



St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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Tamworth, B77 2EA

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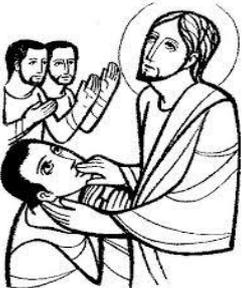
St John's Church is on St John St, Tamworth, B79 7EX

Thirty First Sunday of the year (A) – 2017

Psalm Response: **Guard my soul in peace before you, Lord**

Saturday 4 th November St Charles Thirty First Sunday of the Year	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Mary Farrington Parish Memorial Mass
Sunday 5 th November Thirty First Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Ann McCauley – Jim & Sheila Brown Verity Gray & Milo Bailey – Violet Seekings Pauline Richards – Danny Phelan
Monday 6 th November Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 7 th November Feria	10.00 am (S.H.)	Dan Collins
Wednesday 8 th November Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Sue Saunders & Family
Thurs 9 th Nov Dedication Lateran Basilica	10.00am (S.H.)	Dominic Hames
Friday 10 th November St Leo the Great	9.15 (S. E.) 12.30pm (S.J.)	Karen Davison Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish
Sat 11 th Nov St Martin of Tours	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Mary Barnwell Nora Bolt & John Deeney
Sunday 12 th November Thirty Second Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Kathleen Parker – Michelle Padmore Sheila Mulligan – Betty Meehan Tom Goldrick – Martin O'Donnell

Confessions: Saturday 11 – 11.30 at St John's and 5.15 – 5.45 pm at St John's



Please pray for the sick: Chad Williams, Teresa Woodcock, Gill Horsley, Margaret Thompson, Mary Pullen, Julie Orme, Nikolas Atkins, Stephen Morley, Jaden Walker, Frank Ryan, Gillian Solanky, Mary Miller, Winnie Claridge, Sarah Gillen, Anne-Marie Purslow, Joan Trevis, Tony Soden, Pablo Claveria, Adam Coxhead, Eileen D'Arcy, Sarah Spencer, Gladys Cuffe, Kingsley Bayley, Beryl Smith, Mary Williams, Joyce Anderson, Agnes Buckley, David Foxall, Leslie Roe, Olive Ahern, Sadie Porter, Michelle McGrotty, Nancy Finn, Tony Borman, Stella Moseley, Christopher Wheeldon, Maureen Gallagher, Theo Castanheira, Iris Bishop, Michael Dwyer, Gemma Vine, Corinne Collins, Christine Bayley, Baby L'Kye, Margaret Gallagher, Maria Fe Alcuaz, Tom Collins, John Hackett, Mary Collins, Eva Howard, Odette Nunes, Janine Nolan, Terry Spears, Slaw.

Reflection – Love in Action:

The Christian identity is servant, disciple, humble follower. Greatness is seen in love, in being willing to serve the needs of others, as Jesus did. One example of this was at the last supper, when Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. Jesus came to lighten our religious loads and focus on loving and serving others.

Telling us that we are all students, Jesus reminds us that Christian life is never completed. Let us pray for the humility we need to know that we are always learning, always a child of God who is invited to turn to our loving father in our need.



Na każdej niedzielnej mszy dostępne są **polskie tłumaczenia** czytań i Ewangelii. Można je znaleźć w przedsionku kościoła. Miłej i owocnej lektury!

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Farrell Gallagher, Peter Petricca, Julie Flanagan, Patrick Cavanagh, Kazinierg Dziub, Henry McDonald, Ernest Lewis, Margaret Dowds, Percy & Margaret Arnold, Albert Heafield, Daniel Morris, Anne Garrity, Marion Wyatt, John Gillespie, Kathleen Barratt, Daniel Haiste, Phyllis Flynn, James Burns, Mark Hastings, Ceilla Gillen, Helen Hackett, Alf Hackett, Norah Quinn, Mary Murphy, Doreen Quinn, Elizabeth Hughes, Margaret Wilkins, Hilda Murray, Ellen Meredith, Mary Teasdale, Francis Garry, Francis Ray, Francis Clarke, Robert Phillips, Derek Daly, Anthony Daly, Katherine Harrison, Maureen Donaghy, Shirley Russell, Patrick Johnson, Angela Dolan, Isabella Kelly, Florence Backhouse, Thomas Brennan, John Deeney, Maureen Kilduff, George Jameson, Mary Watts, Albert Whitlock, Adrian Lesley Rosier, George Carroll, Denis Haywood, Mark Brown, Samuel Fitzsimons.



November – Remembering Our Loved Ones: This is something the Church does every year in November. *There are envelopes available if you want your loved ones remembered at Masses in November.* Please write their names on the sheet and put it in the envelopes with any offerings. Please place the envelopes in the basket on the altar.

Memorial Mass: We welcome all those visiting this weekend who have lost a loved one in the last 12 months. The Mass this Saturday evening is offered for

these loved ones and you remain in our prayers.

Prayer Group meetings are on Tuesdays - 8.00 pm at Sacred Heart. This prayer includes silence, praise and singing and open prayer. All are welcome.

Youth Band: Thank you to those who have already joined. Rehearsal **is** on Friday at 6.30 pm in the Sacred Heart Church. It is for those in Year 7 and above. If you would like to come along or find out more please e-mail michael@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk or speak to Alex Parker. There are some great young people who are already on board. Please come along and get involved if you enjoy singing or play an instrument.

Building Work: we should have a schedule for the Church work next week.

