




# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

## Palm Sunday (C) 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Readings:	<i>Isaiah 50:4-7</i>	<i>Psalms 22</i>	<i>Philippians 2:6-11</i>	<i>Luke 22:23:56</i>
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>		10.30am (S.J.)	The sick and housebound of the parish	
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>		6.00pm (S.J.)	David Burford – Alan Bentley	
		9.00am (S.H.)	Olive & Denis O'Connor	
		10.30am (S.J.)	George McGuigan – Josephine Kavanagh	
		12.00noon (S.H.)	Kitty Chandler – Dolly Duffy	
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday of Holy Week	10.00am (S.H.)	The sick and housebound of the Parish	
		11.30am (S.J.)	<b>Funeral Service for Georgina Dent</b>	
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday of Holy Week	<b>9.30am (S.J.)</b>	Holy Souls ( <b>Note the Mass time change</b> )	
		<b>7.00pm (S.H.)</b>	<b>Parish Reconciliation Service</b>	
<b>Easter Triduum</b>				
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	7.30pm (S.J.)	Mass of the Lord's Supper	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Good Friday</b>	3.00pm (S.H.)	Good Friday Solemn Liturgy	
		3.00pm (S.J.)	Good Friday Solemn Liturgy	
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Holy Saturday</b>	11.00am (S.H.)	<b>Święconka - Polish Blessing of Food</b>	
<b>Easter Sunday</b>		8.00pm (S.H.)	<b>Easter Vigil – Followed by refreshment</b>	
		9.00am (S.H.)	Ken Tansey – Lenore Boyce–Robinson	
		10.30am (S.J.)	Bro. Donie Hallissey – Ann Lawrance	
		12.00noon (S.H.)	Sally Fell – P J Keogh	
<b>Confession Saturday 11.00- 11.30 am St John's Church 5.15 – 5.45 pm</b>				

**Please pray for the following who are sick:** Mary Collins, Joy Espanta, Maria Alcuaz, Mandy Williamson, Anthony Hayes, Gillian Sage, Jemma Vine, Fay Bishop, Raymond Walker, Julie Tranter, Augusto Mayores, Edwin Catli, Sheila Bonser, Fr Jim McCormack, Mary Coady, Patricia Burton, Joan Barber, George Williams, Ray Newbold, Nicole Thomson, Maurice Murdanaigum, Paul Connell, Bob Walker, Clara Counsell, Marie Purslow, Jo Hawker, Olive Arrowsmith, Stan Merryweather, Olive Stewart, Kathy Warren, Ruth Faulds, Michelle Padmore, Sheila Fullbrook, Brian McCourt, Michael Boulstridge, Alan Hopper, Peter Scott, Jane Harper, John Doherty, Janet Tansey, John McDermottroe, Vincenzo Gizzi, Lisa Smith, Kathleen Donoghue, James Derty, Paul Heseltine, David Jarrett, Mark Whitehouse, Joan Hill, Mandy Duffy-Godfry, Eugene Reilly, David Smith, Brenda Shaw, Margaret O'Donovan, Henry Smith, Paul Vincent Argamosa, Judith Cunningham, Fr Michael White, Geraldine Lee, Matthew Downes, Nelly Jones, Drew Taylor-Hunt, Gillian Satchel, Bert Branagan, Pete McNaughton, Eileen Facer, Flor Masters, Ryan O'Doherty, Patricia Devlin, Phyllis Dillon, David Purslow, Irene Whelan, Anna Flynn, Carol Dolan, Rachel Scarnell, Sandra Massey, Susan Hall, Chito Sutton, Robert Gene Legaspi Jr, Briget Landers, Rory Downes, Janine Nolan, Derek Dillion, Bridie Petricca.

**Reflection:** Today we can't help but be struck by how joy and sorrow are both part of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Hearing of the jubilant crowd welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem, with the knowledge of Holy Week and the anticipation of what is to come on Good Friday. Holy Week is an invitation to walk the way of Jesus, to share his sufferings, to 'empty' ourselves, to live in service of others, to love as he loves. This is not at all a call to a life of pain and misery. Quite the opposite, it is an invitation to a life of deep freedom, peace and happiness.



