



# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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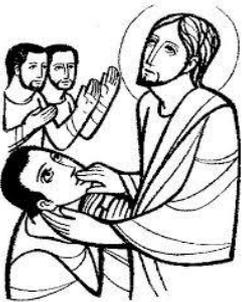
St John's Church is on St John St, Tamworth, B79 7EX

## Thirty Third Sunday of the year (A) – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017

**Psalm Response: O blessed are those who fear the Lord**

<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>Thirty Third Sunday of the Year</b>	<b>Feria</b>	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	William (Bill) Yeadon Owen Lynch – Patrick Christopher Morley
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>Thirty Third Sunday of the Year</b>		9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Ray & Kitty Browne – William & Patricia Stober Keith Waterhouse – Rita Heap Joe & Mike O'Dwyer – George Wayne
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	<b>Presentation of Virgin Mary</b>	10.00 am (S.H.)	Nelly Jones
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>St Cecilia</b>	10.00 am (S.J.)	Baby Jay Jay
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b>	10.00am (S.H.)	Holy Souls
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<b>St Andrew Dung-Lac</b>	9.15 (S.E.) 12.30pm (S.J.)	Peter Seekings Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Feria</b> <b>Christ The King</b>	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	<b>Communion Service – please note.</b> Trevor Warrillow – Joe Roche & Sebastian Carvalho
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Christ The King</b>	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Months Mind Mass for October Pete and Sylvia Geldard Golden Wedding Ann McCauley – Jim and Sheila Brown

**Confessions:** No morning confessions - just 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, Tom Sharratt, Tilly Sweet.

### Reflection:

God has given each of us a wide variety of gifts, it is not acceptable merely to put the gifts on a shelf and ignore them. He expects us to use those gifts for his service. The gifts we receive include skills, abilities, family connections, social positions, education, experiences, and more.

The point of today's parable is that we are to use whatever we have been given for God's purposes, visiting the sick and imprisoned, clothing the naked, welcoming the stranger, and feeding the hungry (25:31-46). This weekend 'World Day of the Poor' Pope Francis asks all of us, whatever our means, to unite in love and in acts of service to one another. Those who are found faithful to God will hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."



**Please note that there will be no Mass or confessions** next Saturday morning.  
In place of Mass there will be a communion service.

**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 Cooqan, Jeff Hiqqins, Mildred Hall, Kevin Leonard, John Butler.

**Please pray** for the repose of the soul of **Catherine Cooper** whose funeral will take place at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 12.30pm. May she rest in peace.

**Months Mind Mass for October 2017** - Christine Breeden, Pat Elsmore, Jill Calderbank, Arthur John Hateley, Violet Seekings. Please add the names of the people you want included in the Mass on Sunday 9am, 26<sup>th</sup> November at Sacred Heart.

**An Invitation to All Readers** Mary Casey is a lecturer from Oscott College who specialises in scripture reading and public speaking, she will be visiting the Parish to give a lecture on our liturgical reading on Mon Nov 27<sup>th</sup> from 7pm until 9pm at Sacred Heart. The evening will focus on the importance of reading in Mass. The aim is to improve our reading skills and Mary will be offering great tips on how we can do this. Please sign up in the porch. This is open to all ages and anyone thinking about being a reader too.



**Youth Band:** Thank you to those who have already joined. Rehearsal is on Fri 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](mailto: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.

**On National Youth Sunday (next weekend),** we welcome our schools who will be leading the 9.00 and 10.30 Masses. The second collection will be for our Diocesan Youth services which operate under the charity name of the Kenelm Youth Trust. Please be generous in your support of their great work.

**The Youth Band will be leading the music at next Sunday's 12.00 Mass, 26<sup>th</sup> November for National Youth Sunday.**



**World Day of the Poor:** In his message for the World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis asks all of us, whatever our means, to unite in love and in acts of service to one another. He explains: "It is my wish that ... Christian communities will make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance." Please consider how you can create moments of encounter and friendship too. Prayer Cards will be available to take away with you so that we can keep all those experiencing poverty in our prayers. Finally, if you are engaged in any form of work helping people in need (visiting the lonely, working for foodbank or the SVP, bereavement work, volunteering with soup kitchens etc), there will be a blessing and commissioning for you in this. More information on this can be found on:

ministry at the end of Mass.  
<http://www.csan.org.uk/worlddayofthepoor/>

**The 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.

**Very important information for those having problems heating their homes.** Tamworth council have taken up the opportunity to help more people access ECO funding for insulation and heating measures. There is no longer a requirement to be on a means tested benefit to access some heating measures. Please look at the council website <http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/energy-company-obligation-eco> or speak to HEAT on Freephone 0800 043 2815 for any questions or to check eligibility



