



St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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Tamworth, B77 2EA

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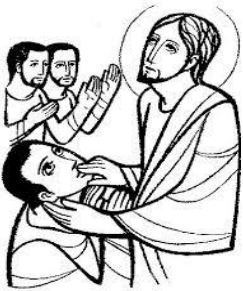
St John's Church is on St John St, Tamworth, B79 7EX

Fourth Sunday of the Year (B) – 28th January 2018

Psalm Response: O that today you would listen to my voice! Harden not your hearts

Saturday 27th January Fourth Sunday of the Year	Feria	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Bridie, Steve, H and Seren Kieran McSweeney – Frank Hill
Sunday 28th January Fourth Sunday of the Year		9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Peter Seekings – Patrick Cunningham Josie Pullen – Sheila Mulligan Stephanie Bradford – Dr Armando Cortez
Monday 29th January	Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 30th January	Feria	10.00 am (S.H.)	Tony O'Shea
Wed 31st January	St John Bosco	10.00 am (S.J.)	Bridget and Michael Hegarty
Thursday 1st February	Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Funeral Mass for Ann Chinn at St John's
Fri 2nd Feb	Presentation of the Lord	9.15am (S.E.) 12.30pm (S.J.)	Peter Seekings Mass for the Sick and Housebound
Saturday 3rd February Fifth Sunday of the Year	Feria	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Ann Bernes Tony Eivers – Trevor Warrillow
Sunday 4th February Fifth Sunday of the Year		9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Frank Hill – Ann Bernes Margaret Thompson – Violet Seekings Kathleen O'Dwyer – Cherry Lovegrove

Confessions: Saturday 11 – 11.30 am 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, 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, 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, Mary Collins, Eva Howard, Odette Nunes, Janine Nolan, Terry Spears, Tilly Sweet, Peggy Bashford, Vickie Pickup, Karen Taylor.

Reflection - He taught them with authority:

Jesus uses authority to serve, not to be served. And that is how he wants us to use whatever authority we might have. Whether our authority is at home, at work, or somewhere else, he wants us to use it to help others, not to make ourselves into big shots.

What a difference it makes when the authority we're subject to is a blessing instead of a curse. Jesus doesn't overpower us to make us knuckle under. He serves us with patience and mercy, helping us grow to see how much we need him. Sin is a cruel, harsh, manipulative, unforgiving taskmaster. Jesus is compassionate, gracious, patient, loving and merciful. The authority of sin is fraudulent, but the authority of Jesus is absolute.



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

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 Arbritas, 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, Arthur Miles, Thomas Nicholson, Harriett Edden, Laurence Burke, Mary Clack, Alfred Burke, Fred Fellows, Ernest Ralph, Humphry Richard, Mary Lunn, James Bernes, Mary Duffy, Horace Evans, Michael Gildea, Charles Crook, Catherine Matthews, Josephine Dupuis, Frank Haiste, Leslie Taylor, Cecilia McCracken, John Shaw, Flora Gore, Jean Zako, Connie Hill, Horace Windridge, Edith Weir, James McDonnell, John Richardson, Gladis Beaumont, Anne Lennon, Robert Evans, Sheila Hunt, Reginald Rainsford, William Turner, Lawrence Oldfield, Kathleen Vaughan, Pierre Cuffy, Mary Lyndon, Frederico Prato, Frank Sharratt, Mary Pulman, Francis Tomson, Kenneth Woodcock, Patrick Osborne, Gemma Boland, Ian Robert, Arthur Lowry, Anthony McComb, Marie Reid, Lawrence Deakin, David Chawner, Muriel Ward.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Ann Chinn** whose funeral will take place in St John's on Thurs, 1st Feb at 10.00am, **Olive Ahern** whose funeral will take place on Fri, 9th Feb in Sacred Heart at 12noon and **Eva Harasztosi** (Sabi Ujvari's mother) who died on the 1st January. May they rest in peace.

For Funerals in our parish we have now printed a small card for reflection and to let people know about our bereavement service.

Ideas for Lent:

ALPHA - is a chance for anyone to renew their faith through watching some amazing 25 minute films and an opportunity to ask questions/discuss. We are planning another Alpha course for anyone interested. It will be on Mondays starting on February 19th and continue through Lent. If anyone would like to join us **please sign up** in the porch or email alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk. There will be food offered too. It is open to all.

