

St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

Office: Sacred Heart Church, Silver Link Rd, Tamworth, B77 2EA

Parish Office: 01827 769403

HoT Phone Number: 01827 259955

Fr Michael: michael@tamworthrc.church

Rebecca Downes: rebecca@tamworthrc.church

Deacon Brian Cox and Nora: nora@tamworthrc.church

Deacon Bob: bob@tamworthrc.church

Admin: Wendy: office@tamworthrc.church

Catechesis/liturg: alex@tamworthrc.church

Terry (Bookings): terryobrien@heartoftamworth.org

Kelly-HoT worker: kelly@heartoftamworth.org

Jen Martin (HoT Manag): jen@heartoftamworth.org

Rhiannon (youth): rhiannon@tamworthrc.church

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



Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year 20th October 2024

Readings:	<i>Isaiah 53:10-11</i>	<i>Psalms 32</i>	<i>Hebrews 4:14-16</i>	<i>Mark 10:35-45</i>
Sat 19 th October Twenty- Ninth Sunday of the Year	Feria 10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)		Brother Martin Morris Martin Warrilow – Irene Whelan	
Sunday 20 th October Twenty- Ninth Sunday of the Year		9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Simon & John Steggle – Mandy Finnigan Mary O’Gorman – Sarah Bradley Sylvia & Kevin Williams – Bill Hogan	
Tuesday 22 nd October	Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Verity Richards	
Wed 23 rd October	Feria	10.00am (S.J.) 7.00pm (S.J.)	Bernstein, Fore, Ritchie & Loftus Families Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Thurs 24 th October	Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Sarah White	
Friday 25 th October	Feria	9.15 am (S.E.) 12.00am (S.J.)	Harvest Thanksgiving Parishioners’ intentions	
Saturday 26 th October Thirtieth - Sunday of the Year		10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Tony Soden Joan Duffy – Callum Lindsay	
Sunday 27 th October Thirtieth - Sunday of the Year		9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Paul Preston – Bernie Eason Mary Branwell – Nigel Brindley Anthony Richards – Cynthia & Joe Kelly & Beresford Family	
Confession Saturday 11.00- 11.30 am St John’s Church 5.15 – 5.45 pm				

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, Dominic Hespe, 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, Bro Donie Hallissey, Kathleen Donoghue, James Doherty, Paul Heseltine, David Jarrett, Mark Whitehouse, Rachel Scarnell, Joan Hill, Mandy Duffy-Godfry, Eugene Reilly, David Smith, Michael McMahon, Patrick Keogh, Brenda Shaw, Joe Kelly, Margaret O’Donovan, Henry Smith, Paul Vincent Argamosa, Judith Cunningham, 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, Chris Davis, David Purslow, Irene Whelan, Lee Atkinson, David Rens, Anna Flynn.

Reflection: The apostles heard what Jesus told them with their heads, but not their hearts. We become able to hear with our hearts only when we enter the experience of another. But this means making ourselves vulnerable to their pain. We can experience this by sensing that friends and family do not really understand and support us. Often, they may be preoccupied with their own cares. This is what Jesus experiences in the Gospel today. But we can gain strength in the knowledge that he understands and supports us in our struggles, and in turn we can learn to support others.



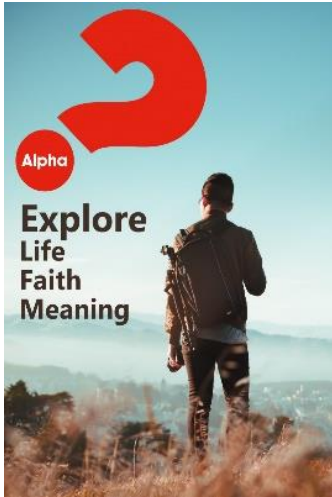
Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Hilda Cockeram, Winifred Geldard, Annie Garry, Patrick Clifford, H. Barrs, Barrie Davies, Sarah Davis, Monica Willisroft, James Clack, Angela Taylor, Frances Yates, Kathleen Winnall, Sandra Wardall, Beatrice Painter, Harry Johnston, Ernest Gore, John Sykes, Robert Corry, Frances Beardsley, John Battersby, George Adcock, John Fisher, Edmund Wieloch, Richard Hearn, Annie Hunter, Fredrick Gordon Jr, Mary Stansfield, Ester Walsh, Gladys Beckett, Alice Cant, Mary Ensor, Francis McCormack, John O’Dwyer, Berly McGough, Peter Owen, Shelley-Louise Jacka, Walter Breakell, Geoffrey Horne, Milos Ostojic, Albert Parkes, Winifred Saunders, Andrew O’Driscoll, Francis Padmore, Jean Walker, Geoffrey Franklin, Elizabeth Hanson, Teresa Jordan.

Welcome to Fr Karun: Further good news is that Fr Charles will follow in the next couple of weeks since his visa has come through. **We also welcome Bishop Timothy** this weekend. Bishop Tim is covering 9 and 12 am masses while Fr Michael has escaped on his bike. Fr Karun is on Sunday 10.30 and introducing himself at the other masses.

