



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)

16th May 2021 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Jack & Bridie Phillips.

Sunday @ 9-30am.

St. Richard's Church.

Kathy Brown.

Sunday @ 10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Margaret Barlow.

Mon 17th May (7pm) SH.

Pat McGuinness.

Tues 18th May (10.30) St.R's

Jean & John Neary.

Wed 19th May (12) SH.

Lorraine & Clare Vale. Ian Clayton

Thurs 20th May (10.30) St.R's

John Pearson.

Fri 21st May (7pm) SH.

Marie Jackson.

Next Weekend.

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Marcus Reid.

Sunday @ 9-30am

St. Richard's Church.

Mary & Alan Charlton.

Sunday @ 10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Geraldine Clarkson.

Pray for our sick

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.

Frank Vose.

Lately Dead

Margaret Brereton.

Anniversaries

Geraldine Clarkson.

Mary O'Mara.

Desmond Alison.

Elfriede Mortimer.

Marie Jackson.

Marjorie McGrath.

Anthony Rigby.

Jean Manning.

David France.

Barbara Duffy.

Collection Last Week.

Envelopes: £442-00

Loose Plate: £132-00

CAFOD Box:

READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading – Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17.20-26.

The disciples met to choose a successor to Judas. They chose Matthias who became a great apostle who gave his life for his faith in Jesus.

Second Reading – First letter of St. John 4:11-16.

Since God has loved us, we too must love one another in Jesus' name.

Gospel Reading – John 17:11-19.

Jesus prays for his disciples and, through them, prays for all those who will go on to follow him one day in the future. He tells them to spread the Good news of the coming of God's Kingdom.

Please remember that if you are unwell or awaiting a test result please **STAY AT HOME.** The obligation to attend Sunday Mass has not been reintroduced. Please take care of yourself and others.

If anyone is in need of a reclining chair please see Deacon Ken.

Most of you will remember Colette and the boys and brothers in Peru, at the moment all the boys and two of the brothers have all got Covid. Please pray for them.

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.

Love is at the heart of Christianity. At least it should be. It is the glorious gift which God the creator gave to the human race. Love has its origin in God's love for us. God became human, in the form of Jesus, to bring God's love to us, thereby revealing how much God loves each one of us. Very few would disagree with the famous words, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." People of faith and no faith can recognise the truth in this. Many have forgotten that the first person to speak these words was Jesus himself. He came to guide and teach his followers, to share in our joys and sorrows, our happiness and agony, and laid down his life on the Cross to show how much we are loved by God.

How tragic it is when people think they are of no value, no use or are unlovable. This is simply not true. The one who gave his life for us created a loving community of believers, the Church. Jesus calls out to everyone, especially those who are troubled or who feel unloved, "Come to me." When we approach Jesus in prayer, when we read his teachings in the Gospels, when we pray and come to understand the real person that he is, we understand what St. John meant in today's Second Reading, "We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves." As we sense this more and more, and meet others in our community who are full of love, it becomes more than mere words but actually fact. As St. John goes on to say, "My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another." A community which looks out for people, helps them, and in which people "walk the extra mile", putting themselves out for others, truly do reflect the teachings of Jesus and reminds of his presence in our world each day.

MASS INTENTIONS.

Many thanks to all those who have put in Mass Intentions at Sacred Heart or St. Richard's Church. If anyone would like Mass to be celebrated for a loved one, or for a special anniversary, please let Fr. Paul or Deacon Ken know asap. Always best to write the Mass Intention down on an envelope along with a preferred date. We will try our best to fit it in on or as close to the date as possible.

READERS AT MASS.

If you would like to do a reading at any time please speak to Deacon Ken, for Sacred Heart Church, or Fr. Paul for St. Richard's. Many thanks to all those who have been reading so far.

SYNOD 2020.

Any of the Synod helpers are invited to the third online reflection meeting with the Synod Team this Wednesday May 12th between 7pm-8.30pm. If you would like to join the reflection evening please contact Fr. Paul on stjohnrigby@rcaol.org.uk and he will send you the link. Please join us on Wednesday and for any other meetings we may have very soon.

COVID RESTRICTIONS.

There are lots of items on the News concerning the lifting of Covid restrictions. As and when they happen we will let you know what is happening and when. Whilst everything looks hopeful we will not know until the Archdiocese have been informed what we can or cannot do by the Government authorities. For example, we can now have funerals in Church, with up to 30 people, and weddings and baptisms too with the same number. It looks like we may be aiming to celebrate First Holy Communion in the autumn. So please watch this space for more details.

ST. JOHN RIGBY PARISH OFFERING.

It would be a great help and much appreciated if more people gave their donation by Standing Order. Standing Order Forms are available at the back of church. Please take one and once you have completed it post it through the presbytery door. This will allow your weekly contributions to be automatically sent from your bank to the Parish account. Thank you for your continued support.

