



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)

19th Sept. 2021– 25th Sunday of the Year.

25th Sunday of the Year.

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Michael Moran.

Sunday @ 9-30am.

St. Richard's Church.

James Nester.

Sunday @ 10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Andrew Walsh.

Mon. 20th Sept. at SH 7pm.

Edward Topping.

Tue 21st Sept St.R's 10.30am.

Leonard Beach.

Wed 22nd Sept. 12noon SH

Oakes & Guy Family.

Thur. 23rd Sept. St. R's

Sorry, No Mass today.

Fri. 24th Sept. SH. 7pm.

Malcolm & Mary Vickers.
(Health).

Next Weekend.

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Norah Hamilton.

Sunday @ 9-30am.

St. Richard's Church.

Eucharistic Service.

Sunday @ 10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Marie Burrows.

**We welcome Mia Belle,
George and Georgie Eva who
will be baptized this
Saturday into our Parish.**

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!

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

Jarleth Donelan.

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Anniversaries

Thomas McLoughlin.

Norman James Welch.

James Horan.

Olive Haigh.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading – Book of Wisdom 2:12.17-20.

*Wrongdoers are reluctant to trust people who focus on
doing what is right and sometimes try to catch them out.*

Second Reading – Letter of St. James 3:16-4:3.

*Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds
which will bear fruit in holiness.*

Gospel Reading – Mark 9:30-37.

*Jesus says that anyone who welcomes a little child in his
name welcomes Christ himself; and anyone who
welcomes Christ welcomes God the Father.*

*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.

Pope Francis told the story of how, during Italy's coronavirus lockdown, a boy called Andrea and his family had been watching the Pope's Mass from the Santa Maria Chapel in the Vatican online and had noticed that Francis told the congregation to offer each other a sign of peace. The child was so concerned about the lack of social distancing that he wrote to Francis to tell him that he shouldn't have done it because, in the time of the pandemic, people were not allowed to shake hands. Francis explained that Andrea could not have known that the members of the congregation merely bowed to each other – like we do at Sacred Heart and St. Richard's – without coming into physical contact. It says a great deal about Francis' own humility and simplicity that he could use this incident to praise the innocence and transparency of children. Many famous or important people would have ignored Andrea's letter, but Pope Francis follows the guidance of Jesus in today's Gospel, welcoming the message of Christ through a young child. So often we see importance in people by their position in society, maybe even through their bank balance. God sees us in situ different ways, and we are called to look through God's eyes and see the importance in others no matter who they are, where they are from, and what age or position in society they are. We are all equal in the eyes and the heart of God.

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.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS.

A number of children from our Parish schools 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.*

The parents or guardians of any children who do NOT attend one of our Parish schools who wish to make their First Holy Communion should contact Fr. Paul as soon as possible. The children will be given the "With You Always" leaflets to go through at home.

WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES.

Next Sunday is the annual World Day of Migrants and Refugees – a day the Church has kept since 1914. It is appropriate that this day falls during the Season of Creation because, in addition to war and persecution, the climate emergency is a direct cause of migration.

Towards an ever wider "we" is the theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees. It's an appeal to build a universal "we" rather than a national "we". Instead of repeating mantra's we've heard, such as "our country is full", or "they come over here and take our jobs", Pope Francis invites us to look at the reality of why people leave their homes and countries, often risking their lives. He asks us to enter into the experience of these vulnerable people who are running from situations we can barely imagine, and to pray for them as they face so many challenges, including hostility, rejection and closed doors. Pope Francis also asks us to become aware of the opportunities migration offers of countries and communities.

The Vatican has an extensive website directed personally by Pope Francis which aims to help the Church, and others, to accompany those forced to flee and make sure they are not shut out or left behind: <https://migrants-refugees.va>