**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Margaret Weatherall, Ambrose Holland, Laurence Jackson, Thomas Lane, Anne Gould, John Wood, William Oughton, Terence Rabone, Richard Blackmore, Bernadette Fitch, John Cunningham, John Walker, Mary Fitzsimmons, James Davidson, John Leonard, Millicent Smith, Albert Fenn, William Smith, Mary Black, Sandra Flaherty, Agnes Sharpe, Peter Carey, Cathleen Doherty, Marie Flemming, Maurice Saunders, Lawrence Lee, Thomas Tulip, Margaret Sirr, Nora Heffernan, Kenneth Tansey, Sarah Cafferty, Ida Simpson, John Burne, Winifred Young, Gerard Karey, Elizabeth Murphy, Marjorie Mary Wilkins, Martha Elizabeth Hodgkinson, Doris Blakeman, Patrick Baker, Madge Black, Peter Lawley, Cameron Devenney, Gabriel Joseph Costello, Mary Bonning, Linda Croot, Maurice James, Kelvin Poulton, Mary Brady, Marian Cook, Alan Hurley, Stephen Brindley, Margaret Gallagher, Bodhi Dainty, Joan Dunne, Patrick Dunbar, James Dunbar.

# Easter Triduum



**The Easter Triduum** (meaning three days) is a period that traces the final days of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. It begins with the Last Supper Mass on the evening of Maundy Thursday (*at which Eucharistic Ministers renew their commitment*), the Solemn Liturgy on Good Friday and reaches its high point on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil.

**Maundy Thursday:** The Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm at St John's Church on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April

2025. Washing of the feet and opportunity to stay and pray.

**Good Friday:** As Usual, there is a walk of witness with other Christian Churches. That begins at 9.30 from the New Look Shop in Ventura Park and finishes at St Editha's. ***We continue with the Solemn Liturgy at 3.00pm in both Churches on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April with veneration of the cross.***

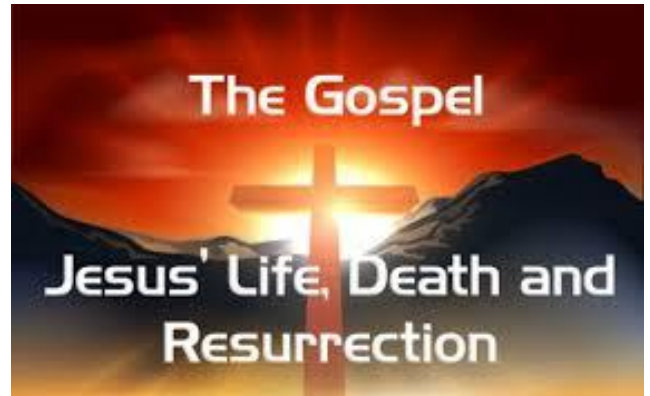
**Stations of the Cross** for children will be held on Good Friday at the 3pm service in both churches.

**Annual Collection for Holy Places** will be held on the Good Friday service at both churches.

**Easter Vigil:** Our Triduum concludes with the Easter Vigil at 8.00pm on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> April at Sacred Heart. Please pray for all those catechumen and candidates who are being received into the Church at Easter.

**Food After the Vigil** helps us celebrate Easter and welcome visitors. Can you help? Just look at the list in the porch and sign up for doing one job please.

**Święconka, the Polish Blessing of Food** takes place at Sacred Heart next Saturday at 11am. All are welcome but it is especially a great spiritual and cultural event in Poland. Each food (eggs, lamb, bread and salt has significance related to Holy Week). It's colourful, busy and beautiful so feel free to come.



**Please take an Easter Card to give to others.  
If you use Facebook or Instagram,  
please share our posts on Easter Services**

**Deaths:** Please pray for all those who have died recently; **Paul Lynn** whose funeral will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> May at St John's at 11.30am; **Barry Bird**, Jackie Davies' brother who died in Cornwall; **Patrick Cullen**, Trish Shaw's cousin; **Jan (Eddie) Michalski** and **Raul Selgado** who died recently. May they rest in peace: Pray also that their families will be consoled by their faith.

