



St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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Tamworth, B77 2EA

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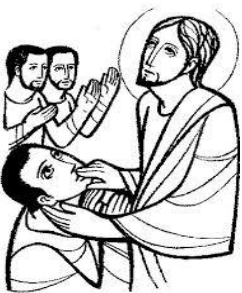
St John's Church is on St John St, Tamworth, B79 7EX

Thirtieth Sunday of the year (A) – 29th October 2017

Psalm Response: I love you, Lord, my strength

Saturday 28th October Ss Simon & Jude Thirtieth Sunday of the Year	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Elizabeth & Kerry Siddons Months Mind Mass
Sunday 29th October Thirtieth Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Frances Padmore – Special Intentions Karina Kennet – Mary Cahalan Amelia Wayne – Karen Davidson
Monday 30th October Feria	10.00 am (S.J.)	Communion Service
Tuesday 31st October Feria	10.00 am (S.H.)	Nell Mattison
Wednesday 1st November All Saints	9.15am (S.G.) 12noon (S.J.) 7.00pm (S.G.)	George Mander Louie Collier Evelyn Reardon
Thursday 2nd November All Souls	10.00am (S.H.)	Holy Souls
Friday 3rd November Feria	12.30pm (S.J.)	Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish
Saturday 4th November St Charles Thirty First Sunday of the Year	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Mary Farrington Parish Memorial Mass
Sunday 5th November Thirty First Sunday of the Year	9.00 am (S.H.) 10.30 am (S.J.) 12.00 noon (S.H.)	Ann McCauley – Jim & Sheila Brown Verity Gray & Milo Bailey – Violet Seekings Pauline Richards – Danny Phelan

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, Judith Timms, Christine Bayley, Baby L'Kye, Margaret Gallagher, Maria Fe Alcuaz, Tom Collins, John Hackett, Mary Collins, Eva Howard, Odette Nunes, Janine Nolan, Terry Spears.

Reflection: Today we hear the greatest commandment - God loves us totally. Nothing we do could make God love us more. God's love shines on each and every one of us like the sun shines on earth. Sometime this is hard to grasp but in prayer we can ask for God's help "Lord help me to believe...."
The 2nd commandment is easier to grasp, harder to follow: Love your neighbour as yourself. This is where God lives, in our neighbour, this is where we find him. We cannot love God and then refuse to love our neighbour; family, friends, our community, the stranger, the poor, the homeless, the elderly, the refugee.....
Lord, through your love for me make me aware of the dignity which you give me so that I can see, more easily, the dignity hidden in my neighbour. Amen



All Saints Day is on Wednesday and there will be three Masses in St Gabriel's, St John's and Sacred Heart. It is because of the importance of our relationship with the Saints in heaven that the Church asks all Catholics to attend Mass on this Feast.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Elsie Pallett, Margaret Walters, Herbert Deeley, Stanley Gale, Patrick Bradley, Albert Tomson, Margaret & James Gannon, Phyllis Lewis, Catherine Gilbert, David Hunt, Terry Chandler, Daisy Averill, Jan Marciniak, Sarah O'Neill, Leslie Smith, Vera Dagnan, Cecilia Day, Joseph Cassidy, Margaret Wood, Dorothy Ilsley, Kathleen Cowley, Edward Downey, Baby Michael Gibbons, Stefan Gradziuk, Michael Kehoe, John Rayner, Bernard Davies, Maurice Payne, Gertrude (Olive) Morris, Chatwin Dennis, Daisy McGee, George Dennis, Thomas Hay, Archibold Phillips. Helen Osborn, Jeffery Moppett, Norma Saul, Edmund Firkins, James Hinds, Alice Brotherhood, Margaret Court, Peter Gilbert, Thomas Jones, James Lacken, Edward West, Megan O'Connor, Richard Walsh, Anthony McHugh.

Christine Breeden - Robert would like to everyone, especially Fr Michael, Brian and Nora, for their support, prayers and messages of sympathy during Christine's illness and subsequent passing. It's these acts of kindness that made Christine proud to be part of our Parish.

Months Mind Mass Saturday, 28th October - We pray for all who died during the month of September especially Josie Pullen, Pat Elsmore, Patrick McEvoy, Peter Seekings, Sheila Mulligan, Anne Bernes, Daniel Wyatt, Betty White and Cissie Dyer. May they rest in peace

*If you wish for a loved one to be remembered in next week's
Months Mind
please add their names to the sheet on the notice board.*

November - Remembering Our Loved Ones: This is something the Church does every year in November. *There are envelopes available if you want your loved ones remembered at Masses in November.* Please write their names on the sheet and put it in the envelopes with any offerings. Please place the envelopes in the basket on the altar.



