



# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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Tamworth, B77 2EA

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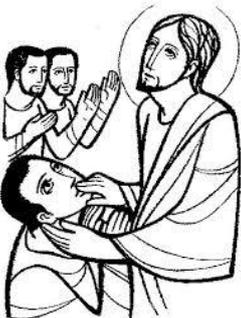
St John's Church is on St John St, Tamworth, B79 7EX

## Second Sunday of Lent (B) – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Psalm Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the Land of the living

Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Lent feria	10.30am (S.J.)	Maureen Dempsey
Second Sunday of Lent		6.00pm (S.J.)	Joe and Phillis Roche – Ken and Frances Dingley
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> February		9.00 am (S.H.)	Kathleen and Stuart Parker – Leon Spicer
Second Sunday of Lent		10.30 am (S.J.)	Margaret Bird – Sheila Mulligan
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Hannah & Joseph Quinn – Colette O'Donovan
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Lent feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Lent feria	10.00 am (S.H.)	Kieran Jones
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Lent feria	7.00am (S.H.)	Violet Seekings
		10.00 am (S.J.)	Bridie, Steve, H & Seren
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	St David	10.00am (S.H.)	Holy Souls
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	St Chad	12.30pm (S.J.)	Mass followed by Lenten soup lunch
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Lent feria	10.30am (S.J.)	Patsy Joyce
Third Sunday of Lent		6.00pm (S.J.)	Dr Thomas Barry – Nell Mattison
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> March		9.00 am (S.H.)	John Ellis – Joe McCormack
Third Sunday of Lent		10.30 am (S.J.)	Ray Morris – Keith Wakelin
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Karen Davidson – Clive Millington

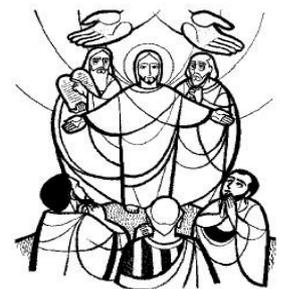
Confessions: Saturday 11 – 11.30 at St John's and 5.15 – 5.45 pm at St John's



**Please pray for the sick: 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, John Hackett, Mary Collins, Eva Howard, Odette Nunes, Janine Nolan, Terry Spears, Tilly Sweet, Peggy Bashford, Vickie Pickup, Karen Taylor, Evelyn Reardon, Sean McAuley.

### Reflection: This is my Son, the beloved

So what is transfiguration, especially as related to us? We are called to that same life in communion with the Lord as Moses and Elijah. God calls to us to give our self-sacrificial love to the Body of Christ just as Abraham did with his own son, his most precious gift from God. When we love God above all else, then that *agape* love will lead us to lift up our neighbors, forming and *transforming* ourselves and each other in love. That redirects not just our faith but our lives, putting us in service to Him rather than only asking the Lord to provide service to *us*. We are called to live in the Trinitarian life, one that will transfigure us to true children of God, through the one authority of Jesus Christ. When that happens, we will have no need to build tents ... because we will already be home.



**CAFOD Collection at all Masses this Weekend:** In spite of some Aid organisations getting bad publicity recently, hopefully, we all recognise the vital work they do. They need our support so please be generous this weekend.

**Welcome too to Eilish who is selling cakes for CAFOD** after the Sat evening Mass.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Peter Bradley, Winifred Morrisroe, John O'Malley, John Cuffe, Margaret Curnock, George Boonham, Mary Carney, Frank Meehan, Margaret Bird, Christian Davies, Magdalen Slater, James Porter, Albert Collett, Alfred Duncomb, Alice Woonton, Francis Kelly, Bruno Chyla, Edna Parsons, Albert Maloy, Mary Butler, Mary McDermott, Julie Grace, Beryl Felton, Kevin Stack, Teresa Coleman, John Farrington, Josephine Byrne, Douglas Stait, Michael Moloney, Patrick Hickey, Donald Martin, Vincent Cunneen, Eva Heafield, Patricia Fleet, Enrique Gorrin Rodriguez, Doris May Phillips.

**Please pray** for the repose of the soul of **Annette Beech**, funeral will take place in Sacred Heart on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 12.15pm and **Dariusz Krzysztof Slotwinski** whose funeral service will be at Fradley Crematorium on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 8.45am. May they rest in peace.



