



St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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Tamworth, B77 2EA

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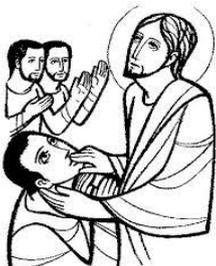
www.stjohnrctamworth.org.uk

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent (B) – 18th March 2018

Psalm Response: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted

Saturday 17 th March	St Patrick	10.30am (S.J.)	Joana Sofia & Szumlanski family
	Fifth Sunday of Lent	6.00pm (S.J.)	Sister Dympna – Dick Croke
Sunday 18 th March		9.00 am (S.H.)	Derek Brotherhood – Marie McCormack
	Fifth Sunday of Lent	10.30 am (S.J.)	Margaret Thompson – Christopher Morgan
		12.00 noon (S.H.)	Nell Mattison – Ann Bernes
Monday 19 th March	St Joseph	10.00 am (S.H.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 20 th	Lent feria	10.00 am (S.H.)	John Ellis
Wednesday 21 st March	Lent feria	7.00am (S.H.)	Peggy Bashford
		10.00 am (S.H.)	Marian Ann Smith
Thursday 22 nd March	Lent feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Richard Carty
Friday 23 rd March	Lent feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Funeral Mass - Gillian Solanky
		12.30pm (S.H.)	Mass followed by Lenten soup lunch
Confessions: Saturday 11 – 11.30 and 5.15 – 5.45 pm at Sacred Heart			
Saturday 24 th March	Lent feria	10.30am (S.H.)	Communion Service
		6.00pm (S.H.)	Kit Liversidge – Baby Flynn Donnelly
Holy Week Services – Starting Next Weekend			
Sunday 25 th March	Palm Sunday	9.00 am (S.H.)	Jim Barnwell – Doherty Family
	The Passion of the Lord	12.00 noon (S.H.)	Kathleen Knight – Allan Wathen
Monday 26 th March		10.00 am (S.H.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 27 th March		10.30 am (S.H.)	Funeral Mass - Daniel McGeechan
		2.00 pm (S.H.)	Funeral Mass - Eva Howard
Wednesday 28 th March		7.00 am (S.H.)	Christine Breen
		9.15 am (St. G's)	Theo Castanheira - School Mass St Gabriel's
		7.30 pm (S.H.)	Penitential Service (7 priests present)
Easter Triduum			
	Maundy Thursday	8.00 pm (S.H.)	Mass of the Lord's Supper
	Good Friday	3.00 pm (S.H.)	Good Friday Solemn Liturgy
Holy Saturday		11.00 am (S.H.)	Święconka - Polish Blessing of Food
	Saturday East Vigil	8.00 pm (S.H.)	Easter Vigil followed by refreshments
EASTER SUNDAY		9.00 am (S.H.)	John Ellis and Fr Tom Hewitt
		10.30 am (S.H.)	The People of the Parish
		12 noon (S.H.)	Brian Fitzgerald and Maria Cortez



Please pray for the sick: Chad Williams, Teresa Woodcock, Julie Orme, Stephen Morley, Jaden Walker, Frank Ryan, Mary Miller, Winnie Claridge, Sarah Gillen, Anne-Marie Purslow, Joan Trevis, Tony Soden, 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, Odette Nunes, Terry Spears, Tilly Sweet, Peggy Bashford, Vickie Pickup, Karen Taylor, Evelyn Reardon, Sean McAuley, Aoife.

St John's Church Refurbishment – the latest. Contractors are starting this week. The Church is now closed for 6/7 weeks. Please pray it runs smoothly.

Reflection: Today's Gospel story tells us that, as well as healing, casting out demons, and preaching, Jesus felt the need to go to a quiet place and pray. This is a lesson to us all, it is in those quiet places that we can get in touch with not only ourselves but with God, it is where we hear His voice.

Jesus heard Simon's prayer for his sick mother-in-law and the fever left her. When she was cured she did what Jesus himself does, she serves those in need. She becomes a disciple.

Lord, deliver me from seeking your help only in times of difficulty. May I grow in grateful love for the ways you daily raise me up and call me in to service for the community.