Our Annual Memorial Mass will be **next Saturday Nov 4th at 6.00 pm.** If you have lost anyone between November 2016 and Nov 2017, please write their names on the list in the porch so that they can be remembered in that Mass. Each name will be read out within the month they passed away. A candle will be lit for that month and there will be an opportunity for everyone to light their own candle to commemorate their loved one(s).



Poppy Appeal: Chris and Bridie will be at the back of the Church after 9am Mass on Sunday with Volunteer Forms as the Poppy Appeal starts this weekend. Can you please help? Please ring Bridie on 01827 283746 / 07532171784

Soldier's and Airmen's Scripture Readers Association - are keen to encourage people in Tamworth to pray for their work in the armed services and, particularly, to try and identify someone to coordinate prayer and support locally. Their focus locally is on Whittington Barracks (now Defence Medical Services Whittington). Mike Wajdner, SASRA area rep, will be leading an "information sharing and prayer" session at the Baptist Church in Belgrave (B77 2LD) from 7:30pm on Thursday 2nd November. Please come along and support if possible.

Prayer Group meetings are on Tuesdays - 8.00 pm at Sacred Heart. This prayer includes silence, praise and singing and open prayer. All are welcome.

Youth Band: Thank you to those who have shown an interest in this. 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 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.

Building Work: we should have a schedule for the Church work next week.

Parish Questionnaires were handed out in September asking about welcome, liturgy, preaching and outreach - key themes for effective evangelisation. Thank-you to all who responded. The responses have been read and a short report written. This is available in the porch.

The next task will be to put together some ideas to follow this up. We have started doing this and will print some ideas/proposals in the new year.



Deacon Nick Williams will be here most weekends. Could parishioners invite him to lunch on Sundays (Fr Michael usually goes to see his Dad) and it would be nice for him to get to meet some more parishioners.

The Alpha Course continues to go well. Great food again this week from Ann-Marie Wilson, Kathryn and all the team of people prepping and cleaning up. Thank-you to them. Please keep Sunday November 19th free for a retreat day at Maryvale – an important part of the Alpha experience.

Do you want your child to make their First Holy Communion next Summer? If the answer is yes, and your child is not in a Catholic school, then you need to register them for classes as soon as possible. They need to attend a class one evening a week starting next month. So far about 22 have signed up for this. This week is the last chance for anyone to join them.

If you know someone in this situation, then please let them know. So please email Fr Michael or write down your contact details and hand them in immediately. If you have any questions then please get in touch.

Our first meeting for all parents and children is this Monday October 30th at 6.15 pm at Sacred Heart. Please bring with you your child's baptism certificate.



Community Activities

Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night – We need some volunteers to help organise and run it – to help with food, the fire and fireworks etc. It will be on Friday 3rd November at Sacred Heart Tickets only £3 adults £1 children which will include a Hot Dog, fireworks and games for the children. Tickets are now available and going fast!

Winter Night Shelter: The winter night shelter will run from December to the end of February next year. We are covering Sunday nights. Thank-you to all who volunteered. There are more

slips at the back if you want to find out more. Just fill it in and leave it so that Simon can get in touch.

Starfish: Our Starfish 'breakfast club' runs from the Sacred Heart. It's held every Sat from **10 till 12.00 am**. Please invite people along.

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.

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.

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

Senior Citizens at Sacred Heart – Meet every Tuesday for social gatherings at 1.30 pm.

A.A. Groups meet at St John's every Mon and Fri starting at 8.00 pm.

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: It is always lovely to see young couples in our parish. Some mention that it is sometimes hard to meet other young couples who are committed to their faith and then others might be new to the Tamworth and even the U.K. With this in mind we are organising a social evening for young couples who are British and those from other cultures – to meet and relax over food and a drink. Would you like to come? **Invitations are available this weekend but we need to know if you are coming, please so do respond.**

The Apple Festival was a great success. People commented on the lovely atmosphere. It was a lot of work by over 30 people plus all those who collected apples and made them into something – whether toffee apples, pies, cakes etc. On the day it raised £900 and, with match-funding from Santander and HSBC, that should rise to £1800.00.

Thank-you and well done to everyone who was involved.

A Living Nativity – a short ten minute drama during the celebrations of the switching on of the Christmas lights will be on Sunday Nov 26th. A director of drama is needed for this 'Living Nativity'. Any volunteers for that or other parts should contact Alex.



TCC are also looking for new 'street angels' who are available late at night on weekends to be there to keep people safe on their way home. They offer a guiding hand, or a drink or listening ear to anyone who needs it. Please contact Rev Vic Van den Bergh if you want to know more - minister_Stf@btinternet.com.

Money Matters	
Envelopes	195.62
Standing Order	800.00
Loose	550.70
Total:	£1546.32
Building Fund	288.20
<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	

Christmas Funds!

*Help me grow.
Support this appeal*



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.



and 11 other prizes