**Journey in Faith:** Please attend as much of the Easter Triduum as you can. There will be a rehearsal at 10.00am on Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April at Sacred Heart for all those being received into the Church and their Sponsors. Sessions resume after Easter on May 1<sup>st</sup> for a further 5 weeks culminating with Mass on the Feast of the Ascension.



**Penitential Service takes place at Sacred Heart this Wednesday Evening at 7.00pm:** There will be **8 priests** here and so it's a great opportunity to celebrate God's forgiveness, even if you haven't been for years! It obviously affords us a chance to confess to someone outside the parish too. Please do pluck up the courage to come.

**Confirmation Group: The next time the Confirmation Group will meet** will be Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 5.45pm-7.00pm at Namco Bowling Alley in the Castle Grounds. Please wear suitable footwear for bowling,

**There is no Communion session** this Monday.

**Parents' Catechesis:** For Communion Parents the next session will during the week beginning Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Please contact your leader if you are unsure of your group's time or email Alex.

**Lent Talks:** Thanks to those who have prepared and served refreshments during this series of talks.

**Celebration Choir meet next on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.00pm. Please note change of day.



# Summer Fayre

**Summer Fayre 8<sup>th</sup> June:** Has anyone got anything we can use as main prizes for the raffle? What works are prizes like meals, adventure activities, holiday homes, cash. Does anyone work for a company /Bank who offers match funding? Please have a think and let Fr Michael know if you have an idea. Please also start saving prizes for tombolas – unwanted gifts, bottles etc.

**Friday soup lunches for Lent** raised £720 for CAFOD. Thank you to all involved in making and serving soup and attending, to Linda and Peter for co-ordinating it. There is no Soup lunch on Good Friday.

**Sacred Heart Toddlers** is now closed for the Easter holidays! We are looking forward to seeing all of the little ones on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May**. Please note this session will be held **upstairs in the Kenelm Room**, due to the Borough Council Elections taking place downstairs. We are also looking for some more volunteers, can you help? Please email [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church) if you have any questions. We look forward to welcoming you!



**Maranatha Prayer Chain:** terryvobrien@icloud.com or Sylvia Geldard 01827 65264 with a prayer request to be passed on to our (prayer) chain of people.

**In Simple Faith:** the next session exploring faith through Scripture and the Catechism is on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 7.30-9.00pm in the HoT café at Sacred Heart with Igna and Tony. For details ask Alex.

**We are still looking for volunteers for our weekly games club on Thursday at the Holiday Inn.**

You do not need to commit to every week however as a basic DBS is required, we do ask that you can commit to regular sessions. If you would like to get involved or would like more information, please contact Kelly on 07422 721835 or [kelly@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:kelly@heartoftamworth.org)



Whilst waiting for their claims to be processed asylum seekers are not permitted to work. They do not receive a payment for living expenses, and when they do it is less than £9 per week. Many experiences boredom and isolation and this will help address this whilst encouraging use of English language. The role will involve chatting whilst playing games.

**Wardens Needed** from all age groups and backgrounds: People with a warm smile to welcome people, show them to seats and help with the collection. No commitment outside Sunday Mass so if you attend, why not help with this?

**Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham** on the 10<sup>th</sup> May with Mass at 1.30 - followed by procession of the Priory Grounds for prayer at the site of the Holy House. For more info contact Fr Philip Griffin - 01384 395308 or [olas.stourbridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:olas.stourbridge@rcaob.org.uk)

**Booking is open for the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage** The pilgrimage runs from Saturday 24 - Friday 30 May 2025 with the theme: "With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope". Find out more here: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage>

**Phoenix Youth & Teens** have now finished for holidays! Wishing all the youth a happy and holy Easter, and we look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April. Email [rhiannon@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rhiannon@tamworthrc.church) for more information.

Money Matters	
Envelopes:	27.00
Standing Orders:	1100.00
Loose:	597.86
Card:	108.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1832.86</b>
<i>Thank-you</i>	



**Gift Aid Envelopes:** Thank-you to all those who give regularly via envelopes. We do appreciate your regular commitment and do apologise wholeheartedly for the poor oversight on our part in failing to order new ones in time. The new envelopes are now here. If there are any problems, please contact Wendy. Switching to standing orders does make things easier. Standing order forms can be found in the porch.

