



# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

## Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year C – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022

*Psalm Response: My soul, give praise to the Lord.*

**Readings:** Amos 6:1,4-7      Psalm 145      St Paul to Timothy 6:11-16      Luke 16:19-31

Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Our Lady of Walsingham	10.30 am (S.J.)	Kieran Kennedy & Eileen Darcy
	<b>Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year</b>	6.00 pm (S.J.)	Mick and Angela Foster (Anniv)
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> September		9.00 am (S.H.)	Her Majesty the Queen
	<b>Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year</b>	10.30 am (S.J.)	Bridget & Michael Hegarty
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Sylvia & Kevin Williams – Kay Moore
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	St Vincent de Paul	10.00 am (S.H.)	Ruth Faulds
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Feria	10.00am (S.J.)	World Leaders
Thur 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	10.00am (S.H.)	Brian Neat
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	St Jerome	12.00 noon (S.J.)	The sick and housebound of the parish
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	St Theresa	10.30 am (S.J.)	Holy Souls
	<b>Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year</b>	6.00 pm (S.J.)	Jane McSweeney
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October		9.00 am (S.H.)	Fr Jim McCormack
	<b>Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year</b>	10.30 am (S.J.)	Diane Spalding – Margaret Burke
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Anne-Marie Purslow

**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 Hesper, 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, Felix Gray Sutton Whittle, Maurice Murdanaigum, David Walker, 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, Dean Callow, Mark Nelson, Olive Stewart, Kathy Warren, James McKeefry, Kathleen Richardson, Ruth Faulds & Julie Martin.

**Reflection:** Today's Gospel is asking us to open our eyes to what's around us and to open our ears to the simple commands of the Gospel - love your neighbour. It is not that the rich man did not believe, he found himself in torment because of the way he treated others. As St James writes in the New Testament, *'What good is it, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? If you see someone who is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and you say to them, "Go in peace, get warm and fed," without giving them the warm clothes and food they need, what good is that? Faith by itself without action is not living out the Gospel message.* This story is a real challenge us all to care for the needy in whatever way we can.



**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Joan McMahon, William McGuinness, Joseph Tomson, John Scott, Beatrice Duffy, Clement Hadley, Basil Perchancyz, Catherine Walker, Cecilly Miller, Angela Mallaber, Josephine Barber, Michael Hegarty, Thomas Tyson, Kathleen O'Gara, James Croke, George McClean, Beryl Jagger, Harry Marchant, Mary Gallagher, David Lynch, John Hadley, Francis Shepherd. Albert Wilkins, Patrick Doyle, Sarah Smith, Catherine Sumner, Olive Inskip, Joseph Pasley, Jean Troden, Michael Reilly, Mary Belcher, Derek Brotherhood, Patrick Noble, Maurice Wainwright, Linda Shale, Joseph Obi, Winifred Pugh, Teresa Morley, Audrey Nichols, John Buchan, Doreen Wright, George Croot, Leonard Royds, John Dale, Celia Broom, Heather Crook, David Lunn, Philip Edmonds, Veronica Williams, Anne Bernes, Christopher Booth, Bridie Murray.

**Deaths:** please pray for the repose of the soul of **Marsden Bradford** whose funeral service will take place at Sacred Heart on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 12.15pm. We also pray for **Edith Hunt** who died recently, **Andrzej Mozdzen**, who died in Poland this week. May they rest in peace. Amen

## Sacraments of Initiation:

**Enrolment Meetings - First Holy Communion:** Please could all parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion this Academic year attend one of the two meetings we are holding at Sacred Heart this Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm or 7.00pm. Children do not need to attend.

**Confirmation:** Please could all parents of Confirmation Children preparing this year attend a meeting at Sacred Heart on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm. Confirmandi may attend too.

**Enrolment Masses:** The weekend of October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> we are holding Enrolment Masses for all the children who are preparing for First holy Communion and Confirmation. Every child needs to attend one Mass 6.00pm Saturday or 10.30 Sunday at St John's; 9.00am or 12.00 Noon on Sunday at Sacred Heart.