**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.

**Bereavement Support at St John's** –We are looking for volunteers who would be prepared to hold a Bereavement Support group at St John's on a Thursday from 5pm – 7pm. If you are interested in volunteering please contact the parish office or email Wendy on [office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk](mailto: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. Program for the next few weeks: **21<sup>st</sup> Nov** - Adrian Armchair Exercise **26<sup>th</sup> Nov** Tea Chat and Games Raffle. **5<sup>th</sup> Dec** Carol Service at Sacred Heart **12<sup>th</sup> Dec** Shoebox Theatre Performance at Sacred Heart **19<sup>th</sup> Nov** Christmas Party St John's Community Rooms. On the **27<sup>th</sup> Dec** and **2<sup>nd</sup> Jan** 2018 it will be closed.

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

**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 - Invitations have been taken but we need to know if you are coming, please so do respond.



**Christmas Choir for 7.30pm Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart:**

There will be a weekly practice at 7.30pm on Wednesdays at the Sacred Heart, 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** – We have a number of the Fairtrade Real Advent Calendar on sale this weekend. 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.

**St Gabriel's Christmas Fayre on Friday 1st December.** The fayre will open with a performance from the school choir at 3.30 to get in the festive spirit and will run until 5 pm. Come and visit Santa in his grotto, have a go on the tombolas, adopt a teddy, buy some Christmas gifts or have a go on one of the many games. Plenty of fun for all the family.

**St Elizabeth's Christmas Fair On Sunday 3rd DEC 1-4PM:** Come and join the festive fun with games and activities for all the family. Try your luck on the tombolas or visit Father Christmas in his grotto and receive a gift. Our raffles have some great prizes including; National Forest Adventure Farm family ticket, Sky Trail voucher, Winter Wonderland ticket for family of 5 plus much more. A selection of stalls will be selling gifts and cards as well as white elephant and books. Enjoy turkey baps, festive treats, refreshments and cakes. Admission: Adults 50p, children free.

All welcome – At St Elizabeth's RC Primary School, Claremont Road, Tamworth, B79 8EN

**Thank you Sacred Heart Tea** group for their kind donation of £300 which will go towards the refurbishment of the downstairs kitchen at Sacred Heart. Heart of Tamworth have raised further funds and plan to start this work after Christmas.



**Bridie and Chris** would like to say a huge thank you to all the lovely people who helped us with the poppies at Sainsbury's. We raised £17,807.95p another fantastic year. May the Lord reward you all for your kindness.

**Heart of Tamworth** needs a website to be developed. Can anyone help us to do that please? Please contact Fr Michael if you can help.



**Children's Party - 17<sup>th</sup> December** 2pm – 4.30 at Sacred Heart Children's tombola and raffle, face painting, decorating cookies, disco and of course Santa will make a visit. Tickets will be available from next weekend £2.00 – just to cover some costs.

Parents will need to stay with the children, hot drinks, wine and mince pies will be being served downstairs at a small charge.

As part of this event we are wondering if parents and children and parishioners might bring a toy – not necessarily for our own children but for some who may receive very little this Christmas. What do you think? If you would like to volunteer to help out please contact Ann Marie and Sam Wilson on 07860 789073 or 01827 799583

**Carols at Christmas St Editha's Church, Tamworth 7<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7pm.**

A magical evening of musical performances, sing-along carols and festive readings. All proceeds are for the Alzheimer's Society. Tickets available from [alzheimer.org.uk/carolstamworth](http://alzheimer.org.uk/carolstamworth) or 0330 3330804.

**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.

<b>Money Matters</b>	
Envelopes	249.35
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	518.10
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1567.45</b>
Building Fund	341.22
Donation	300.00
<i>Thank-you.</i>	
<b>Gift Aid:</b> Please increase your giving by 25%; sign a Gift Aid form. Call the Parish Office or <a href="mailto:office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk">office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk</a>	



**Plus 11 other prizes**

**The Building Work at St John's** is being scheduled for the end of January. This will then be followed by painting and decorating.

**Centre Manager for the Kenelm Youth Trust:** The Kenelm Youth Trust is looking to recruit a Centre Manager for Alton Castle and the Soli Centre. Alton Castle and the Soli Centre are Catholic Residential Youth Retreat Centre's for The Kenelm Youth Trust, serving young people aged 9-24. Each year, over 8000 young people come to experience short retreats provided by the Programme staff under the leadership of the Director. Each Retreat is based upon prayer and supported by the outdoor activities provided by the Centres.