There are invitation cards in Church this weekend. Please take some and give them to anyone you know or why not bring a friend?

Alpha Leaders: There are two training sessions for Alpha Leaders: one on Monday 5th February -for new leaders (and any others who would like to attend) and on Monday 12th February for all leaders- both at 7.30pm at Sacred Heart Church. The first will focus on leading small groups and the second on Prayer Ministry and will be a chance to discuss any issues from previous Alpha and to pray together. If you are interested in helping to lead on this coming Alpha course please phone Alex Parker in the office or e-mail alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk



Home Groups We would like to try and develop a couple of small faith-sharing groups during Lent. Such groups would meet in someone's home to chat, share the Bible, share their experience and discuss their meaning for the wider community, If you would like to be involved, perhaps you would be happy to open up your home for a couple of hours to a small group of parishioners or get together a small group of friends. We would provide the material for discussion and prayer. Please e-mail alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk or phone Alex Parker in

the office or sign up at the back of church or phone the office for details.

Soup Lunches will be held every Friday throughout Lent. All proceeds will go to charity. We are looking for volunteers to make the soup. Can you help?

Morning Masses most days and early morning Mass on Wednesdays at Sacred Heart Church.

Rosary Group on Monday evenings at 7.30 at Sacred Heart.

Adoration and Confession after 10.30 Mass each Saturday Morning at St John's for 30 minutes.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at Sacred Heart at 7.30 pm.

The Prayer Group meets every Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm at Sacred Heart.

Three Evening Talks and Day of Recollection by Deacon Nick Williams. Dates and times to be confirmed on next week's bulletin. We welcome Deacon Nick back this weekend.

Walk With Me Booklets for daily reflection will be available for use from next weekend

Good Friday Witness – The planning is underway for this. The organisers need help with stewards. They are looking for someone to co-ordinate the volunteer stewards- and they also need more volunteers on the day to be stewards- give out leaflets and guide the crowd. If you could spare some time on 30th March to help in any way please speak to Alex Parker or e-mail alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk.

Fr Noel emailed this week to ask our prayers for people in Congo. Kabile, the President is now operating as a ruthless dictator. One of the few organisations standing up to him in the country is the Catholic Church. A recent peaceful protest led to the killing of innocent protesters by the military. See more on www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-42766151. Please keep the people of the DR Congo in your prayers.

Thank-you from Cherry Lovegrove's Friends: *My friends, Cherry's family and I would like to thank you so much for the support and help you, the church and congregation have afforded us, we have managed to raise total of £1318.60 on the day, which was so overwhelming. We needed £3000 total to get my friend Cherry back home to Philippines and we have now raised this amount so thank you all so much! Hopefully, she will finally be reunited with her family and loved ones by Friday this week.* Leonora

St John's Church refurbishment will soon start. Contractors should begin work in late February. The work will take about 4 weeks and will be followed by painting – another 4 weeks. We anticipate that St John's will be out of action for 3 weekends.

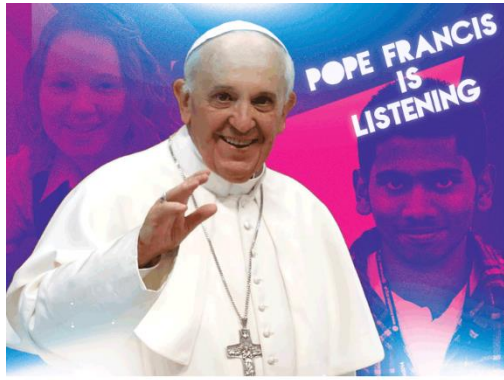


Confirmation Classes will be starting in the near future. Are there any young people (maybe not at Catholic schools) who want to be confirmed? If so, please contact Fr Michael as soon as possible.

Youth Band rehearsal 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 alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk

Women's World Day of Prayer in Tamworth will be on 2nd March. More details of venue and times soon, but the organisers have asked us to provide two readers. If you think you might be able to help please speak to Alex Parker or e-mail alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk

The Year of the Family – There will be a World Meeting of Families in Dublin during August 2018 This event is open to all families who wish to attend. However, it has been proposed that every deanery in the Archdiocese of Birmingham will sponsor a family to attend this event. Please speak to Fr Michael if you and your family wish to be considered.



