

St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

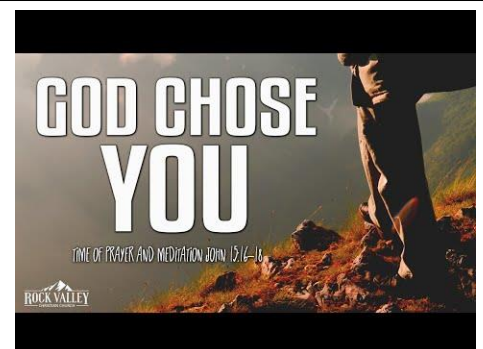
Sixth Sunday – 5th May 2024

Readings:	<i>Acts of the Apostles: 10:25-26,34-35,44-48</i>	<i>Psalms: 97</i>	<i>John: 4:7-10</i>	<i>John: 15:-9-17</i>
Saturday 4 th May	The English Martyrs Sixth Sunday of Easter	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Mylo Bailey Margaret Gallagher – Peter Sharratt	
Sunday 5 th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter	9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Sheila Wilkinson – Patrick Keogh Paddy Joe McGuigan – John Henry Crilly Bolger Family – Elaine & Graham Gordon	
Tuesday 7 th May	Weekday of Easter	7.30am (S.H.)	Mary Hackett (<i>Note Mass Change</i>)	
Wed 8 th May	Weekday of Easter	10.00am (S.J.)	Karen Shaughnessy	
Thurs 9th May	The Ascension of the Lord	10.00am (S.H.) 12.00noon (S.J.) 7.00pm (S.H.)	Funeral Mass for Natalie Page George McGuigan Catherine Village	
Friday 10 th April	Weekday of Easter	12 noon (S.H.)	Sylvia and Kevin Williams	
Saturday 11 th May	Weekday of Easter Seventh Sunday of Easter	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	The sick and housebound of the parish Bro Donie Hallissey – Eileen & James D'Arcy	
Sunday 12 th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter	9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Kit Village – Louise Scarff Mary Farrington – John Hoban Masie Faux – Dave Purslow & Purslow 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, Kobe Lennox Coverson, David Jarrett, Mark Whitehouse, Rachel Scarnell, Joan Hill, Jean Padmore, 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, Kay Hearn, Drew Taylor-Hunt, Gillian Satchel, Bert Branagan, Tess Vigus.

Reflection: "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit"

Recall some time in your life when you realised that you were loved. Can you recall when you realised that you loved someone? What is that memory like? Jesus' 'new' commandment is that we love one another. He assured us that to be like him is to live the Christian life as lovingly as we possibly can be. To be filled with God's blessing means that we are called to love, that we have been chosen, and sent to love everyone as Jesus did. We can look at our world today and feel that it needs healing, our world needs hope. Our world needs to be reminded of God's love for us all. We have the power and the knowledge of the abiding love in and through us to renew and transform us and the whole of creation.



Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Margaret Sharratt, Theresa Todd, Benedict Hopkins, William Glenn, Mrs. Batchelor, Herbert Cockran, Elizabeth Davis, Bernard Lillyman, Winifred Titterton, Madge Ashford, Michelle Gilbert, John Coleman, Helen Evans, Bill Sadler, Harold Rogers, Ivy Rogers, Ronald Benton, Doris Morgan, Frederick Moss, Marie Allan, James Lee, Louisa Maher, Lilly Banks, Michael Clifford, Mary Hyatt, John Chapman, James McKeever, Mercedes Vieira, John Brady, Allen Sykes, Nora Oughton, Lewis Collins, Peter Malloy, Rupert Leedham, Henry Perrow, Sophia Macpherson, James D'arcy, Irene Shakespeare, Rhona Flower, Joe Martin, Kevin Hurley, Noel Flynn, Bridget Vernon, David Jefferies, Leonard Sanders, John Heap, Michael Dalton, Patrick Coleman, Walter Foxall, Margaret Wainwright, John Hawkins.

Deaths: Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Natalie Page**, funeral will take place at Sacred Heart on Thursday, 9th May at 10.00am; **Paul Dominic Bourke** whose funeral will take place at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium on Thursday 16th May at 1.00pm. We also remember **Lou Westbrook** former teacher at St Elizabeth's, **Mary Beggan**, sister of Michael. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Ascension Thursday: This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be at 12.00 Noon at St John's and 7.00pm at Sacred Heart. N.B. There is also a Funeral Mass at 10.00am for Natalie Page at Sacred Heart.

