



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)

8th Jan. 2023. The Baptism of the Lord. A.

The Baptism of the Lord A **Saturday.**

Sacred Heart 5pm.

Evelyn Griffin.

Sunday 8th January

St. Richard's Church 9-30am.

Frank Hankinson.

Sunday @ 11-00am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Winifred Sherlock.

Mon. 9th Jan. S H .10am

Eucharistic Service.

Tue 10th Jan. St.R's.10-30am

Vera Kelly & Bill Michael.

Wed 11th Jan. SH.12noon

Tracy Knowles.

Thur 12th Jan. St.R's.10-30am

Rex Baxter.

Fri 13th Jan. SH .7pm.

Eucharistic Service.

Next week

Sat 14th January. SH 5pm.

*Frank Duff & Deceased
Legionaries.*

2nd Sunday of the Year

15th January.

St. Richard's Church.9-30am

Catherine Barratt.

Sunday @11-00am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Theresa Weatherhead.

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.
 Dominic Kearns.
 Mary Griffin.

Lately Dead

John Stafford.
 Keith Whittle.
 Norah Hampson.
 Sheila Nyland.
 Stephen Norbury.
 John Rodaway.

Anniversaries

Neil Burrows.
 Roy Crompton.
 John Kelly.
 Irene Rosbotham.
 Alan Gorton.
 Winifred Sherlock.
 Margaret Doherty.

READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading – Isaiah 42:1-4.6-7.

Isaiah's description of the servant of the Lord sets the tone for the ministry of Jesus.

Second Reading – Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38.

Peter gives a summary account of Jesus' ministry to new converts, beginning with the story of Jesus being baptised by John the Baptist.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 3:13-17.

Jesus persuades John to baptise him along with all those who wish to live out the Word of God.

Parish Centre open for functions.

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

Friendship Club Wednesday, back 18th January.

Craft every other Thursday

Back in the New Year.

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.

All four of the Gospel writers include the encounter between Jesus and John the Baptist. It is an important meeting because Jesus joins the queue of people who want to be baptised by John in the River Jordan. It raises an important question: if Jesus is the Son of God, then why, if the baptism of John was all about bringing back sinners, did he need baptism? There could well be a number of different answers, but the encounter shows that Jesus, the Son of God and the Messiah, wanted to walk amongst and be part of his people. In his Gospel, Matthew is telling us that Jesus identifies himself with everyone who wants to live a decent human life under the Word of God. Jesus submits to baptism, not because he needs to, but because he wants to associate himself with the rest of us. Jesus is our Emmanuel, a name which means "God is with us". May we feel his presence in our lives each day, especially as we begin this New Year together.

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.

PARISH VISITS.

If anyone would like a visit from the Parish Priest – that is, Fr. Paul – then please leave a message on the St. Richard's answer phone (883395) or email Fr. Paul directly on stjohnrigby@rcaol.org.uk It would be a good way for Fr. Paul to catch up with everyone after his Sabbatical, which took place in the Autumn. Please leave your contact number – it is surprising how many people don't bother to leave their number when leaving a message – and Fr. Paul will contact you in the very near future to arrange a day and time to visit.

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.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK.

Whilst it can be a very sad moment in a family's life, the Sacrament of Anointing is one of the most wonderful sacraments in the Church, when we pray for God's healing and peace on those who are very poorly. Sadly, during the pandemic, it hasn't always been easy to administer this sacrament, due to Covid restrictions. However, if you know of someone who may need the Sacrament of the Sick, please try your best to contact a priest as soon as you can. We are very short of priests in these times, so it won't always be easy to contact one of the priests. Please do not leave it until the last moment of a person's life to call for a priest. The Sacrament of Anointing can be celebrated at any time.

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 Wi-Fi 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. There is a list in the porch. Please add your name & number if you are interested.

Response to the Psalm....

"The Lord will bless his people with peace."