



St. John Rigby Parish NEWSLETTER.

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

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

18th Dec. 2022. Fourth Sunday Advent. A.

4th Sunday of Advent A

Saturday.

Sacred Heart 5pm

Brian Delaney.

Sunday 18th December

St. Richard's Church 9-30am.

Peter Yates, Annie & Bob Prior.

Sunday @ 11-00am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Dorothy Hickman.

Mon. 19th Dec. S H .10am

Eucharistic Service.

Tue 20th Dec. St.R's. 10-30am

Tony Wood.

St. Richard's Advent Taize Service 7pm.

Wed 21st Dec. SH. 12noon

Bill Smith & Winifred Swift.

Thur 22nd Dec. St.R's. 10-30am

Gail Kelly.

Fri. 23rd Dec. SH .10am

Eucharistic Service.

Next weekend.

Christmas Eve

Sat 24th December. SH 5pm.

Christmas Mass Intentions.

St. Richard's 7pm.

Christmas Mass Intentions.

Christmas Day.

25th December.

St. Richard's Church. 9-30am

Christmas Mass Intentions.

Sunday @11-00am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Christmas Mass Intentions.

Pray for our sick

Joan Baines.
 Eileen McAlister.
 Joyce Gorton.
 Nora Smith.
 Jed Bamber.
 Cheryl Morris.
 Pat Woodward.
 Shelia Ratcliffe.
 Maureen Blears.
 Jean Culkin.
 Phyllis Smith.
 Harry Doyle.
 Janina Herko.
 Peter Weatherhead.
 Neil Gunson.
 Jean Rafferty.
 Teresa Gallagher.
 Dennis Green.
 Jimmy Allen.
 Elaine Owen.
 Frank Vose.
 Sheila Holden.
 Teresa Ward.
 Christopher Holding.
 Doreen Hayes. (Organist)
 Dominic Kearns.

Lately Dead

Patricia Ann Hardman.
 Evelyn Griffin.
 Anthony Wood.
 Sheila Nyland.
 Norah Hampson.
 John Stafford.
 John Rodaway.

Anniversaries

Jimmy Rafferty.
 Elizabeth Allison.
 Rita Doherty.
 Patrick Hoare.

READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading- Isaiah 7:10-14

Isaiah foretells the birth of a very special child – a child who will be called Emmanuel, that is, God with us.

Second Reading Paul to the Romans 1:1-7

These opening lines from Paul's letter to the Romans draw attention to the human and divine "roots" of Jesus.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 1:18-25

The prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled in Jesus.

Fr. Strowbridge is living in Ash tree House Boarsdane Ave. He would welcome visitors but not at mealtimes as he likes his food!

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

Parish Centre open for functions.

Slimming World Tuesday 4-30pm & 7-30pm.

Friendship Club Wednesday, back in the New Year.

Craft every other Thursday Back in the New Year.

GOSPEL REFLECTION.

All three of today's readings deal with the identity of "The One who was to come".

The identity of the child Messiah was vaguely looked at in the Old Testament.

Isaiah talked about the coming of a very special child. But there is no reason to believe that he knew just how special that child would be. Isaiah's prophecy, like many other prophecies, is not understood until after its fulfilment.

In the Gospel Reading, Matthew shows that Isaiah's prophecy was fulfilled with Jesus, and in a far greater way than the prophet could ever imagined. The New Testament reveals the true identity of this special child Jesus. The Second Reading and the Gospel make it clear that Jesus was the Son of David. This was so because Joseph, Jesus' legal father, was descended from the line of David. But he is more than that. He is also the Son of God and through him we have salvation.

Sacramental Preparation 2023.

Please note that children who are in Year Four or above are being invited to celebrate their First Holy Communion in the New Year. So please watch out for any meetings. Dates of the First Holy Communion celebrations and the preparation meetings will be published early in the New Year. Please watch this space for further details.

Christmas Mass Times.

Christmas Eve Sacred Heart 5pm. St. Richard's 7pm.

Christmas Day St. Richard's 9-30am. Sacred Heart 11am.

The intention for all the Christmas Masses will be for those people on the Christmas Mass list. If you would like to add the name of a loved one please let us know as soon as possible.

DONATIONS TO UKRAINE.

To donate, text:

HELPUKRAINE to 70085 to donate £2.

HELPUKRAINE to 70450 to donate £3.

HELPUKRAINE to 70460 to donate £5.

HELPUKRAINE to 70470 to donate £10.

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

Advent Taize Service.

Please try your best to come along to the next Advent Taize Service in St. Richard's Church Tuesday 20th December @ 7pm.

Warm and Cosy.

Our Parish centre at St. Richard's Atherton will be open Thursdays after 10-30am. Mass.

There will be free tea, coffee and biscuits, access to TV and wifi and friendly company.

Walsingham Pilgrimage.

Parish of St. John Rigby Pilgrimage to Walsingham 14th -17th August 2023, a deposit of £20 is required to secure a place. Please give your name and Tel.No, with the deposit to Lauren, this weekend, 17/18 December.

Poinsettias

As usual, if you want to donate a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas, please bring them to church ASAP.

Fr. Patsy.

A Big Thank You to all who donated to the collection for Fr. Patsy, which raised £1400.

He's not gone to the Caribbean; he's in Bryn, not as warm.

Response to the Psalm....

"Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory."

