

# St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter

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

## Eleventh Sunday of the Year 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Readings:	<i>Ezekiel 17:22-24</i>	<i>Psalms 91</i>	<i>Corinthians 5:6-10</i>	<i>Mark 4:26-34</i>
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Feria	10.30am (S.J.)	Parishioners Intentions	
	<b>Eleventh Sunday of the Year</b>	6.00pm (S.J.)	Dan Connell	
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June		9.00am (S.H.)	Nigel Brindley – Eileen Johnson	
	<b>Eleventh Sunday of the Year</b>	10.30am (S.J.)	The Ryan family – James McKeefry	
		12.00noon (S.H.)	Stan & Audrey Merryweather – Michael O'Hara	
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>Dedication of St Chad's Cathedral</i>	10.00am (S.H.)		
		11.30pm (S.H.)	Funeral Service for Joseph Hollingsworth	
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>St Romuald</i>	10.00am (S.J.)	Fr David Lloyd	
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>St Alban</i>	10.00am (S.H.)	M E Connelly	
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<i>St Aloysius Gonzaga</i>	12 noon (S.J.)	For the sick and housebound of the parish	
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	<i>Ss John Fisher &amp; Thomas More</i>	10.30am (S.J.)	Rev Anthony Davies	
	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	6.00pm (S.J.)	Rosie McKenny – Holy Souls	
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June		9.00am (S.H.)	Tina & Ffion Rowles – Sr Ann-Marie	
	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	10.30am (S.J.)	John Hoban	
		12.00noon (S.H.)	Ken Tansey – Mary Beggan	
			<i>followed by picnic &amp; parish gathering.</i>	
<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, Dominic Hesse, 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, 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:** Today's Gospel illustrates the growth of faith in our human hearts. Just as it's hard to understand the mechanics of a seed's growth when we plant it in the ground, we cannot begin to fully comprehend how God nurtures faith within us. Once the seed of the 'Word of God' is sown, only time will show how a person's faith will grow and develop. God is not impatient with our growth. God grows love in us, so that adult love can shelter and comfort many others. Seeds grow when the conditions are right. It is through the mystery of God's love that unfolds in the soil of our lives. I am reminded of the words of the song 'The Rose' - *Just remember in the winter, far beneath the bitter snow, lies the seed that with the sun's love, in the spring, becomes the rose.*



**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Sidney Hughes, William Bolger, Ellen Pope, Margaret Hopkins, Isaac Holmes, Matilda Russell, Elizabeth Davis, Ann McCudden, Marie Griffiths, Vincent Philips, Winifred Payne, Alan Owen, John Kennedy, Roland Mosley, Thomas Sturrock, Jack Gault, Armando Morlini, Terry Faulkner, Theresa Cunneen, John Petricca, George Wayne, Evelyn Dagnall, Bridget Hegarty, George Ralph, Violet Hutchin, Joseph McGuire, Frederick Victor Hart, Cillian Hughes, Shiela Heal, Gerald Carr, Frances Kemp, John Macdonald, Kevin Brooks, Siobhan Macdonald, Thomas Danaher, Michael Casey, Irene Petricca, Christopher O'Neill, Marian Groves, Denis O'Connor, Harold Tomson, Robert McMullan, Eileen McDaid, Anne Fisher, Maggie Gillen, Margaret McGregor, Cedric Stober, Rita Fidoe, Victor Hanson.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Joseph Hollingsworth**, funeral service will take place at Sacred Heart on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 11.30am, **Michael O'Hara, Natalia Vasquez** and **Mark Stenson**. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**Confirmation of non-Catholic School children** - no session this week. Preparation continues at 5.45-7.00pm at **St John's Church** on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June. NB the change of venue.

**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 Sacred Heart at 7.30pm with Tony. The next session will be on Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**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:** The next Youth Masses will be the 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> July with a Workshop on the Saturday at 10.00-11.00am. Contact, [alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) or speak to Fr Michael if you are/ have young readers or singers who can help. There will be a workshop to improve voice projection, using the microphone and diction on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 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)

**Prayer Bags:** Thank you to those who have used the Lent and Mary prayer bags. We hope that you have enjoyed using them. Please return them soon.

**Celebration Choir** practice on 19th June at 7.00pm. All are welcome.



**Lay Deanery Lay Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> June:** As part of the new way of working Co-Responsibly with Clergy and laity working together, the Deanery is launching a lay deanery. With declining numbers of priests, it is also a time where we need to work closely with our brothers and sisters in other parishes in our Deanery. Anne Goodeve and Alex Parker will attend this meeting on behalf of our Parish Community.

**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.

**Summer Scheme: Forms are available for the for those currently in Y2- Y7.** It covers the first two weeks of the school holidays, from July 22<sup>nd</sup> - August 2<sup>nd</sup> (weekdays). Teen Scheme Forms are available too for those in Y8 - Y10. To avoid disappointment, please return forms this month. Places are limited.

**Volunteer Leaders badly** needed! Can you spare a day or more? If you can, please contact Alex as soon as possible so that we can arrange safeguarding checks etc. or speak with Fr Michael or Fr Ramesh. There will be a meeting of leaders Safeguarding Training on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July** from 9.30-12.30.at Sacred Heart Please could all Leaders attend. Please contact



[alex@tamworthrc.church](mailto:alex@tamworthrc.church) to confirm your attendance.



