

# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

**Parish Office:** 01827 769403

**HoT Phone Number:** 01827 259955

**Fr Michael:** [michael@tamworthrc.church](mailto:michael@tamworthrc.church)

**Fr Karun:** [karun@tamworthrc.church](mailto:karun@tamworthrc.church)

**Fr Venkat (Charles):** [venkat@tamworthrc.church](mailto:venkat@tamworthrc.church)

**Deacon Bob:** [bob@tamworthrc.church](mailto:bob@tamworthrc.church)

**Deacon Brian Cox and Nora:** [nora@tamworthrc.church](mailto:nora@tamworthrc.church)

**Catechesis/liturgy:** [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church)

**Admin - Wendy:** [office@tamworthrc.church](mailto:office@tamworthrc.church)

**Rebecca Downes:** [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church)


**Terry (Bookings):** [terryobrien@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:terryobrien@heartoftamworth.org)

**Kelly-HoT worker:** [kelly@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:kelly@heartoftamworth.org)

**Jen Martin (HoT Manag):** [jen@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:jen@heartoftamworth.org)

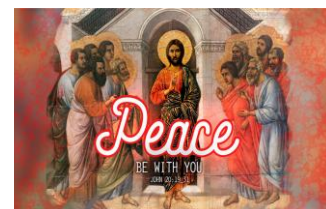
**Rhiannon (youth):** [rhiannon@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rhiannon@tamworthrc.church)

## Divine Mercy Sunday (C) 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Readings:	Acts 5:12-16	Psalms 118	Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19	John 2:19-31
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Saturday	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.H.)	Tony Soden Jane Matthews – Nigel Brindley Polish Mass with Polish Reading	
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> April		9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Freda Browne – Victoria & Richard Rapp Frank Bloxham – Paddy Burke Sylvia & Kevin Williams – John Goff	
<b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b>				
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> April	St Catherine of Siena	10.00am (S.H.)	Millie Bailey	
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Weekday of Easter	10.00am (S.J.)	Flor Masters	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Weekday of Easter	10.00am (S.H.)	Seamas Colmen	
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	St Athanasius	12.00noon (S.J.)	Kathleen Smythe	
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Ss Philip & James	10.30am (S.J.) 6.00pm (S.J.)	The sick and housebound of the parish Ray, Joan & Martin Morris	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	9.00am (S.H.) 10.30am (S.J.) 12.00noon (S.H.)	Theresa Neville - Obeng – Sheeha Gray Georgina Dent - People of the parish Mylo Bailey – John Goff	
<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-Godfrey, 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 and Rev Deacon Brian Cox.

**Reflection:** "Peace be with you" Jesus came to the fearful, anxious, confused disciples speaking of peace. Today he breaths into our anxious lives the breath of the Holy Spirit bringing peace and reconciliation. Saint Augustine called peace 'the tranquillity of order', meaning order in our relationships with God, with other people and within ourselves. This week let us ask ourselves the questions 'Where is there lack of peace in my life?' 'Who do I need to make peace with?' and 'Do I make space to experience God's forgiveness and gift of peace?' Let us pray for peace in our lives so that we can bring peace to others.



**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** John Egan, Louise Walker, Bernard Flanagan, Joshua Evans, Joan Johnson, Winifred Lee, Henry Morris, Henry Carr, William Yates, Frank McKenny, Peggy Hunt, Annie Brittle, Kathleen Jennett, Jimmie O'Mahony, Winifred Flavin, Peter Day, Nancy Walker, Albert Morris, Ashley Lonergon, Raul Chacon, Gerald Roberts, Jim Poulton, Veronica Welch, George Jones, Jennie Moss, Mary Little, Hilda Larvin, Patrick Iredale, William Tysall, Alexander McCaffrey, Terence Paul, Franciszek Olearczyk, Paul Jordan, Helen Foley, Marie Gassy, George Renshaw, Michael Walsh, Ruth Harris, Julie Carey, Elizabeth Eddy, Roger Barker, Marguerite Heap, Paul Dearne, Patrick McDonnell.

**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; **Patrick Cullen**, Trish Shaw's cousin; **Josephine Ann Dodd** whose funeral will take place at Fradley Crematorium at 11.30am on Wed 7<sup>th</sup> May; **Celia Goodeve** (Anne's mother in law) and **Josephine Snowdowne**, Kevin Williams' sister who has just passed away. May they rest in peace: Pray also that their families will be consoled by faith.