Deaths: Please pray for all those who have died recently, especially **Jean Padmore**, she will be received in to Sacred Heart on Mon, 4th November at 5pm followed by the funeral Mass on Tues 5th November at 12 noon, **Roseanna Witcomb**; and **Kevin Wood**, whose funeral will take place at SS Peter and Paul's Church Swadlincote on Thursday 7th Nov. He will be received into church on the 6th Nov at 5pm. May they be welcomed into paradise. Pray also that their families will be consoled by their faith.



First Holy Communion: For Children in Non-Catholic schools in Year 3 or above sessions continue on Monday evenings starting on the 21st October 2024 from 6.00-7.00pm at Sacred Heart. For more details, please contact alex@tamworthrc.church



Alpha: Dinner or Breakfast? We are offering dinner or breakfast over two Alpha Courses. A meal followed by a video and discussion for anyone who wishes to explore their faith or take the first steps to explore becoming a Catholic. Thursday evenings 7.30-9.00pm at Sacred Heart in the Kenelm Room. or Saturday morning for breakfast for those who can't make Thursday, **at 8.30-10.00am** also at Sacred Heart.

Alpha Away Day in Haunton- November 9th At St Michael and St James' Church. 10.00am-4.00pm

Youth Alpha: For all those in non-Catholic schools who wish to receive Confirmation next year, please join us for this, the first part of the course, on Monday evenings 5.45-7.00pm on Mondays at Sacred Heart. If you are interested, please contact alex@tamworthrc.church. This is also open to any youth in Y6 or above who would like to support their own faith journey especially those preparing for Confirmation at our two Catholic Schools.

In Simple Faith: The next session of this new course on Monday 21st October at 7.30-9.00pm in the HoT café. Please note that it is this week again. It will be led in the style of Home Group i.e. a drink and biscuit to chat and catch up for 10 minutes or so, then Scripture and catechesis, followed by a time of prayer. It will be led by experienced Catechist from Lichfield, Igna Evans and Tony Appleby. A dip into Bible study and backed up by extracts from the catechism. This is a great way to develop your faith if you are new to the church or explore and deepen your faith with others if your faith is more established. This will run mainly fortnightly in term time. For more information please contact alex@tamworthrc.church



Celebration Choir: We are getting ready for Christmas and the Jubilee. Lots of lovely songs to learn. If you enjoy singing why not come along? The next practice will be on Wednesday 23rd October 7.00pm at Sacred Heart. New members always welcome.

Teas and Toys after 9.00am Mass at Sacred Heart in the Upstairs Kenelm Room. This is a lovely way to meet other parents and have a chat while the young children enjoy some play together. Teas and coffees also downstairs at Sacred Heart after the 9.00am -all proceeds towards the flowers. Teas and coffees after the 10.30am Mass at St. John's in the Community Rooms.

School Masses: We are blessed to have Mass each week at one of our two Catholic primary schools, St Elizabeth's and St Gabriel's. This week it is the turn of St Elizabeth's school, and they are having their Harvest Mass at 9.15am on Friday 25th October. All are welcome.



Phoenix Youth Group: The next session will be **Wednesday 23rd October** from **6. 00-7.30pm**. **Please note the new time.** We look forward to welcoming new members. It is for those young people in Y6 and Y7. New members welcome. A voluntary contribution of £1 per session would be appreciated each session to help towards drinks and biscuits. A chance to catch up with friends, make new ones and enjoy fun activities and games. If you have any questions, please email Becky or Liz phoenix@tamworthrc.church

We are planning to do some consultation soon and also update our census information. Forms nearly ready and we hope to have an online version.

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

St Elizabeth's School will be holding their open day on Thursday 7th November for parents of children who will be starting school in September 2025. Please call the school office to book an appointment on 01827 214000. Everyone welcome.



Christmas Day? Do you want to do something different?

We need a team of cooks to do Christmas day dinner for people who are isolated or needy. Can you help? Venue will be Sacred Heart for about 30-40 guests. For info email jen@heartoftamworth.org

Safe Haven is a Crisis Café for people aged 18+ with mental health problems: 5pm to 11pm Wed to Fri and 9am to 5pm on Sat and Sun. For info, email: Claire.Griffiths@burtonmind.co.uk

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.

The Memory Café meets Tues 10.30am 12.30pm email sally.clough@Tamworth.homeinstead.co.uk

Senior Gentlemen's Club: Meet on Tues 10.00 – 12 at St John's. Activities: dominoes, chess, bowling, trips. £2 subs. Contact Bill Field on 07985581794.

East Staffs Diabetes UK Patient Network supports groups for people living with diabetes. Contact John 07590379892 Email: bridgesjohn763@gmail.com

The next craft club meeting will be on Tues 22nd October. New members welcome.

Can you help with collections from local retailers please? If so, please contact kelly@heartoftamworth.org

Hygiene Bank Appeal thank you to everyone who supports this. we desperately need the following items: period pads, tampons, roll-on deodorant (men's and women's), disposable razors, baby wipes.