**First Holy Communions:** If your child is starting Year 3 or above in a non-Catholic school, they would be eligible to join our programme for Communion this term. Please email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or speak to one of the Priests. There is a meeting for parents this Tuesday at either 6.00pm or 7.00pm at Sacred Heart. The Enrolment masses will be on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**Confirmation:** If your child is a Catholic at a non-Catholic school and is starting Year 6 or above and has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist they are eligible to join the Confirmation Programme. There is a meeting at Sacred Heart on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm at Sacred Heart. To sign up please email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or speak with Fr Michael. Tel 01827 769403

**Journey in Faith:** If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or wish to find out about the Catholic Faith, please get in touch with us. Contact [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or Fr Michael. Phone 01827 769403.

**Alpha:** Time for dinner? Alpha is starting this Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Sept at Sacred Heart 7.30-9.00pm. Free food, an inspiring video and discussion! Why not give it a try? If you know someone who would like to explore the Christian faith or if you would like to deepen your own, please get in touch. Please book so that we know numbers via email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church). For more information, please phone Alex on 01827 769403.

**Alpha 21 Day Prayer Card:** Please keep praying for our Alpha Guests and those who we may invite in the coming days.

**Alpha Invites:** Please take Alpha invitations and pray that the Holy Spirit will give you courage and opportunity to hand them out to the right people- perhaps to the three people you have been praying for.



**Alpha Leaders:** Please attend before Alpha at 7.00pm to pray and meet before the Guests arrive.

**Cooks:** Food and hospitality is an important part of Alpha. Can you help prepare one meal? Please get in touch with Alex 01827 769403 or email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) if you can help.

**Alpha - Setting up tables:** we would appreciate a hand on a Thursday afternoon to help set the tables, - from 29<sup>th</sup> September? Please contact Alex 01827 769403 or email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church)

## Liturgy:

**Celebration Choir:** Please note There will not be a choir practice this Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October due to the Confirmation Meeting.

**Congratulations to Altar servers** receiving their Guild medals this weekend.

**Communion From the Chalice** stopped during Covid. We are looking to re-introduce it soon by what is called 'intinction'. That means we take the host reverently over to the chalice and dip it in the chalice and consume it. We will explain how this can be done safely and reverently this weekend.



**Fr Hudson's – The Second Collection Today** will be for Father Hudson's Care to support their mission of supporting vulnerable people throughout the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Father Hudson's reaches out to people of all ages who need support many of whom will be badly affected by the cost-of-living crisis. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

## Youth Work:

**A Brief Introduction to Rebecca Arnold** who has just been appointed as our parish youth worker. Mother of 2 girls, Rebecca is currently studying counselling at South Staffordshire College. In her spare time, she loves to go walking with her family. Rebecca, a member of our parish, will soon be introducing herself at Mass and looking to recruit both volunteers and young people. Thank-you to all who contribute financially to our youth work in the parish.



**Working With Young people in their teens** is starting up again soon. If you know anyone in yrs 9, 10 and 11 they are welcome. We have ideas, we have food and we have transport but we expect the best ideas to come from those who join us. That starts in two weeks on Friday Oct 7<sup>th</sup>, 7.00pm at Sacred Heart – to be launched in HoT Café. Come and shape the future of our youth work. Flyers in Church porch. For more info email [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church). Subs just £1.

**The "Phoenix" Youth group** is also restarting soon. Pitched at young people in yrs 6, 7 and 8 we have space, superb leaders, pizza and a chance to have fun together. It is open to all and restarts on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 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](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church). Subs are just £1.



**Relics of St Bernadette** will be at St Chads Cathedral Birmingham, arriving on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 4:30pm and departing on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30pm. The Relics then move onto The Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes Hednesford on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 7.00pm and leave on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 9:00pm. We are co-ordinating a trip see the Relics after the 12.00 Mass on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Anyone who is interested, please put your name on the list at the back of both churches.

