

# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

## Pentecost Sunday – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Readings: Acts of the Apostles: 2:1-11 Psalm: 103 St Paul to Galatians: 5:16-25 John: 15:26-27;16:12-15

Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Weekday of Easter <b>Pentecost</b>	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	The sick and housebound of the parish Rosie McKenney – William & Jane Matthews
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Pentecost</b>	9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Ken Tansey – Natalie Page Caolan Devlin – Mick Clancy The Hansard Family – Kevin & Sylvia Williams
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Feria	10.00am (S.H.)	Nora & Brian Cox
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Feria	10.00am (S.J.)	Holy Souls
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Jesus Eternal High Priest	10.00am (S.H.)	Charlotte Evans
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Feria	12 noon (S.J.)	People living with dementia and their carers
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	St Bede <b>The Most Holy Trinity</b>	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	Tony Soden Tom, June and Peter Sharratt
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>The Most Holy Trinity</b>	9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Nigel Brindley – Phillis Dillon The Fitzgerald Family – Rosie McKenny Margaret, Brian & June, and Mary Beggen

**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, Dave Titterton.

**Reflection Prayer for Demetia:** Dear Lord, shine your ever guiding light on all those that are caring for, or living with the struggles of dementia. Embrace them in their darkest days, give them hope and strength and courage. Shine your ever guiding light to show them where there is support and allow them to live the best life they can. In moments of confusion, God keep them safe. In moments of clarity, God grant them joy. In moments of frustration, God give them peace. In moments of sorrow, God bring them comfort. May God encircle them in his arms, surround them with kindness and compassion. Whatever stage of the journey they are on, let the light of God's love forever glow and bring them comfort.



**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Ernest Inskip, Ellen Flanagan, George Florendine, Sarah Coton, Ann Murphy, Fr. Patrick O'Connor, Thomas McGowan, Helen Titterton, Mrs. Hassell, Thomas Routledge, Francis Savin, May Connelly, Gerry Fitzimmons, Dympna Harrison, Mrs. Morling, Fred Bates, Florence Wale, John O'Donnell, Frederick Price, Evelyn Sperry, Miciej Kowanda, Frances Knight, Jean Morris, Patrick Brennan, Cathleen Rose, Brian Connolly, Patrick McAteer, Helena Elson, Patrica Pendrey, Ethel Lee, Mary Horth, William Abrosiak, Leonard Thomas, Thomas McEntee, Patrick Maguire, George Davies, Pamela Bentley, Vincas Mazulis, Norman Rogers, Margaret Byrne, Anthony Cuffe, Winnifred Waples, Hannah Tidswell, George Mander, Michael Colmen, Frances Meehan, Florence Adderley, Andrew Hepple, Michael Murray.

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

**Deaths:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Paul Dominic Bourke** whose funeral will take place at Sutton Crematorium on Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> May at 1.00pm. We also remember **Lou Westbrook** former teacher at St Elizabeth's, **Mary Beggan**, sister of Michael, **Sister Anne-Marie Eden**, a Sisters of St Joseph who worked in Haunton Parish and **Michael Costello** who has just passed away. May they rest in peace. Amen.



**Congratulations to all the children who received Communion** for the first time this weekend. There is an extra Mass on Sunday at Sacred Heart for the First Holy Communion Children from Non-Catholic Schools and their families plus three Masses on Saturday for the children and families at our Catholic Schools. May it be the start of a lifetime of Communion. Please come back next weekend at the 9.00am Mass to lead our May Procession at Sacred Heart.

**May Procession:** Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May following the 9.00am Mass we will have our May Procession and we invite the First Holy Communion children to come wearing their special Communion outfits to lead us in the procession.

**Confirmation** Sessions continue at Sacred Heart on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 5.45-7.00pm.

**Journey in Faith:** If you have just completed the Journey in Faith course and would like to explore your faith a little deeper, sessions exploring the Faith with the support of the Catechism are continuing on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm with Tony.

**Celebration Choir:** The next Wednesday evening Choir Practice will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.00pm. New members always welcome. For more details, please contact [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church)

If you have just **completed the Journey in Faith** and would like to explore your faith a bit more, sessions on the Catechism are continuing Thursday evenings at 7.30pm with Tony.

**Café Liturgy Group:** Next meeting is Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May. 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](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) for more details.

**The Summer Fayre** will be on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

- ❖ This weekend is Bring a Bottle weekend.
- ❖ Can you start searching for gifts and prizes for stalls?
- ❖ New toys, unwanted Christmas Gifts.
- ❖ Potted plants.
- ❖ Last minute cakes will make a difference too.

Does anyone work for a company /Bank who offers match funding? That could double what we raise.

All funds will go to the work of the parish.

If you can spare some time leading up to the event and on the day then please contact Julie - [juliecharles26@hotmail.com](mailto:juliecharles26@hotmail.com)

If everyone does a little, it will be a big success so please chip in with some time and/or gifts.



