

# 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)**

**7<sup>th</sup> November. 2021– 32nd Week of the Year.**

## **32nd Week of the Year.**

**Saturday @ 5pm.**

**Sacred Heart Church.**

The Faithful Departed.

**Sunday @ 9-30am.**

**St. Richard's Church 9-30am.**

Nora Finn.

**Sunday @ 10-30am.**

**Sacred Heart Church.**

The Faithful Departed.

**Mon. 8<sup>th</sup> Nov. at SH 7pm.**

Fr. Thomas Delaney.

**Tues. 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. St. R's. 10-30am**

Stuart Sinclair.

**Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. 12noon SH**

Deceased Members of the  
Legion of Mary.

**Thur. 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. St. R's. 10-30am**

Tony Barrett.

**Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Nov. SH. 7pm.**

The Faithful Departed.

**Next Weekend.**

**Saturday @ 5pm.**

**Sacred Heart Church.**

Michael McGlore.

**Sunday @ 9-30am.**

**St. Richard's Church.**

J.B. Griffin.

**Sunday @ 10-30am.**

**Sacred Heart Church.**

The Faithful Departed.

**Please pray for all those  
who are preparing for  
Baptism and First Holy  
Communion at this special  
time**

**Sacred Heart Parish Centre is  
now open for functions,  
We have snooker and  
dominoes on Friday nights.  
Friendship Club Wednesday  
afternoons 1pm till 4pm.  
Craft Club next Thursday  
1pm till 4pm. fortnightly.  
The next Saturday night  
function is on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
December, starring Ruth  
Welch, Bingo, music & raffle.  
By ticket only £5 on sale  
now.**

## **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.  
Jean Rafferty.  
Teresa Gallagher.  
Dennis Green.  
Jimmy Allen.  
Bill Usher.  
Phyllis Smith.

## **Lately Dead**

John Mann.  
Joan Mann.  
Tony Barrett.  
Stuart Sinclair.  
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## **Anniversaries**

Harold Cooper.  
Kenneth Whenlock.  
Albert Young.  
Marie Ann Owens.  
Sara Houghton.  
Bridget Molyneaux.  
Margaret Coop.  
Jessie Lucas.  
Kevin Dootson.  
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## **READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.**

**First Reading – First Book of Kings 17:10-16.**

*The starving prophet Elijah begs a poor widow for food and she shares her last meal with him.*

**Second Reading – Hebrews 9:24-28.**

*Jesus' offering of himself surpasses any sacrifice a Temple high priest might have made for the sins of his people.*

**Gospel Reading – Mark 12:38-44.**

*Jesus observes how some people take advantage of others. He watches a widow donate her last penny to the Temple.*

We welcome into our Parish, Harrison Max who will be baptised next Sunday, along with Wilfred who was baptised last weekend and Alessandro who will be baptised this weekend. May God bless them, their parents, families, and friends. Please keep all the children and families preparing for baptism in your prayers at this special time.

*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.**

*We listen to the Gospel story of the widow who puts into the Temple treasury all the money she has to live on. Immediately we understand that the Gospel is about giving, and the need to give in such a generous way that we put everyone else first rather than ourselves. But it is also about how often the poorest people are taken advantage of. It was no coincidence that Jesus forgave sins for free, he healed people for free, and taught for free. He deplored the way the Temple took advantage of people. "Beware", he says, in case we should ever be tempted to do the same or seek to benefit from the suffering of others by giving in order to attract attention to ourselves. True generosity is not about us: it focuses on others. It allows a cry for help to melt our hearts in compassion. Charities today need funding as never before and people may sometimes feel under pressure. Jesus does not expect us to give what we do not have. He urged one young man to give his possessions away, but the man was rich and could not do it.*

*As Jesus noticed the widow in the Temple, in today's Gospel, he still watches the treasury of our hearts, still saddened that charitable giving is so often done out of a sense of obligation, or because people feel that God cannot love them just as they are. Just as he invited the disciples to look at everything that was going on around them, Jesus calls us to recognise human poverty and distress when we see it and to be moved to respond. It may be with money, but practical help and companionship are often needed too. The prophecy came true for the widow who shared a meal with Elijah in today's First Reading. Her flour jar was never empty, her jug of oil never ran dry. May that be true of our own hearts today as we strive to help those around us who are in need great need.*

## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.**

*Next weekend we celebrate remembrance Sunday. This year we will gather at Atherton Cenotaph to remember those who gave their lives for our freedom. This year we will gather just before 11am. There will also be a special Service of Remembrance in Atherton Parish Church, on Market Street in Atherton, next Sunday afternoon at 4.00pm. Please come along and join us if you can.*

## **COP26 – A PRAYER FROM CAFOD.**

*May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.*

*Please visit the CAFOD website to learn more about Climate Change and its impact on the poorest nations.*

## **ALL TOGETHER NOW!**

*An evening of musical entertainment will take place next month. The evening, entitled "All Together Now" features hit songs from all the musicals and promises to be a wonderful evening. Some of the people in the Parish are appearing – don't worry Fr. Paul and Deacon Ken won't be singing! The concerts take place on the following dates in different venues: -*

*Friday November 12<sup>th</sup> – Bedford Sports & Social Club, Leigh at 7.30pm.*

*Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> – Lowton Social Club, Lowton at 7.30pm.*

*Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup> – The Mill, Market Street, Atherton at 3.00pm & 7.30pm.*

*Tickets are £5 each and can be purchased online at [ticketsource.co.uk](https://ticketsource.co.uk)*

## **500 CLUB.**

*Please note that the St. Richard's 500 Club will be closing in December. Due to falling numbers and difficulties in recruiting new members the 500 Club is losing money every month. All members must contact their banks to stop their direct debits or standing orders since there will be no more draws taking place after December. We would like to thank Denis McKiernan and all the parishioners who started the club all those years ago. Over the years it has raised much needed funds for the Parish and has supported many charities over the years. Thanks also to all the Club members who have contributed and continued to support the 500 Club and the Parish.*

## **Response to the Psalm....**

*"My soul, give praise to the Lord".*