Parish Questionnaires were handed out in September asking about welcome, liturgy, preaching and outreach – key themes for effective evangelisation. Thank-you to all who responded. The responses have been read and a short report written. This is available in the porch. Please take one and have a read.

The next task will be to put together some ideas to follow this up. We have started doing this and will print some ideas/proposals in the new year.



The Alpha Course continues to go well. Great food again this week from Tom and Pauline Johnson and all the team of people prepping and cleaning up. Thank-you to them. Please keep Sunday November 19th free for a retreat day at Maryvale – an important part of the Alpha experience.



World Day of the Poor: The weekend of Sunday Nov 19th has been designated by Pope Francis as World Day of the Poor. This will be the first one. It is a day on which we remind ourselves that service to the needy is central to Christian life and discipleship. It is also a day in which we can seek God's blessing on what we do now and on the people who lead it.

A Blessing for all Working with People in Need: So if you are engaged in any action to help the 'poor', like visiting the sick, Starfish, bereavement work, helping with homeless people or people with disabilities etc please be ready for a blessing at the end of Mass and thank God for that ministry that enables us to meet Christ in our brothers and sisters who are suffering.

Next UCM meeting will be a Boots No 7 evening held at Boots, Ventura Park 7pm Wednesday 8th November. All welcome.

Deacon Nick Williams will be here most weekends. Could parishioners invite him to lunch on Sundays and it would be nice for him to get to meet some more parishioners.

Community Activities

Starfish: Our Starfish 'breakfast club' runs from the Sacred Heart. It's held every Sat from **10 till 12.00 am**. Please invite people along.

A Bereavement Support service operates at Sacred Heart on Fridays (10 – 12.00). If you know of anyone grieving, please invite them to join us.



Evening Bereavement Support at St John's – Friday mornings at Sacred Heart provides the much needed support for people who are grieving. This is down to the wonderful volunteers who work tirelessly in providing a welcoming, safe place for people to come along to. However, we are very aware not everyone can make this meeting because of work or other commitments. We are looking for volunteers who would be prepared to hold a Bereavement Support group at St John's on a Thursday evening from 5pm – 7pm. If you are interested in volunteering please contact the parish office or email Wendy on office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk

Memory Café – Heart of Tamworth in partnership with Home Instead are running a Memory Café in St John's Community Rooms every Tues, 10.30am – 12.30pm, offering a friendly place where people with memory loss and carers can come together in a safe and supportive environment.

Foodbank: Thank-you to all who remember this each week. The need has not lessened so please keep it coming.

Senior Citizens at Sacred Heart – Meet every Tuesday for social gatherings at 1.30 pm.

A.A. Groups meet at St John's every Mon and Fri starting at 8.00 pm.

The SPIN Café also runs from St John's every Monday. It is for people with learning disabilities looking for a place to meet & something to do. New members welcome.

Young Couples – Welcoming and Belonging: It is always lovely to see young couples in our parish. Some mention that it is sometimes hard to meet other young couples who are committed to their faith and then others might be new to the Tamworth and even the U.K. With this in mind we are organising a social evening for young couples who are British and those from other cultures – to meet and relax over food and a drink. Would you like to come?

Invitations are available this weekend but we need to know if you are coming, please so do respond.



Money Matters

Envelopes	175.69
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	436.22
Total:	£1411,91
Building Fund	259.88

Thank-you.

Gift Aid: Please increase your giving by 25%; sign a Gift Aid form. Call the Parish Office or office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk

Bonfire Night was a great success. Thank-you to all those who built the fire, organised fireworks, made food, served, did children's games, printed tickets, welcomed and watched. It was a lovely family evening attended by nearly 300 people.

Christmas Choir for 7.00pm Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart: There will be a weekly practice at 7.30pm on Wednesdays at the Sacred Heart, starting this Wednesday 8th November, to prepare to celebrate Christmas. If you would like to join us then please come along. You don't have to be able to read music – you can learn most by rote. We would welcome new members of the choir – even if you can only commit for this Christmas. More Bass and Sopranos especially needed! (low men and high ladies voices). But whatever range your voice you will be

welcome too! A warm welcome to any who speak other languages –perhaps you could teach the choir to sing a verse or carol from another country too?

The Real Advent Calendar – From next weekend we will have a number of the Fairtrade Real Advent Calendar on sale. This beautiful calendar, as well as having a chocolate behind every door, has a book with the Christmas Story and activities in for the children to enjoy. Unfortunately we have a limited number so it will be first come first serve! Cost £4.00 each.

The Christmas Dinner this year is being hosted by us at Sacred Heart. It is for anyone who might be alone or struggling in some other way. We have some great cooks but still need some help with service, socialising and lifts to and from the meal. We plan to eat at 1.00 pm on Christmas Day and lifts home at 2.30 pm. If you can help please sign up in the porch.



A Living Nativity – a short ten minute drama during the celebrations of the switching on of the Christmas lights will be on Sunday Nov 26th. A director of drama is needed for this 'Living Nativity'. Any volunteers for that or other parts should contact Alex.

Christmas Funds!

Help me grow.

Support this appeal



Our Christmas Fundraiser – we have had a few demanding events recently so there will be no Bazaar this year but there will be a draw.

We are completing the shower for rough sleepers, starting work on St John's Church after Christmas, doing the winter night shelter and have other projects coming up.

Please be generous in your support. Would your workplace sell any for a good cause? Family & friends?

The prizes are good (the first 4 prizes are worth over £1,000) so selling tickets should be a bit easier.

Flyers are available with tickets. It might be useful if showing it to others too.



£300 cash



£100
MARKS &
SPENCER

and 11 other prizes