St John the Baptist with the Sacred  
Heart Tamworth -  
Parish Consultation 2025



**Can you spare 10 minutes please? 400 families, so 400 returned consultations is our target!** Some families may have different opinions, and we want to hear from children, teenagers, newcomers and established parishioners. **Please take part.** *Even if you think everything is fine, just say so.*

All parishes are called to work in three areas. **We worship**, obviously, and all our masses and services are listed on the front. We also **spread the Good News**. Alex leads that but it is the work of everyone who considers themselves a disciple. And we also **help those in need**, people suffering with loneliness, sickness, bereavement, homelessness, and so on. Much of this is done alongside and through HoT.

Please have a look at our annual report, which is available in both churches and reflect on how we can improve in these three areas. We will have an open meeting after Easter to share ideas.

The consultation with everyone, is initially online. Help us discern how to improve by responding. The online version link is left or on this link Parish Consultation 2025. Please use this or the QR code, if you are able. It's also on Facebook. Just 10 minutes can help shape our parish's future. Thank-you to all who have already filled this in.

**Parish A.G.M. Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 1.00pm.** Following our report including accounts and alongside our Parish Consultation, we will hold our Annual General meeting to discuss the reports and listen to any of your concerns and ideas moving forward. Please do attend we would welcome your feedback. There will be some light refreshments.

**Readers Training:** We are blessed to have so many amazing readers across the Masses. We are also blessed to have some new ones too. We would like to offer a session for all ministers of the word (readers) to come forward to hone our skills and receive tips to develop and improve our reading. There will be a training session soon. Please email Alex to express an interest. It is likely to be a Tuesday evening.

**Eucharistic Ministers** taking communion to the housebound need an up-to-date DBS. Please contact Anne Goodeve on [sg.sjtb.tamworth@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.sjtb.tamworth@rcaob.org.uk) to arrange a time to meet.

**Confirmation Group:** We will meet on 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.

**Communion Group:** The next session will be on Monday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm-7.00pm

**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@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church)

**Pilgrims of Hope- Jubilee 2025 Pilgrim's Passport:** If you want to visit local Pilgrimage sites, we have a family challenge for you. Try to complete our small booklet visiting as many of the places listed and finding the answers to our clues and questions. The Pilgrimage Year lasts until the Feast of the Epiphany 2026 so there is plenty of time. Let us know how you are getting on!



Jesus takes a post resurrection stroll 'incognito' on the road to Emmaus. **Luke 24:13-35**



**Journey in Faith:** Congratulations to all those received into the Church last weekend. We continue with a session on Prayer on Thurs May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7.30-9.00pm and Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> May 8.30-10.00am

**Due to the funeral of Pope Francis the next Alpha** will be on Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 10.30am- 12.00 Noon

**In Simple Faith:** exploring faith through Scripture and the Catechism is on Mon 28<sup>th</sup> April 7.30-9.00pm in the HoT café at Sacred Heart with Igna and Tony. For details email Alex.

**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.

**Choir:** The next practice will be on **Wed 30<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.00pm.





"So you're saying that if I truly repent, all my sins will be deleted?"

**Masses:** 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. If you are a parent, can you encourage your son or daughter to serve please?

**Youth Clubs** We look forward to welcoming the Parish Youth back on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April**. Have you got a young person in years 6 – 13, that would like to attend? We meet every **Wednesday 6pm – 7.30pm** in the **upstairs Kenelm Room**, £1 each child, includes squash and biscuits. Contact [rhiannon@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rhiannon@tamworthrc.church) for more information.



get involved or would like more information, please contact Kelly on 07422 721835 or [kelly@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:kelly@heartoftamworth.org)

**Heart of Tamworth** is dedicated to combatting social isolation, alleviating food poverty and taking care of the most vulnerable in our community. We are always looking for volunteers to help in our Community Cafe, Pre-Loved Clothing Shop and Community Pantry, as well as our groups supporting those who are bereaved or living with dementia, parent and toddlers, people with addictions and more. If you are interested, please contact [jen@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:jen@heartoftamworth.org).



you are interested.