**St Gabriel's RC Primary School Open Day will take place on Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>** from 9.30 to 10.30 or 11am till 12noon. All are welcome. [www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

## Social Action

**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](mailto:billfield123@btinternet.com)

**Brainstorming For Food:** we buy food to supplement the HoT shop. Has anyone any ideas or connections to enable us to get basic foodstuffs (tinned, dried etc) more cheaply? Or do you know anyone from a supplier or distributor or manufacturer. Or are you based at Aldi Head office, or Ocado or Brakes or elsewhere, ideas would be welcome please. Demand will increase this autumn. We want to be ready to help people meet their basic needs.



**The New Shop** design has been drawn up now. We will make it available on the website. We need planning permission. We are consulting the council now. If you have any comments, please let us know. It is an adventurous project looking to offer food and clothing, but in an environment that is dignified and communal. We want to interact with visitors and help them feel respected and valued.

**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.





**Giving A Hand:** We need people to be an 'ear' for people coming to the Bereavement Help Point. You don't have to have any specialist training; you just have to have a listening ear. We will do a very simple training session to anyone who wishes to join this dedicated group of volunteers. There will be a meeting for anyone who wishes to find out more on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October. If you want to chat before that please contact Wendy at the parish office or email [office@tamworthrc.church](mailto:office@tamworthrc.church).

The new **HoT Lunch Club** our guests are meeting new people and enjoying a delicious two-course lunch (thanks to Jen and her team). We still need some volunteers to help out each week with greeting guests, serving lunch and generally making the event run smoothly (Wednesday 12-2pm). Volunteers wouldn't need to commit to helping every week, just on a regular basis. If you can get involved, please contact Kelly Denton, Terry O'Brien or call the parish office. Thank you.

**Thank-you to those who have offered to help collect food.** Even once a fortnight is a big help. If you can help, please contact Kelly as soon as possible. Please note that most car insurance companies do not usually require any extra insurance for this voluntary work.

**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](mailto:tqbdeltic@hotmail.co.uk)

**Memory Café** every Tues 10.30am-12.30pm; email Karen [karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:karen.wilkinson@homeinstead.co.uk) 431002

**The Walking Group – Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Sept** Broad Meadow Nature Reserve - meet at Sainsburys **Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Melbourne to Breedon on Hill - meet at Melbourne village. A sheet with all the Autumn walks can be collected from Reception at Sacred Heart.

**The Hygiene Bank:** Thank you for your continued and much needed support. Supplies are running low on the following items. Can you help us please? Toilet Rolls, toothpaste and toothbrushes (adults and children's), deodorant, clothes wash tablets.

**Kick Start:** Bitesize financial support sessions to help you move forward in life and make a new start. Sessions are free and run by CAP – Christians against poverty. Pick up a leaflet in reception.



**Help With Energy Debt!** People can now apply for help with their energy bills through the British Gas Energy Support Fund. Anyone can apply in energy debt. To apply <https://britishgasenergytrust.org.uk/grants-available/>

**As the energy crisis deepens** we would welcome any ideas on how we can respond as a parish. You know we are planning to develop the shop and we are still working on this. However, there may be other things we can do. One thing we can all do is pray for people at this time.

Regards our own usage, please remember to turn off lights and

anything on stand-by. Apparently, appliances on stand-by use 9-12% of our electricity.

**Brother Edmar will take his perpetual vows** at Corpus Christi Church in Stechford on Tues Nov 1<sup>st</sup> at 6am. If anyone would like to attend, Bro Edmar would be delighted to see people from our parish.

**Head of Safeguarding** Vacancy in the Diocese. To find out more, go to [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs)

<b>Money Matters</b>	
Envelopes	54.50
Standing Orders	925.00
Loose:	802.51
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1782.01</b>

*Thank-you  
Would 'loose givers' consider giving by  
direct debit to help the parish? Speak  
to Fr Michael or Wendy for info.*

## New to the Parish?

**If you are, then welcome.** But please allow us to welcome you properly. We would love to introduce you to the parish over a tea/coffee and find out a bit about you. If you wish, we can also bless your house. Just contact Fr Michael via email – [michael@tamworthrc.church](mailto:michael@tamworthrc.church)