Change! The Annual Memorial Mass will now be on Saturday Nov 9th, 6pm at St John's. Please note we have changed this date because last year cars were fined for illegal parking on Bonfire night, when the town was chocabloc with cars. If you have lost a loved one in the last 12 months (since Nov last year) please write their names on the board in the porch if you want them remembered at that Mass.

Tamworth Blessing of Graves will take place on **Sunday Nov 3rd** at 12 noon at Glascote, Wiggington and Amington. 10.30 at Wilnecote (after the 9am Mass).

The Blessing of Graves Oscott Cemetery - Satur 2nd Nov at 3pm.

This week's second collection is in aid of The Association for the Propagation of the Faith APF (Red Mission Boxes) assisting every one of the Catholic Church's 1,062 mission dioceses and territories to provide pastoral care and preach the Gospel effectively. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Money Matters	
Envelopes:	77.50
Standing Orders:	1100.00
Loose:	641.41
Card:	106.00
Total:	£1924.91
<i>Thank-you</i>	

If you are new to the Parish, then please let us know and get yourself registered as soon as you can michael@tamworthrc.church as well as introducing yourself before or after Mass.

Can you please take and sell a book of Raffle Tickets? These are available today. Our parish benefits thousands of people. Without the parish there would be no Heart of Tamworth, so supporting our parish is helping the whole community. Even one ticket helps – just bring back the rest, please. If you can sell more than one book, that would be wonderful.

Christmas Fayre: Sunday 1st December 10am – 2pm Could you help? Do you have any ideas for the fayre? There will be a meeting on Tuesday 29th October at 6pm at Sacred Heart to share ideas ready for the event. Donation for the fayre are very welcome especially, wine/spirits, chocolate, new toys, cakes (the weekend of the fayre)





Next year is a Holy Year or a Jubilee Year 2025 has been designated by the church as a jubilee year. As a parish, the tours we are looking at are Santiago de Compostela 7 to 8 days with 5 to 6 days walking around 10 to 18 miles per day, during March or April. Rome in October or November, 3 nights half board with an escorted tour. The cost is likely to be around £1000 per person. For either of these we will need to know who is interested within the next few weeks. We are also looking at 3 possible more local places, Harvington Hall, Walsingham and Mount St. Bernard, during the year. These will be one day visits. Please contact the parish office a.s.a.p

2025 has been designated by the church as a jubilee year. As a parish, we are looking at Santiago de Compostela 7 to 8 days with 5 to 6 days walking around 10 to 18 miles per day, during March or April. **Rome in October or November:** 3 nights half board.

The cost is likely to be around £1,000 per person. For either Rome and Santiago put your names on the list in the porch as an expression of interest a.s.a.p

We are also looking at 3 local places, Harvington Hall, Walsingham and Mount St. Bernard, during the year. These will be one day visits. Please contact the parish office a.s.a.p.

We hope to make Lourdes available too with the Diocese.

Bonfire Night is in two weeks on Tuesday 5th November. It's a community event that normally sells out really quickly. Tickets will be available at all Masses. Adults £3 and children £1 and it does include some food. Numbers are limited so get your tickets now if you want to come. If you can help with fire, food or fireworks please let us know.

The Vine Christian Book shop in Hinkley are recruiting for an Assistant Manager for the Vines coffee shop. For more information email thevinehinkley@hotmail.co.uk

St Andrew's Methodist Church are holding an afternoon with black Theologian, Professor Anthony Reddie. The theme of the afternoon is 'Love for the world's people'. Food will be provided by Asa's Cookout. The tickets are £10 - this covers the cost of the food. Booking can be done on eventbrite <https://Lovefortheworldspeople.eventbrite.co.uk>



Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Family Fast Day. Your donation in our parish collection or online and your prayers are helping young people like Daniel in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with support like training, so they can carve their way to a better future. We are standing in solidarity with those facing incredible hardships, as part of one global family. Learn more at cafod.org.uk/harvest



The Assisted Dying Bill is due before parliament soon. People have strong and often emotional feelings about this. None of us want to see people suffer. Cardinal Nichols spoke about this on the radio last weekend. His letter is printed and available in the Church porch. It is short and definitely worth reading.

No matter how many safeguards there are, every country introducing this sort of 'right' sees it being extended and broadened. This has led to some horrendous cases. The Cardinal also makes the point that the right to die can become a 'duty to die'. **Please take a copy and read it.**

If you feel that you can, please write to your MP since it will be people with disabilities, frail elderly, people with mental health problems, all so vulnerable, who will feel most threatened. Many doctors will also feel they are being put in an impossible position, trained to heal, asked to kill. Try this link <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/reasons-to-oppose-assisted-suicide/> for more information.

Our hard-working Tamworth MP is Sarah Edwards: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Please write to her or your own MP to give a faith perspective and advise of the dangers that have been proven to be real in so many other countries.

Fr Ramesh will be inducted into Aldridge parish on Friday Nov 2nd at 7am. All are invited. We are not planning to put on transport unless a lot want to go. Please add your name to the list if you plan to attend.

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.sjtb.tamworth@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.