**Summer Fayre Prizes:** can you get anything exciting for our Summer Fayre. Meals, adventure activities, signed Villa or Blues shirt – anything through some connection you have. Email [bob@tamworthrc.church](mailto:bob@tamworthrc.church). Raffle tickets available soon.

**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. But closed on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April. Reopen, Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> April and Fri 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Maranatha Prayer Chain:** If you would like to ask others to pray for someone, please contact [terryvobrien@icloud.com](mailto:terryvobrien@icloud.com) or Sylvia Geldard 01827 65264 with a simple prayer request.

**Lichfield Cathedral Mass:** Bishop Timothy is offering Mass at Lichfield Cathedral for schools in our deanery. We need volunteers, to welcome and signpost the children to Cathedral. Please email [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) for more information and so the necessary checks can be made.

**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?

**Altar Servers are needed at all**



**Summer Scheme Volunteers** We are getting our volunteers organised. Are you able to do a day or two? The more volunteers we have, the more fun it is for all the volunteers and children. If you have received the **volunteer registration pack** from Rebecca, please email them back ASAP as the **deadline is 28<sup>th</sup> April**, to ensure DBS checks are completed. If you would like to know more, and get involved please contact via email [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church) many thanks 😊

**We could still do with a few more 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

**Sacred Heart Toddlers** Are back on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May**, but in the **upstairs Kenelm Room**, due to the borough Council Elections taking place downstairs.

We will be covering day 5 & 6 of creation '*God created the creatures that lived in the sea, air, land and finally humans!*'. There will be some water play, so a change of clothes would be a good idea! The popular **20p book sale** will be back too, so bring some pennies.

Toddlers have been hugely successful, and we are looking for more volunteers to help the team! Contact [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church) if

#### Money Matters

Envelopes:	57.00
Standing Orders:	1100.00
Loose:	1004.82
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£2261.82</b>

Thank-you

**Easter offerings: £3,550.00**  
Thank-you from Fr Karun & Fr Venkat for the generous Easter offerings.



**Safe Haven is a Crisis Café**, now in Market St, Tamworth. Contact 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 Tues 1.00pm – 3.30pm. For info, email 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. John 07590379892 or bridgesjohn763@gmail.com

**If you know of any Catholics who are poorly**, please let us know. We can arrange for them to have the blessing of the sick and, if they wish to receive communion regularly, we can arrange that too. Just email details to patrickstanden@virginmedia.com who kindly takes charge of this.

**Social media:** If you are on social media, please follow us on Instagram and Facebook. We post regular news and updates on there, please 'like' and 'share', the good work that goes on across our Parish.

**Deacon Brian:** as I write this Brian remains in Good Hope. The medics feel he still needs 24/7 care so they want him to remain there or be moved to the Peel for a couple of more weeks to monitor and evaluate. Please keep him in your prayers. While the prognosis with his cancer is not good, he and Nora Phil and Mark have been overwhelmed by the kind wishes and prayers of thousands of well-wishers (esp via Facebook). Please keep them in your prayers and please allow them space and time to adjust.

**Is anyone Interested in Going to Lourdes with the Diocese this Year?** It's not too late but we need to know soon. It's from Sat 24<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup>. Cost is £1,027. Email Fr Michael this week if you are interested.

**Pope Francis** changed the church and the world. His leadership on care of the earth is celebrated by the 97% of environmental scientists who acknowledge the threat that it is caused by human misuse of fossil fuels. He turned it from a political issue into one of faith – this is God's creation and we are stewards. It is now a key part of catholic social teaching.

Pope Francis also focussed on the poor and challenged the rich and powerful. Of course, that is precisely what Jesus does all through the Gospels. His harsh words are never for the poor or weak or sinners, always for the rich, powerful and religious leaders.

He was also a man of prayer, a regular penitent who wants all peoples to be able to participate fully in the worship of the Church in culturally sensitive ways.

He spurned luxury, was humble and often direct. His compassion and desire for those who felt rejected by the Church to know God's love was amazing and transformational for many but, surprisingly, not always well received by others. Some prefer to focus on judgment but Jesus didn't condemn the adulterous woman who was about to be stoned to death. Only those with stones to throw were judged.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of this great saint. And pray especially that his successor will continue to reflect the example, vision, compassion and teaching of Jesus, as Pope Francis did.



O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care,  
grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church  
who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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.



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@stjohnamtamworth



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St John the Baptist RC Parish in Tamworth