



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)

22nd November 2020

Saturday.

**Sunday 10am. - 11am.
Private Prayer.**

**Wednesday.10am -11am
Private Prayer.**

**Next Weekend.
Sat.**

**Sun. 10am till 11am.
Private Prayer**

**Wed. 10am -11am.
Private Prayer.**

Just a Reminder.

Please remember, if you or someone you live with has Covid-19 symptoms, then please stay at home and help us to protect everyone. You should stay at home if you are unwell or awaiting a test result. People who are vulnerable or who feel unsure about returning to Mass need to consider the wisdom of doing so. Remember the Sunday obligation has not been reinstated.

Pray for our sick Lately Dead

Joan Baines. .
Eileen McAlister. .
Joyce Gorton. .
Nora Smith.
Jed Bamber.
John Atkins.
Eileen Watkinson.
Shelia Ratcliffe.
Maureen Blears.
Jean Culkin.
Martin Culkin.
Bernadette
Boardman.
Teresa Weatherhead.
Neil Gunson.
Peter Dunne

Anniversaries

Antoinette Murphy.
Jenny Higginson.
Clifford Heaton.
Helen Turner.
Leonard Tickle.
Francis Michael Tarney.
John Tootil.
John Doherty.

Collection Last Week.

Envelopes:

Loose Pate:
CAFOD Box:

We are open for private prayer including Holy Hour, as the only way to address this is on line or by word of mouth; we still had eleven people on Wednesday.

Fr. Paul has been discussing Christmas arrangements. If both churches are open, we might have to have a ticket for each Mass.

Hopefully we can have two Masses at Sacred Heart and two at Saint Richard's; but it would have to be smaller numbers. Before lockdown we had 140 people at Mass over the three days; the limit at Sacred Heart is between 60 to 70 per Mass.

This is only an idea nothing concrete yet.

Sacred Heart Club is in lockdown for 28 days.

Fr. Paul is hopeful that the decorating at St. Richard's will be finished by the 2nd December, when we hope to come out of lockdown.

This is the last Sunday of ordinary time Christ the King. Next week we start Advent.

Matthew 25: 31-46

The imagined scene of the universal judgment which Matthew's gospel presents shows Jesus using, as the decisive criterion of our fitness for eternal life, our treatment of those who suffered in this life – have helped them or ignored them? This shows that the two great commandments are, in fact, inseparable.

Furthermore, he presents himself as identified with the poor and those in need. When we show compassion for such people, we are showing compassion for him. Nor is this surprising. Jesus himself knew and practised poverty throughout his life; he constantly saw how the poor were treated in the Palestine of his day – very often those who were comfortable and who could have shown concern for the needy simply passed by and didn't help.

So in a real sense, we are on trial now and every day, not just on the last day and the general judgment. It's now that we help or turn away from those who need us; it's now that we opt for Jesus or not. The verdict will come later, delivered by 'the King', 'the Son of Man'. We are providing the evidence now.

Moreover, keep in mind that, although unmentioned in Matthew's depiction of the judgment, our relationship with God, especially our faith as well as our love for God, will also be judged.

The punishment for those found guilty is described as 'eternal fire', a term taken from a common description of the Valley of Hinnom, a grim site of constant fire; there, just south of the city walls of Jerusalem, corpses and, later, refuse and rubbish were burnt.

It provided an image or metaphor of the dreaded punishment of being excluded from the kingdom of God.