**Hygiene Bank:** Thank-you to everyone who donates. Demand grows monthly and our supplies rapidly run out. We need: Toothpaste (Adults), Toothbrushes (adult & children,) Soap (bars), Baby Wipes, Nappies size 4,5,6, only & shampoo.

**Bereavement Help Points:** Thurs evening 5.30pm – 7.00pm, in the café. Friday, 10.00am till 12 noon, both at Sacred Heart. If you are struggling with loss & wish to talk, just come along.

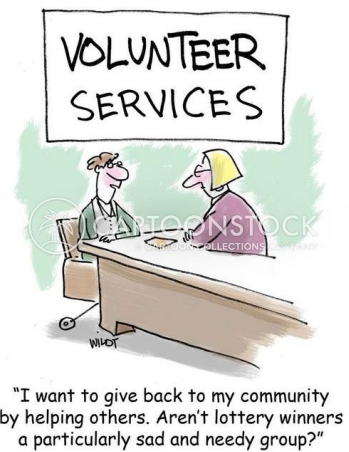
**Please Note:** The Help Points will be closed on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Reopen, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Safe Haven is a Crisis Café** are now in Market Street Tamworth - [Claire.Griffiths@burtonmind.co.uk](mailto:Claire.Griffiths@burtonmind.co.uk)

**The Memory Café** meets Tues 10.30am 12.30pm. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Memory Café has opened at Sacred Heart on a Tuesday afternoon 1.00pm – 3.30pm. For more info on both cafes email [sally.clough@Tamworth.homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:sally.clough@Tamworth.homeinstead.co.uk), or contact the HoT office 01827 259955.

**Senior Gentlemen's Club:** Meets on Tuesday 10.00-12.00 St John's Activities: dominoes, chess, bowling, trips. Subs now **£3**, please.

**East Staffs** Diabetes UK Patient Network supports groups for people living with diabetes. Contact John 07590379892 Email: [bridgesjohn763@gmail.com](mailto:bridgesjohn763@gmail.com)



**Lichfield Cathedral Mass:** We are working with the Deanery Schools and Bishop Timothy Menezes to hold a Mass at Lichfield Cathedral for Deanery schools. In the style of the 2012 Olympics 'Games Makers', we are looking for volunteers, preferably with experience of working with children and schools to welcome and signpost the children from Coach to Cathedral. Please email Alex for more info.

the London Marathon 2025! She is hoping to raise at least £1K for the **Heart of Tamworth**. You can sponsor Rhiannon via Facebook or this QR code

**Sponsor Rhiannon:** Our Parish Youth Worker Rhiannon is training hard for



**Summer Scheme Volunteers:** Many thanks to all those who have come forward to help with the summer scheme and have got their DBS checks completed with the Update Service. We are looking forward to working with you later in the year. If you would like to get involved it is not too late, but we do need to hear from you now so that we can get these checks made. For those who have received some forms from Rebecca, please can you get them back as soon as possible or by 28<sup>th</sup> April. For anyone new who would like to get involved in volunteering for the scheme which runs Mon- Fri 21<sup>st</sup> July- 1<sup>st</sup> August please email [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church) or speak to Rebecca or Alex after Mass.



**Altar Servers are needed at both Churches:** if you have made your first holy communion, why not become an altar server and get involved in the Mass in a new way? We will offer training. Just speak to any priest or deacon or email Fr Michael asap. It's open to all ages and beginners too. If you are a parent, can you encourage your son or daughter to serve please?

**St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School** are appointing Deputy Headteacher from Sept2025. Application forms from <https://www.st-elizabeths.co.uk/vacancies>. Closing date Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025. For more details contact the school on 01827 214000.

**The Annual Report will be ready soon:** we are also combining its launch with some consultation. This will now be after Easter. And, as usual there will be an annual general meeting when parishioners can ask questions about finances, the mission, report etc.

Please reflect on how we can improve the threefold mission of Jesus to evangelise, worship and help those in need. Your input is invaluable.



*The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Anne Goodeve, who can be contacted at: [sg.sitb.tamworth@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.sitb.tamworth@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.*