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Terence Brady, Mary Wherle, Brigid Hegarty, Mary Walsh, James Armstrong, Margaret Byrnes, Matthew Cuffe, William O'Connor, Edward West, Gladys Harwood, Frances Williamson, Michael Davy, Carmel O'Brien, Thomas Blount, Andrew Dow, Thomas Tooley, Charles Hartree, Cyril Sheldon, Percival Grove, Ray Morris, Tommy Bradley, Jack Vaughan, Graham Hughes, Simon Steggle, Frederick Green, Joseph Smith, James White, Josephine Williams, Kathleen Perchanycz, Vincent Sirr, Shirley Raspe, George Phillips. Eric Denis Douglas, Karl Croft, Robina Hickey, Lucy Bates, Joseph Hunt, Teresa Bury, Trevor Slater, Winifred Dunleavy, Ada Malloy, Margaret Singleton, Kathleen Knight, Christopher Siddals, Marguerite Beard, Vincent Murphy, Katherine (Kit) Liversidge, James Moody Mack, Paul Doherty, John Reilly, Nell Mattison.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Gillian Solanky** (*please wear bright clothing*) who will be received into Sacred Heart on Thurs 22nd March at 5pm, followed by the funeral Mass on Fri, 23rd March at 10.00am; **Eva Howard** whose funeral will take place on Tues 27th at 2.00 pm at Sacred Heart followed by cremation at Fradley Crematorium (WS13 8GA); **Daniel McGeechan** whose funeral will be on Tues March 27th at 10.30 am followed by cremation at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium at 12 noon; **Betty Harding** whose funeral service will take place on Wed 28th March at 1.30pm at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium and we remember **Davina Montgomery** who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Soup Lunch this Friday will be at Sacred Heart.

Theo Castanheira: we have been praying for Theo for many months now. He is aged 5 and has been battling with cancer. He has been so brave and positive. Sadly, the cancer has not been arrested and he is now in palliative care. Please pray for Theo and his family as they face this next part of his journey.



Holy Week Services begin next week starting with Palm Sunday: This leads us into the highlight of the Church's year. We are prepared for this by the Sacrament of Forgiveness. 7 priests will be here to help us with confessions. Please come and celebrate this together on Wednesday evening (March 28th - in Holy Week).

On Thursday evening we will commemorate the Last Supper and the washing of the apostles' feet. At this Mass our Eucharistic ministers will also renew their promises. It finishes in silent prayer and watching.

Good Friday's solemn service is characterised by the veneration of the cross at 3.00 pm.



The Easter Vigil is the climax to Lent and Holy Week. We celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, one that he promises to share with us. We celebrate 4 people coming into the Church. It is the highlight of any Christian's year. Please join us at 8.00 pm.

On Easter Sunday there will be a 10.30 Mass but on Palm Sunday and all Sundays after Easter there will be just 3 Masses – Sat evening at 6pm and 9.00 and 12.00 am on Sundays - all at Sacred Heart. This is for 6/7 weeks while refurbishment work takes place at St John's.

TCC Good Friday Service and Walk of Witness – You can meet at Ventura Park (at the back of New Look by pedestrian crossing) at 9.30am for the walk to begin at 9.40am through the castle grounds and ending at St Editha's for the service at 10.30am. There will be three pauses during the walk for prayer.

Easter Sunday Lunch – We will be holding the Easter Sunday lunch again this year at 1pm on Easter Sunday. If you or someone you know would like to come, please ring the parish office. Volunteers needed to be table setters, greeter, servers and to washer-up. Could anyone provide a homemade apple pie or cold dessert? Please contact Sheree People on 07933956677.

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

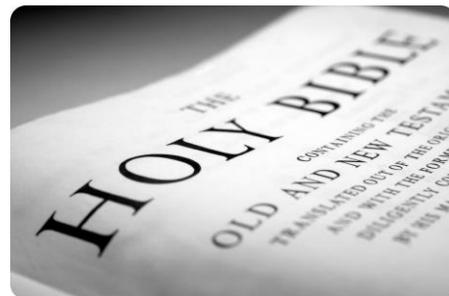
Święconka: The traditional blessing of Polish food will be 11.00 am, this Saturday at Sacred Heart.

Eucharist and the Family – The Archdiocese are holding a day at Maryvale Institute on discovering the heart of the faith in the heart of the family. These days are run in preparation for the World Meeting of Families (21st – 26th August and the Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress on the 7th – 9th September 2018. The day is for Eucharistic Ministers, Parish/family workers, teachers, catechist and parishioners. For more information or to reserve a place contact Paul Northam or Sr Gilliam Murphy – fieldevang@maryvale.ac.uk or ring Maryvale on 0121 360 8118.

