



St. John Rigby Parish NEWSLETTER.

Incorporating the Former Parishes of Sacred Heart, Hindley Green, St. Richard's, Atherton & Sacred Heart, Hindsford.

Priests: Fr. Paul Seddon. (Tel: 883395)
Deacon: Ken Holding (Tel: 255834)

3rd October. 2021– 27th Sunday of the Year.

27th Sunday of the Year.

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Ron Hickman.

Sunday @ 9-30am.

St. Richard's Church.

Betty Smith.

Michael Moran.

Sunday @ 10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Ken Long.

Mon.4th Oct. at SH 7pm.

Michael Barrett.

Tues.5th Oct. St.R's.10-30am

Thomas McLoughlin.

Wed 6th Oct. 12noon SH

Ellen O'Shea.

Thur.7th Oct. St.R's. 10-30am

Harry Knotman.

Fri 8th Oct. SH.7pm.

Bridie Phillips.

Next Weekend.

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Eddie Shaw.

Sunday @9-30am.

St. Richard's Church.

Stephen Langin.

Sunday @10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Thomas McLoughlin.

Pray for our sick

Joan Baines.

Eileen McAlister.

Joyce Gorton.

Nora Smith.

Jed Bamber.

John Atkins

Eileen Watkinson

Shelia Ratcliffe.

Maureen Blears.

Jean Culkin.

Mary McGrath.

Bernadette

Boardman.

Peter Weatherhead.

Neil Gunson.

Frank Vose.

Teresa Gallagher.

Dennis Green.

Jimmy Allen.

Bill Usher.

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Lately Dead

Anniversaries

Jean McSheen.

William Battersby.

Robert Davies.

Teresa Miller.

Frank Ingram.

Olive Haigh.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading – Book of Genesis 2:18-24.

God's original desire for humans is to find in each one of us a bond of love that runs so deeply that we never feel alone.

Second Reading – Letter to the Hebrews 2:9-11.

Jesus was fully human and lived a human life, understanding all human needs.

Gospel Reading – Mark 10:2-16.

Jesus had deep concern for the welfare of wives and children, supporting the institution of marriage for the sake of the whole family.

Please pray for all those who are preparing for Baptism and First Holy Communion at this special time

Please Remember!!!

If you feel unwell, especially if you feel you have symptoms of the Coronavirus then you MUST STAY AT HOME.

Please stay safe!

If anyone would like to add any items for the Newsletter each week then please let Deacon Ken or Fr. Paul know by Wednesday evening at the latest.

Deacon Ken – ka.holding1@gmail.com

Fr. Paul – stjohrigby@rcaol.org.uk

GOSPEL REFLECTION.

Jesus gives us a lot to think about in today's Gospel. He speaks especially on behalf of married women and children. Both were vulnerable in the society that Jesus lived in and had little value or official protection. Women were too often seen as property, without social power to protect themselves. Jesus defends woman and speaks out for the protection of marriage. He seems to accept the reality of separation in some marriages. The passage is less about the rules and regulations for ordering relationships and more of a glimpse of God's loving plan. Jesus' words urge us to see the importance of marriage, rather than seeing commitment and love as fleeting. Then Jesus rebukes the disciples who try to block children from seeing him. "Let the little children come to me, for theirs' is the Kingdom of Heaven." While the disciples see the small children as being unimportant, with little economic or social power, Jesus wants to meet them for they are precious in his eyes. To emphasise this he says, "I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the Kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

The Gospel reminds us that we too must support those who are vulnerable, those who live on the threshold of society, those who may feel unimportant. It is to these people that Jesus wants to bless and come close to. May we, in our weakness, know the lovely strength of God's presence and share his goodness with others, especially in the way we treat those who are weak, poor and vulnerable. They may be weak in the eyes of the world, but they are loved by God.

COVID RESTRICTIONS.

Don't forget to check the latest guidelines and keep safe during the pandemic. Many of the guidelines, including hand sanitising and wearing face masks are still required in church. Further details may emerge soon.

ROSARY DURING OCTOBER.

October is traditionally the month of Mary, so we will be having Rosary AFTER the 10.30am Mass in St. Richard's Church every Thursday. If you would like to lead the Rosary please let Fr. Paul know. A number of people gather to say the Rosary in Sacred Heart Church, Hindley Green, BEFORE the 12noon Mass every Wednesday. Please come along and join us in prayer.

AFGHAN REFUGEES – EMERGENCY APPEAL.

Please visit the CAFOD website – cafod.org.uk – to find out more. There is however another website, care4calais.org/Afghan-refugees-appeal, who are directly helping the refugees who are already in this country at the moment.

CREATION TIME.

St Francis of Assisi

The Season of Creation culminates in the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. St Francis is the patron of all God's creatures and the environment.

One of the issues that demands our urgent attention is how we treat animals. The current pandemic is a wake-up call. God did not give us animals to do with as we like. He entrusted them to us – we are their custodians. Many animals suffer appalling cruelty because of our demand for food and sport. Christians have a duty of care to God's creatures. We can't keep turning a blind eye!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS.

Please keep in your prayers all the children who will be making their First Holy Communion on the following dates:-

- October 2nd – Sacred Heart, Hindsford children in St. Richard's at 10am.*
- October 9th – Sacred Heart, Hindley Green children in Sacred Heart at 10am.*
- October 16th – Sacred Heart, Hindsford, children in St. Richard's at 10am.*
- October 16th – St. Richard's children in St. Richard's at 12noon.*

Response to the Psalm....

"May the Lord bless us all the days of our life".