Communion Preparation for Children at Non- Catholic Schools: There is no session this Monday due to Bank Holiday. Sessions continue Monday 13th May at 6.00pm-7.00pm at Sacred Heart.

Confirmation of non-Catholic School children: There is no session on Monday 6th May, due to Bank Holiday. Sessions continue at Sacred Heart on Monday 13th May from 5.45-7.00pm on the Creed.

Confirmation Dates for your diary: Monday July 1st, 2024, 1 at St John's for St Elizabeth's and non-Catholic Schools children; and Tuesday July 2nd at Sacred Heart for St Gabriel's children.

Celebration Choir: The next Wednesday evening Choir Practice will be on 8th May at 7.00pm. New members always welcome. For more details, please contact alex@tamworthrc.church

Journey in Faith: The next session is on Thursday 9th May. Mass at 7.00pm at Sacred Heart (Ascension Thursday) followed by a shared table celebration.

Café Liturgy Group: Next meeting is Monday 13th May, due to Bank Holiday. It is at 7.30-9.00pm at Sacred Heart in the HoT Cafe. We will explore the scripture for the next Sunday's Mass. Anyone is welcome to come along. Please email alex@tamworthrc.church for more details.

Congratulations and a Big Happy Birthday to the amazing Sheila Wilkinson who was 100 on Friday 3rd May. We hope you had a lovely day. God Bless.



The Summer Fayre will be on June 9th. 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. It will be on the same day as the Fire Walk so we expect a good crowd. We would also welcome any entertainments (dancers, music etc). All funds will go to the work of the parish.

There will be a meeting on Tuesday 30th April for anyone wishing to help organise the fayre. 8pm at Sacred Heart or contact Julie Charles on juliecharles26@hotmail.com.

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

Young Readers needed to read at one of the next Youth Masses on the weekend of 1st and 2nd June. Contact alex@tamworthrc.church or speak to Fr Michael if you can help. We will have a workshop to have fun exercises for diction and projection of voices for readers soon. Valuable life skills. Watch this space.

Young Livestreamers: are there any young people interested in helping us operate livestreaming cameras at either Church on Sundays? If you want to know more then contact Fr Michael.

Your Servers wanted for all Masses. Any child who has made their first holy communion can become and altar server. If you are interested, please email ramesh@tamworthrc.church

Men's Rosary with the Archbishop takes place in Victoria Sq, Birmingham on Saturday May 25th at 12 noon.



Sudan Crisis: There are so many countries struggling with the affects or war and natural disaster that it can be overwhelming. CAFOD have brought it to our attention that Sudan yet again is in crisis and in need of our prayers and support. More detailed information can be got on the CAFOD website; www.cafod.org.uk

A 'New Parishioners Evening' is being planned. If you consider yourself a new parishioner, please let us know. We will soon be handing out invitations for this evening on Friday June 21st. If you can help organise this, we would welcome that too. This is open to people who have just become Catholics, those who have moved into Tamworth or anyone who has returned to the Church.

Parents, there is a Children's Library in church. Take a book and swap it next week.

Teas and Toys: An opportunity for young families to meet for a chat and a coffee after 9.00am and 12.00 Noon Masses in the Kenelm room upstairs. We are looking for more volunteers to help with serving teas and coffees. Could you perhaps do it on a rota?



The New HoT Shops have had a public (media) launch and are just about ready for opening. However, like the Manchester Arena, the electric supply is not yet in!

The parish has played a massive part in this via volunteering, finance and fundraising. It would not be happening without that parish input. We have done it because it's a way of living out the Gospel by helping people who are struggling. So many families in need really appreciate it. Please hold onto clothes until we have that electric supply completed. It's nearly there.

Mary Prayer Bags: are available in May. Please return any Lent Prayer Bags as soon as possible.

Phoenix Youth Group: The next gathering is on **Wednesday 8th May** from **6.30-8.00pm**. It is for those young people in Y6 and Y7. New members welcome. If you have any questions, please email Becky or Liz phoenix@tamworthrc.church.

Youth Leaders: There are currently 4 amazing volunteer Youth Leaders at the Wednesday Group but occasionally some can't make the session. We could do with a backup person to help occasionally. Please contact alex@tamworthrc.church if you would like to be considered. The necessary checks would be made.