A Bible Readathon: This is an opportunity to be part of a one-off event, which is taking place from the 4th-7th July at St. Editha's Church, when the Word of God will be read out loud. If you would like to be part of this, either as a reader, a supervisor, or simply by offering practical support such as refreshments, welcoming people or giving people a lift to or from the church, then please sign up.

This will be a unique experience that you won't forget!

All are welcome!



Women's World Day of Prayer – The rescheduled service for WWDP is now the 23rd March and will now be held at St Barnabas Church, Manor Road, Mile Oak. The timings for the service are as before - 10.30 for refreshments, 11.00 service followed by lunch.



Eucharistic Ministers in our parish do an amazing job. This is not only at weekends but many visit the housebound during the week. Those who cannot come to Church often sing the praises of those Eucharistic Ministers. Our thanks to them.

This year we are inviting them to renew their commitment at the Maundy Thursday Mass in Holy Week (on March 29th) at 8.00 pm. Please put it in your diaries. It is so fitting to do it on that night since it commemorates the last Supper and recognises the importance of this ministry.



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, e-mail alex@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk or come along to practise this Friday 2nd March at 6.30pm, Sacred Heart Church in the Modwen Room.

Rabbit Eggs (?) and Chick Eggs will be on sale this weekend – on sale in support of CAFOD. They will be sold by some of our young people, knitted by parishioners and helping some of the poorest people in the world. Limited supply.



Knitting dolls: On the subject of knitting, we are looking for a volunteer or two to knit some dolls please (to a certain design) to be used by our own children. Is anyone curious enough to volunteer? We have some images we can show you.

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.

Growing Geraniums and Other Flowering basket Plants: Can you 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?



Please note –**we are updating our records** so we can let parishioners know about Church openings and closures (with building work) or Mass times at Christmas and Easter. If you have not completed a slip, please do on today.

Afternoon Tea - Carolyn Fleurat will be holding an Afternoon Tea on Sunday 22nd April 2 – 5pm at Sacred Heart in aid of the Birmingham Archdiocese pilgrimage to Lourdes. Carolyn who is a registered nurse, will be caring for the sick during the pilgrimage and is raising funds for the trip. Cost of the tea is £5 for adults £4 for children. For tickets please ring 07889040535.

The Summer Fayre is on June 24th this year. Can you help? Can you provide any big prizes – any connections with hotels or holidays? Can you get match funding (banks are very good at offering this to employees). Please phone or email the office if you can 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 5th April 10.30-11.30am. If you love to sing why not come along and join us. Proven benefits of singing are: It's good for the mind, helps with confidence, relieves anxiety and reduces stress.



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.

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 raised 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

Tamworth Carnival 2018: In order to raise the profile of Heart of Tamworth and raise funds for our projects from a wider audience, we are entering a Glascote float and have a stall in the Tamworth Carnival 2018. We have already had the very generous support of Guinan Girls in providing a lorry. Can you help on the day, **2nd June**, or with the preparations? The stall will raise funds so ideas and contributions to raise money are very welcome. An initial get together to work out ideas and what is required will be held on 14 March at 7.30pm at Sacred Heart. If you cannot make it please email me with your interest at sppeople@btinternet.com.

Gambling Problems: With internet gambling, it seems to be a growing issue with many people. We are helping to establish a service for people addicted to gambling. If you know someone with a problem, then let them know.

It will start after Easter at St John's. Watch this space for more information.

Tabor House, Birmingham's only permanent night shelter, needs volunteers. Why not come along to our Volunteer Open evening? It takes place on Wed 21st March, 6pm - 8pm at St Anne's Catholic Church, 96 Bradford Street, Birmingham B12 0PY. Or contact Mairead Shaw on [07387418318](tel:07387418318)/mairreadshaw@fatherhudsons.org.uk for details.

Money Matters	
Envelopes	190.95
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	503.43
Total:	£1494.38
Building Fund	290.80
<i>Thank-you.</i>	
Gift Aid: Gift Aid: Signing a Gift Aid form will increase your gift by 25% at no cost to you. For more info call the parish office or email office@stjohnrctamworth.org.uk	



DID **GAMBLING**
CAUSE YOU TO HAVE
DIFFICULTY IN SLEEPING?

THERE IS HOPE.

ENTER ▶

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