paul Cadwallader** (Ann's son) who passed away on Tuesday (details to be confirmed); **Lil Nevin** (Fr Henry's mother) who also died aged 94. Lil will be buried at Witton Cemetery (time tbc). 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.

Worship as One: A huge thankyou to all those who came along to our first Worship as One Session, on this occasion with the help and leadership of Jo Boyce. A special thankyou to Jo for all her hard work, skills and inspiration. A fantastic turnout and a great response to the call to join in with Music Ministry. Thank you all for responding to God's call.

Choirs: If you have joined us in music ministry we would ask if possible that choir members and instrumentalists assemble half an hour before Mass to have a refresher of the music for that particular Mass and offer a short prayer together reminding us that it is God's

work we are carrying out.

Celebration Choir: For those who have time for a weekly rehearsal, we meet on Wednesday evenings at Sacred Heart 7.00-7.45pm. We learn special pieces for the celebrations like Easter, but also to develop a repertoire of hymns for special occasions. Anyone can join and come along when you can. Wednesday 26th January will be a reflective evening on 'Walking together' for the Synodal process.

Have you an old ipad and charger around that you could donate to the choirs, please? We hope to use an App (*that only works on ipads and Mac's*) to store music and be used by singers and instrumentalists for music ministry. If you could please bring them to either church. We need some volunteers to help manage these. Are you interested in helping with this? Please get in touch with Alex alex@tamworthrc.church.or speak with Annie or Alex after Mass.



Learning About your Faith

First Holy Communion preparation Mon 24th January 2022 at 6.00pm-7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church.

Confirmation preparation for those in non- Catholic schools continues on Mon 24th Jan with Youth Alpha at 5.45-7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church. There is a youth Alpha Day for all the Confirmandi at non-Catholic schools on Saturday 29th January at Sacred Heart Church 10.00 – 4.00pm. Please bring a packed lunch.

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.



Parents Catechesis: For parents of children at St Gabriel's in Mrs Holmes's Class who are preparing for First Holy Communion, there is a session on Zoom on Tuesday 25th 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.

Walking Together Meetings.

Choirs and Musicians: There is a chance to speak your

views and have a prayerful discussion about the Catholic Church. If you are in the choir we will meet to share our thoughts on Wednesday 26th January 7.00pm- 8.30pm

Café Group: For those in Home Groups and the Café Group we will use our first meeting this term to have a session of prayer and discussion reflecting on the Catholic Church on Monday 31st 7.30-9.00pm in the Café at Sacred Heart. Please come along.

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 Second Vatican Council. Please pray for it to be fruitful.

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.



"Why do you always obsess about the one negative response?"

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.

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.



Food Collections take place every night from various food outlets and during the day sometimes. This then supplies our HoT Community Shop. Simon Peale 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?

Hygiene Bank: Latest update: Thank you to everyone who has supported us in 2021. In December alone, our

parish donated 37.5 kgs of Hygiene items. We now need the following items: Disposable Razors (men's and women's) Nappies- all sizes, Nappy Sacks, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes; especially children's

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 Wednesday 26th January Meet at Sacred Heart at 10am for a one and a half hour walk to Kettlebrook Nature Reserve. **Thursday 27th January** Meet at Sacred Heart at 10am for a 2 and a half hour walk around the Canal in Tamworth.

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

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.

Thank-you St Gabriel's for their donation of £226.50 for HoT. The money was raised from holding a Christmas Jumper Day.

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	85.60
Standing Order	920.00
Loose	565.28
Total:	£1570.88
<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