Synod 18 Pope Francis has dedicated the 15th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the theme of *Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment*. It will be held in Rome in October 2018. As part of this process the Pope has invited young people to share their voice from a variety of social contexts from around the world, so as to better understand what it is like to be a young person living in the world today; the hopes for the kind of people they wish to become, the joys, the challenges, the worries and the uncertainties. The 'Pope is listening' and he wishes to explore the issues that isolate young people and marginalise them as well as better understand to what young people may feel a sense of belonging. For more info, look at www.synod18.org.

St Gabriel's Pre-School have been chosen for the Co-op community dividend this year for the Glascoate Co-op store. Please could you, when shopping in this store ask for a "charity dividend" when paying for goods in order for the Pre-School to be entitled to a share of this dividend.

Consultation: Last weekend we had a presentation on major future developments in the parish. If you missed it there are still handouts in the porch and forms through which you can respond to the four proposals. Designs for the first stage of building are on the Heart of Tamworth website.

Please hand those forms back by next weekend at the latest so that we can prepare a summary for all to see.

Thank-you to all who have already submitted a response.

Sunday 12 Noon Mass Children:- Look out for colouring pictures on the theme of the Mass. Maybe bring some colouring pencils next week. They can be collected from the entrance lobby basket. Thanks to Joanna Piernicka for organising this.



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

Union of Catholic Mothers meeting on Wednesday 7th February at 7.45pm at Sacred Heart. New members welcome.

Congratulations to Anna Flynn who celebrated her 80th birthday on the 27th January. We hope you had a lovely day.

Marriage Preparation for couples living in the parish and are getting married in 2018 will be held on Saturday, 17th Feb 10.00am – 3pm at Sacred Heart. All couples are asked to bring along a pack lunch.

H.O.T. Activities:

Winter Night Shelter – "Lord, when did I find you homeless and give you shelter?" Thank you to all those involved in delivering the first half of the project from early December through to now. It has been a great effort and our centre has been very popular with the guests. If you would like to know more about the Winter Night Shelter please contact me on sppeople@btinternet.com or 01827 825403.

Singing for the Mind: The next session is at Sacred Heart Church this Thursday 1st February 10.30-11.30am. Some of the proven benefits of singing are: It's good for the mind, helps with confidence, relieves anxiety and reduces stress. Why not come along and join us?

Senior Gents Club – It's felt that there are clubs that cater mainly for women, which is brilliant, but once men finish work, unless they go along with their partners, there is nowhere for them to go. To try to address this Heart of Tamworth together with Home Instead are starting a club for the men. The idea is to help men to meet new friends, have the opportunity to play card or dominos, come along for a chat and help reduce isolation. The first meeting will be on Tuesday 13th February, 10.30am – 12.30pm in St John's Community rooms.



A Bereavement Support service operates at Sacred Heart on Fridays (10 – 12.00 noon). If you know of anyone grieving, please invite them to join us. We work in partnership with St Giles Hospice and are supported by M.G. Evan's and the Cooperative Funeral Directors.

Bereavement Help Point Evening Meeting – Thank you to everyone who has put their name forward as a volunteer for the Evening Bereavement Help Point. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, 30th January at 6.00 p.m. in the upstairs room at St John's Community Rooms. If you are interested, but haven't put your name down, please feel free to come along.

Starfish – We need more volunteers for the Starfish 'breakfast club' which runs from the Sacred Heart. It is held every Saturday morning from **10am till 12.00 noon**. We provide food and a listening ear in a friendly setting. The people who come are God's children and the sort of people Jesus would seek out.

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.

Change of Venue for Heart of Tamworth's Memory Café – Because of its great success the Memory Café has moved! It has moved to a bigger room at Sacred Heart from 10.30am – 12.30pm. The Café offers a friendly place where people with memory loss and carers can come together in a safe and supportive environment. The next Café will be on **Tues 30th Jan 2018**

Heart of Tamworth now has its own website. Our thanks to Wojciech for developing this.

Please see www.heartoftamworth.org

Money Matters	
Envelopes	154.03
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	542.62
Total:	£1496.65
Building Fund	285.96
<i>Thank-you.</i>	
Gift Aid: Please increase your giving by 25%; sign a Gift Aid form. Call the Parish Office or office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk	

Alzheimer's Society
Leading the fight against dementia



MEMORY CAFÉ

SPONSORED LOCALLY BY

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE

To us, it's personal