**ALPHA** – has got off to a good start. Please keep it in your prayers. **Alpha Food:** We still have a couple of weeks that we need help with. We are keeping the food simple this time – eg. soup and a roll or jacket potato etc. the numbers are more manageable too- We have 26 on our Alpha course this time. If you feel that you could help with the food please phone the office or e-mail [alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk](mailto:alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk). Thank-you to all who have volunteered.

**Soup Lunches** will be held every Friday throughout Lent after Mass. All proceeds will go to Father Hudson's Care who work with some of the most vulnerable people in society. Do come to Mass and join us as we share this simple meal and help people in need too. If you can do soup one Friday, please let us know.

**Morning Masses** most days and early morning Mass each Wed at Sacred Heart Church at 7.00 am.

**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 7.00 pm with reflection by Deacon Nick Williams

**The Prayer Group** meets on Tues evenings at 8.00 pm at S.H. with silence, prayer singing & adoration.

**CAFOD Collection** The second collection this weekend will be in aid of CAFOD. Maybe our savings from fasting can be put aside for the poor and hungry of the world that CAFOD supports. This Lent, for each pound you give to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal, the UK Government will also give a pound to our nutrition work. So your generosity will grow. And so will children around the world. A gift of £28 today could be doubled to £56, enough for a vegetable garden for a family, so they can grow healthy food.



**COME ON IN TO  
FAIRTRADE**



FAIRTRADE

**Fairtrade Fortnight** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February and runs until Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March. At St Editha's shop we will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight by inviting you to "Come on in" and try our goods. Each day we'll have samples of fairtrade foods for you to try. We will also have lots of information on the importance of fairtrade and what it means for the producers

**St John's Church Refurbishment – the latest.** Contractors will start in the week of March 19<sup>th</sup>. We have decided it is wiser to get all the work completed with the Church closed. That will take approx. 6/7 weekends. That means we will re-open for the weekend of May 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>.

**Lifts Needed?** If anyone needs transport to get to Sacred Heart we can help organise lifts for that period. Would those who do have cars also want put their names down to offer those lifts for a few weeks? The list is in the porch.

Finally, there will be a 6.00 pm Mass on Saturdays at Sacred Heart but no 10.30 Mass. This gives everyone the chance to mix with people from the parish whom they would not normally see and gives Fr Michael an easier Sunday morning for a few weeks.

The only help we may need in this period will be the moving of benches. Can anyone help please? Thank-you to the three who have already volunteered.



**Any Old Gold?** It's a strange question but someone suggested this. The refurbishment does include some gold leaf work. To help with the cost they offered to donate some gold ear rings they no longer use. Has anyone else got an item of gold they could donate (chains, rings, broaches etc)? Please put them in the gold box in the porch. Thank-you.

**Parish Contact:** We tried to email you in the week. Did you receive it on Thursday? **If not, can you please give us your contact details today?** It enables us to let you

know about changes (e.g. when St John's re-opens). It is very useful if you are away. Pens and slips in benches.

It also means we can inform people about Christmas and Easter Masses or big events coming up.

**The Parish Council** is an important body within this community. It is through this group that we have consult the parish across many areas including Catechesis, buildings, pastoral work, spending, future plans. In our recent consultation someone raised the question of its existence if we develop a leadership team. Just as a school reports to the governing body, the parish council would still retain that key role of 'steering the ship'. Two members have completed their term. We thank Barbara Tinsley and Denise Foxall for their service and now invite two more people to come forward as parish council members. If you are interested and want to know more then please speak to Fr Michael, Alex, Pete Geldard, Bob Charles or any other member of the parish council. New members would then be appointed at the **AGM on Sunday March 4<sup>th</sup> (in two weeks) at 1.00pm.**

**Confirmation Classes** will be starting on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February from 6.00 to 7.15 pm at Sacred Heart. 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** – Calling young people in Year 6 or above: Do you enjoy singing or playing a musical instrument? Would you like to join our Youth Band? We would like to expand! We rehearse each Friday during term time from 6.30 – 7.20 pm at the Sacred Heart Church and lead the Music at various Masses on a rota basis – we aim for once a month. For more information, please e-mail [alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk](mailto:alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk) or come along to practise this Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.30pm, Sacred Heart Church in the Modwen Room.