The Friday Youth Group too need more leaders as there are currently 25-30 teenagers coming with the expert help of Rhiannon and one other volunteer. If you could give time regularly here that would be fantastic. Please get in touch with rhiannon@tamworthrc.church



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

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

Bereavement Help Points: Thurs evening 5.30pm – 7.00pm, in the café and on Friday from 10.00am till 12 noon, 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

East Staffs Diabetes UK Patient Network is a support group for people living with diabetes and families. Contact John 07590379892 Email: bridgesjohn763@gmail.com



Friendship Friday: Chats, quizzes, games - each week is different. Sacred Heart Friday 1pm – 3pm. For any information about the above check our website www.heartoftamworth.org or contact the HoT office on 01827 259955 or email jen@heartoftamworth.org

The Craft Group meet every fortnight 1pm-3pm doing lots of different crafts such as paper folding, sewing, macrame, collage etc. You don't have to be an expert! Next meet on Tues 7th May. Please join us.

Games Afternoon: Thursday at the Sacred Heart, 1pm – 3pm. Chance to meet new people and play favourite games with soup/tea/coffee.



Summer Scheme: We hold our Summer Schemes for young people in the first two weeks of the school holidays. This year it is July 22nd- August 2nd (weekdays). We are recruiting volunteers to help. If you would like to get involved, please contact alex@tamworthrc.church as soon as possible so that we can arrange for DBS checks etc.

We are looking for minibus drivers with a clean driving licence who are experienced drivers who could assist with the Scheme perhaps give a day to help with transport. Thank you for the kind donation of Lego for the Scheme.

Land's End to John O'Groats Bike Ride 2024: Michael Henry, guitarist at the 9.00am Mass, is undertaking this 1000mile challenge in mid-May. He will be raising money on behalf of the Heart of Tamworth Charity. Thank you to everyone who has donated up to now. To donate go onto Michael's Just Giving Page: https://www.justgiving.com/page/michael-henry-lejogbikeride?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fmichael-henry-lejogbikeride&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Money Matters	
Envelopes:	75.00
Standing Orders:	1050.00
Loose:	542.89
Card:	158.08
Total:	£1825.97
<i>Thank-you</i>	

Chris Bain, the local Councillor for Glascote Ward has his Surgery at Sacred Heart. If you have any local issues do pop in for a chat on Second and Fourth Monday of each month Time: 6.00pm at Sacred Heart.

An invitation to married couples to attend our annual thanksgiving Mass for Marriage. Archbishop Bernard Longley will be celebrating the Mass at St Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 4th May at 12 Noon (to be followed by light refreshments). I'd be very grateful if you could make this event known.

The Board of Governors at St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School are seeking to appoint an inspirational practising Catholic leader to the post of Deputy Headteacher. Contract Type: Full Time Term: Permanent Salary: L9 (£57,482) – L13 (£63,430) Required from September 2024.

The Firewalk we did last year will be remembered by many, especially the 80 people who took part. It was a great event that really helped our charity project with the shop and food distribution. We are doing it again this year on Sun June 9th.



So, will you think about doing it? We would welcome those who did it last year but hope that others might feel inspired by the help we provide to people in need and the challenge and do it this year. If you are interested, email margaret@heartoftamworth.org

It is open to anyone over the age of 8. We welcome people from outside the Church, maybe someone who values our community work and wants to support that. All funds raised through the Fire Walk will go to Heart of Tamworth.

Maybe you know someone who would accept the challenge?

The entry fee is £10. To register your interest, contact Margaret at Margaret@heartoftamworth.org

NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Urgent Healthcare Services in our local area. We all want the quickest route to urgent healthcare – but we're not always sure where to turn. NHS 111 is often the best starting point, as you'll be directed to the best service for your needs. Did you know they can book you urgent appointments with a GP outside normal opening hours? Go online, phone 111, or use the NHS App. For more information : <https://staffsstokeycs.org.uk/urgent-and-emergency-healthcare/>

This QR code will take you to a site where you can donate online.



Has Anyone Got a Car they don't need? A colleague of Fr Ramesh is coming over from India later this month and needs a car for his pastoral work. He will be coming to join us here in Tamworth for a period, working with Fr's Ramesh and Michael. It would be great if we could get one as cheaply as possible since he will have no funds and will be serving us in the UK. Speak to Fr Michael if you have any ideas on this.