**Maranatha Prayer Chain:** Please contact - [terryvobrien@icloud.com](mailto: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:** We have a weekend of Youth Masses coming up soon on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Contact [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or speak to Fr Michael if you have any young readers or singers who can help. We will have a workshop/ practice on the Saturday morning of Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 10.00am-11.00am at Sacred Heart.

**Young Servers wanted for all Masses.** Any child who has made their first holy communion can become an altar server. If you are interested, please email [ramesh@tamworthrc.church](mailto:ramesh@tamworthrc.church)

**Men's Rosary with the Archbishop** takes place in front of St Chad's Cathedral B'ham (change of location) on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.

**Encounter Day – An encounter with God, self and others.** A time of reflection and fellowship led by Curillo. Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 9.30am – 1pm at St Michael & St James Catholic Church Haunton. For more information visit: [www.cursillouk.org](http://www.cursillouk.org). To book your place, email [paul.northam@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:paul.northam@rcaob.org.uk)

**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.



" THAT'S THE SAME REACTION I GET EACH MONTH WHEN HE OPENS UP OUR PHONE BILL. "

**Is anyone a qualified PAT tester** and would have some time to test and record our portable electrical appliances. We have our own equipment to complete the task. If you can help, please give Deacon Bob a call on 07767841351 or e mail him at bob@tamworthrc.church.

**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.

**Parish Council Meeting:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 8.00pm. For details of Parish Council members please see our Website. [https://www.tamworthrc.church/parish-](https://www.tamworthrc.church/parish-council)

[council](#) Some updates coming soon. The Parish Council oversees the running of the Parish and has a Finance Meeting too on the same evening. Keith Critchley gives a report on the Finances for the Finance Committee to review. In addition to the Finance Report, Fr Michael, Alex and Rhiannon send reports on their work to be discussed at the meeting. Anne Goodeve is the Chair of the Parish Council and sets the agenda. If you have any questions or comments about Parish, please email one of the Parish Team by Monday.

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate**, London is holding a Divine Mercy Reflection on Saturday 25 May 2024 from 1 pm to 4:30 pm at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 115 Headley Way, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7SS. The Reflection will include the Rosary, teachings on Mercy, Stations, Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for info.

**Mary Prayer Bags:** are available in May. Please take one home for your family to use during May. Please return any Lent Prayer Bags as soon as possible.

**The Archdiocese of Birmingham** is inviting enthusiastic individuals to create a network of **Environment Champions** to celebrate Laudato Si week (19-26 May). We do have such representatives in our parish and are grateful to them for encouraging so many aspects of the Pope's call to care for the planet. See <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/seedofhope> for more information.

**Phoenix Youth Group:** The next gathering is on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.heartoftamworth.org) or contact the HoT office on 01827 259955 or email [jen@heartoftamworth.org](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> May. Please join us.

**Games Afternoon:** Thursday at the Sacred Heart, 1pm – 3pm. Chance to meet new people and play favourite games with 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 22<sup>nd</sup>- August 2<sup>nd</sup> (weekdays). We are recruiting volunteers to help. Can you spare a day or more? If you would like to get involved, please contact [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) as soon as possible so that we can arrange for DBS checks etc. or speak with Fr Michael or Fr Ramesh.

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.

**Land's End to John O'Groats Bike Ride 2024:** Michael Henry, guitarist at the 9.00am Mass, is on his 1000 mile challenge by bike which he started last weekend. Please keep him in your prayers. There have been some very gruelling wet and windy days. He is raising money on behalf of the Heart of Tamworth Charity. Please support him to help him to keep pedalling. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/michael-henry-lejogbikeride>

**Chris Bain, the local Councillor** for Glascoate Ward has his Surgery on Second and Fourth Monday of each month Time: 6.00pm at Sacred Heart.



**“Tom, this is Kate from the office. Boy, you’re a hard person to reach when you’re on vacation!”**

Please support him to help him to keep pedalling. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/michael-henry-lejogbikeride>



pixtastock.com - 61023266

**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 9<sup>th</sup>.

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](mailto: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](mailto:Margaret@heartoftamworth.org)

Money Matters	
Envelopes:	60.50
Standing Orders:	1050.00
Loose:	735.65
Card:	83.10
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1929.25</b>
<i>Thank-you</i>	

**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://staffsstoikeics.org.uk/urgent-and-emergency-healthcare/>



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

**Urgent Appeal - The Hygiene Bank** continues to supply many local schools, families and individuals with essential hygiene products. In the last 12months we have seen an increase demand for help and a decrease in donations. So many are struggling with the cost of living. We urgently need the following: Period pads and Tampons, Baby Wipes, Loo Rolls, Nappies – Sizes 4, 5, 6, Children’s Toothpaste. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Place donation in the **Yellow Bin Donation Bin** at Sacred Heart or basket at St Johns.