

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

Christ the King (A) – 26th November 2017

Psalm Response: I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house."

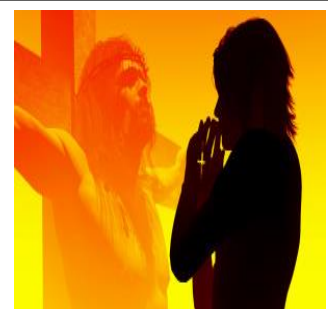
Saturday 25th November Feria	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Communion Service – please note. Trevor Warrillow – Joe Roche & Sebastian Carvalho
Sunday 26th November Christ The King	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Months Mind Mass for October Pete and Sylvia Geldard Golden Wedding Ann McCauley – Jim and Sheila Brown
Monday 27th November	Feria	10.00 am (S.J.) Communion Service
Tuesday 28th November	Feria	10.00 am (S.H.) Simon Doherty and family
Wednesday 29th November	Feria	9.00am (S.J.) Anne Clibbery (Note Time Change)
Thursday 30th November	St Andrew	10.00am (S.H.) Owen Lynch
Friday 1st December	St Edmund	12.30pm (S.J.) Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish
Saturday 2nd December First Sunday of Advent	Feria	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.) William (Bill) Yeadon Nell Mattison – Pat Lane
Sunday 3rd December First Sunday of Advent		9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.) Paddy & Jean Padmore – Olive & Dennis O'Connor Eileen Bolger – Kinahan Family Dan Collins – Christine Breeden
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, Tom Sharratt, Tilly Sweet.

Reflection: *Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom*

Today we see the unrepentant thief, the repentant and Jesus. One wanted to go back, the other to go forward, but Jesus offers new life. Messages of mercy to the end, mercy for people nobody wanted, the sinner, the tax collector the prostitute, to us. Jesus' messages to the end is mercy. Two arms of the cross, still reaching out in forgiveness, in an eternal promise. Referring to this gospel, Pope Francis says, "God's grace is always greater than the prayer which sought it. The Lord always grants more than what he has been asked. You ask him to remember you, and he brings you into his Kingdom!" (November 2013). *Father, forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*



Months Mind Mass for October 2017 - Christine Breeden, Pat Elsmore, Jill Calderbank, Arthur John Hateley and Violet Seekings. May they rest in peace

Catholic Youth Sunday – Today we welcome someone from the Kenelm Trust Who will speak briefly about work the youth service in our Diocese. The 2nd collection is for the Catholic Youth Service

Does anyone speak Romanian? Someone newly arrived needs some help please. Contact the parish office.

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

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Kate Jennett, Joseph Fitzsimmons, Lucy Moore, Ann Murray, James Larvin, Harriett Farrell, Thomas Vaughn, Peter Gilbertson, A. Masterson, Edna Stokes, Mary O'Riordan, Leo Porter, Sian-Marie Brookes, John McDonald, Walter Jones, Edna Newby, Florence Hudders, Nellie Roberts, Matthew Buttery, Ivy Price, Gertrude Allaway, Honora Marshall, Irene Hill, Michael Conway, Mary Turrell, Jane Soloman, Edward Baldwin, Philip Mullet, Frederick Moore, Jaroslav Brandys, Nellie Hall, Peter Szwarko. Charlotte Albone, Johanna Maher, Elizabeth Hunt, Archibald Miller, Andrew Naylor, Joan Roberts, Olive D'Silva Stone, Kathleen Lowe, Joan Burnham, Tilly Malloy.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Catherine Cooper** whose funeral will take place at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium on Tuesday 28th November at 12.30pm, **Margaret Royds** whose funeral will take place in Sacred Heart church on Thursday, 7th December at 10.00am and **Ernest Walker**, who will be received into St John's on Wednesday 13th December at 5pm followed by a funeral Mass on Thursday 14th December at 10.00am. May they rest in peace.

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 27th 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 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 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 today's 12.00 Mass

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



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: **28th Nov** Tea Chat and Games Raffle. **5th Dec** Carol Service at Sacred Heart **12th Dec** Shoebox Theatre Performance at Sacred Heart **19th Dec** Christmas Party St John's Community Rooms. On the **26th Dec** and **2nd Jan** 2018 it will be closed.



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

Congratulation to Pete and Sylvia Geldard as they celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary this weekend. God bless you both.

The Art of Dying Well – November, the Month to Remember - www.artofdyingwell.org

During the month of November, we particularly remember and pray for the dead. On the Art of Dying Well's Instagram memorial page, you can submit names/photos and or memories of people you have known who have died. We are inviting you to post, via the Art of Dying Well's Instagram or Twitter platforms (@artofdyingwell), pictures or memories of your loved ones who are dying or who have already died. It is also a chance to remember those who you have not personally known, but who come to mind because they have no one else left to pray for them. By tagging @ArtofDyingWell with #RememberThem, the photos/names will then be shared with five convents and abbeys who will remember and pray for those featured. The Carmelites of Notting Hill speak about the #RememberThem initiative: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSbRNHEjOIM>

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.

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.

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.

Advent



Advent Walk With Me Booklets are now in Church. Advent starts next weekend and these booklets can help guide us through a season of spiritual preparation for this great Christian celebration. If you can spare a £1 put one in but otherwise just take one.

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.

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?



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



Children's Party - 17th 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 7th 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 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.

Please bring back
ticket stubs and
money as soon as
possible



Money Matters	
Envelopes	126.86
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	542.90
Total:	£1469.76
Building Fund	352.18
<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	



Plus 11 other prizes

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.

Finally, a warm welcome to Fr David Marsden, Deacon Nick and all the students from Oscott who are at the 10.30 Mass this weekend.