**"An Evening of Celebration"** at St Mary's Church, Market Street, Atherstone Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 6.30pm with David Hadden. A time of thanksgiving, worship, song, and prophetic ministry.

**Women's World Day of Prayer:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March prepared by Christian women of Suriname. 11.00am Service at St Leonards Church Wiggington. Pre-service Suriname style refreshments served from 10.30am and light lunch to follow the service. 7.00pm -St Peter's Elford. All welcome (Men too!)

**APF Mission** - Each year APF Missionaries prepare for the feast of St Joseph, their Patron, with Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their missionary work. The Novena to St Joseph takes place on 10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March at St Joseph's Churches in Maidenhead & Liverpool. You are invited to send petitions to St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT or [novenmhm@gmail.com](mailto:novenmhm@gmail.com)



**St Elizabeth's Quiz Night:** Adults are invited to St Elizabeth's School quiz night on SAT 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2018 at 7.30pm in the school hall. Tickets are on sale at a cost of £8.00 per person. This will include a Fish and Chip supper from the Leyfields Fish Bar (£3.00 per ticket without food). Teams of 4 - 6. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets are available from Jane McSweeney on 07849 439867 or Marie Kennedy on 07745 655994. Come and join the fun and help raise funds for the school. All welcome.

**Growing Geraniums and Other Flowering basket Plants:** Have you the skills and space to grow 50 or 100 plants from seeds? This summer we want to use people's skills in this area to help us make up hanging baskets as a fundraiser. If a few people could do a bit each, it would make it easier and more fruitful for the parish. Can you help?



## H.O.T. Activities:

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

**The Senior Gents Club has got off to a great start.** The idea is to help men to meet new friends, have the opportunity to play cards or dominos, come along for a chat and help reduce isolation. They meet every Tuesday, 10.30am – 12.30pm in St John's Community rooms.

**Singing for the Mind:** The next session is at Sacred Heart on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 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?



**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.

**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 – please contact Sylvia for more information on 65264.



**Memory Café** – The Café offers a friendly place where people with memory loss and their carers to be able to come together in a safe and supportive environment. The Café meets at Sacred Heart every Tuesday at 10.30 am – 12noon.

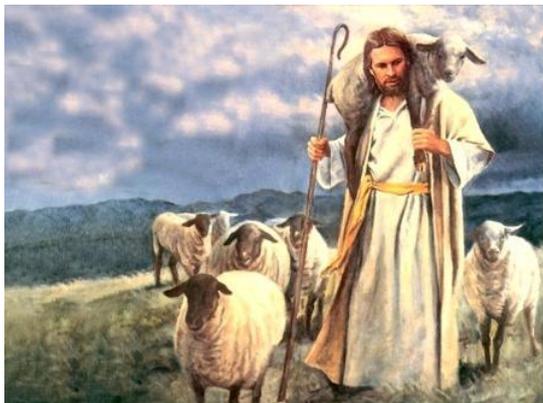
**Heart of Tamworth now has its own website.** Our thanks to Wojciech for developing this.

**The AA Group** meets as usual on Mon and Fri evenings at 7.00 pm.

**A Polish Scout group** now meet on Saturdays at 1.30.

**A Guitar group** has started at St John's on Tuesday nights.

**1st Hopwas Guides Quiz** at Sacred Heart on Saturday 24th March at 7.30pm Cost per person is £5 for Quiz or £8.50 to include fish and chip supper Teams of 4 - 6 people please All funds raise will go towards activities and events for the girls at 1st Hopwas Guides (Some of the girls are members of St John's Parish) To book your places please ring Terry on 07930160857



**Have you perceived a need** in the parish or local community that you think needs addressing? Sadly, there are no shortage of them, loneliness being one highlighted in recent months.

If so, why not talk to us and help respond to that need?

All of the above activities (and more) are run by people who see a problem but also a solution, people who have the heart and some time to help respond in a positive way.

It is all pastoral work, the work that Jesus invites us to do. Please join us if you can.

Money Matters	
Envelopes	194.05
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	479.65
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1473.70</b>
Building Fund	311.62
<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>	