**Happy Father's Day** to all dads out there. We hope you have a blessed day with your families. Please pray for all fathers that they will be the best, most caring and life-giving parents that the Lord wants them to be.

**John Hayes' Retirement Mass** will be on Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be a simple mass thanking God for John's work at St Gabriel's and asking God to bless him in the years ahead. All are welcome.



**2023 Annual Report and Accounts** are available. We want to tie our annual meeting in with some consultation. The plan is to have a parish picnic and family event on Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> with 12 noon Mass followed by picnic, children's games and sharing ideas on improving our parish. That's next weekend. Here is the plan:

12 noon Mass - (outside if weather permits).  
1.00 – Picnic in groups (bouncy castle available).  
*Informal discussion about how the parish is going while we eat. This will be across the three main areas of the Church's mission:- worship, evangelisation and helping the needy.* Groups can also discuss accounts and raise any other issues and bring questions to the parish council and clergy while we are there.

If the weather is poor, we will go upstairs.

Please bring some food (*and other family members*), read the report and accounts and help us shape our parish as the Lord wants it to be, rather than as we would have it.



**The 'New Parishioners' Evening is this week.** We are now handing out invitations for this event on **Friday June 21<sup>st</sup>**. It is open to people who have just become Catholics, those who have moved into Tamworth or anyone who has returned to the Church.

If you can help organise, we would welcome that too. It's happening next weekend. If you haven't returned invites or have not even received one, please let us know this weekend. We don't want to miss anyone out.

**Phoenix Youth Group** meeting on **Wed 19<sup>th</sup>**

**June** from **6.30-8.00pm**. It is for young people in Y6 and Y7. New members welcome. A voluntary contribution of £1 per session would be appreciated each session to help towards the cost of pizza and squash. 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](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 Carmel. 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)

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



**The Summer Fayre:** Thank-you to everyone who supported the fayre in any way. In total it made just over £6,000 as a result of generous donations, so many people attending the event to buy food or have a go on stalls, buying raffle tickets etc. Our thanks to Julie and Jayne who co-ordinated everything, too.

**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 meeting on Tues 18<sup>th</sup> June. Please join us.

**Urgent Appeal - The Hygiene Bank** continues to supply many local schools, families and individuals with essential hygiene products. In the last 12 months 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.

**Fr Hudson's Care** - Twelve months ago, we launched the Welcoming Church Initiative which was based around four themes, homelessness, disability, older people and refugees / migrants. Each group has moved forward, and action groups have been set up.

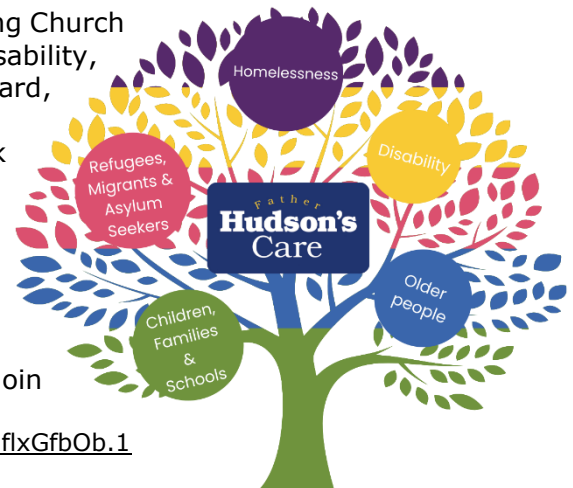
Week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> June is the start of National Refugee Week and to mark the occasion our Refugee Group will be hosting a Zoom meeting starting at 7pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June, where several speakers will be discussing what is happening across the archdiocese. It also offers you the opportunity to ask questions / comment. We are delighted to welcome representatives from the Diocese of Salford.

To join the meeting please click on the link below from 6.45pm. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89863517023?pwd=JRXqfcAeDeEE3in5xNqJo3flxGfbOb.1>  
Meeting ID: 898 6351 7023 Passcode: 808460

Money Matters	
Envelopes:	45.50
Standing Orders:	1100.00
Loose:	552.76
Card:	116.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1814.26</b>

*Thank-you*



**Car Boot Sale:** We have decided to try this out on Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup> at Sacred Heart. Most people are familiar with the idea. Anyone can bring along a car, pay £10 for a spot and sell their goods. That £10 goes to our charitable work.

Alternatively, you can have a spot for free and give the proceeds of selling stuff (cluttering up your garage) and give all the takings to HoT. To book a pitch, please email [jen@heartoftamworth.org](mailto:jen@heartoftamworth.org)

There is also the option of doing a table sale indoors.

We won't allow alcohol, vapes/cigarettes and no counterfeit goods.

We do need volunteers to help with parking, overseeing, food and drinks and running the parish stalls, so if you can help, please contact Jen.

And if you are looking for a bargain, come along. Doors open at 8am.

**Thank-you for All Your Giving.** Not only do we show the total every week, but we present an annual report with accounts each year. That is available this weekend.

A lot of people have joined the parish. This is reflected in increased giving on Sundays with cash put in the baskets (shown as 'Loose'). Thank-you for all your donations. Would you please switch from Loose to standing orders? There is no minimum amount – you don't have to give more.

But it helps reduce the work of counting and banking. It is more secure and you can change it whenever you wish.

If you pay tax, we get that 23% back from the government on the amount you give. Over the year, that amounts to more than £16,000 when lots of people sign up (it's very easy and costs you nothing).

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

