



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)

11th April 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Bridie Phillips.

Sunday @ 9-30am.

St. Richard's Church.

John Burke.

Sunday @ 10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Leonard Sandelands.

Tues 13th April (10.30) St.R's

Tony Murphy

Wed 14th April (12) SH.

Irene Hooson.

Thurs 15th April (10.30) St.R's

Sarah Mary Herron

Next Weekend.

Saturday @ 5pm.

Sacred Heart Church.

Fr. Martin Delaney.

Sunday @9-30am

St. Richard's Church.

Richard Gerald Meekin.

Sunday @10-30am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Thomas O'Connell

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

Ronnie Scott.

Tony Murphy.

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Anniversaries

Thomas Mutch.

Elizabeth Cleary.

Thomas O'Connell.

Arnold Duckworth.

Harry Summer.

John Burke.

Amanda Tootill.

James Grant.

Mary Royle.

John Browne.

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Collection Last Week.

Envelopes:£1180-00

Loose Plate:£178-00

CAFOD Box:

Holy Places:£97-00

READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading – Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35.

The early Church, gathered together, is shown as a foundation for prayer, unity and sharing as they try to continue their journey of faith after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Second Reading – First letter of St.John 5:1-6.

Our love for God is revealed in the way in which we love others.

Gospel Reading – John 20:19-31.

The apostle Thomas, who wants to see evidence before he believes, discovers new faith in the Risen Jesus.

Please remember that if you are unwell or awaiting a test result please STAY AT HOME. People who are vulnerable or who feel unsure about returning to Mass need to consider the wisdom of doing so. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass has not been reintroduced. Please take care of yourself and others.

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.

In today's Gospel we listen to the wonderful encounter between Jesus and one of his apostles, Thomas. Thomas doesn't want to believe until he has seen Jesus for himself. When he does he says those wonderful words, "My Lord and my God". It was through the gift of touch that Thomas came to believe that Jesus had truly risen from the dead. Until this moment he dared not to believe. It is Jesus himself who invites Thomas to touch his hands and his side.

We must love God and allow him to touch us if we wish our faith to increase. God touches us in the sacraments and especially when we receive Holy Communion. We consume the Body and Blood of Christ and as an act of reverence we sometimes pray, "My Lord and my God". We grow in our faith when, as St. John reminds us in the Second Reading, we love those around us. The two commandments are interrelated: when we love God, we love God's children. When we love God's children, we show our love for God. The appearance of the Risen Jesus to Thomas teaches us that when we touch the wounds of the Body of Christ then our faith is deepened. We touch the wounds of Jesus when we reach out to those who suffer, the sick child, the dying parent, those who are poor or abused, those who have to go hungry. There we faithfully live the commandment to love God and to love others.

A prayer from Holy Island:-

May the Christ who walks with wounded feet walk with us on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out our hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with wounded heart open our hearts to love

MIDWEEK MASSES.

Please note that Masses during the week will resume again in the Parish The usual Mass structure will be as follows:-

Tuesday at 10.30am – St. Richard's, Atherton.

Wednesday at 12noon – Sacred Heart, Hindley Green.

Thursday at 10.30am – St. Richard's, Atherton.

Please note that these times and days are subject to change, depending on the funerals and Fr. Paul going into schools.

SYNOD 2020.

Due to the Coronavirus we were not able to complete the Synod 2020 journey. So much work had already been done. So now, in 2021, we are hoping to complete the Synod. Those of you who were helping as Synod leaders are invited to an online reflection meeting with the Synod Team on Wednesday April 14th 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. It is very important that we complete our Synod journey in whatever way we can. Please join us on Wednesday and for any other meetings we may have very soon.

ST. JOHN RIGBY PARISH OFFERING.

The new financial year for Gift Aided donations starts on April 11th 2021. For those people support Gift Aid your new box of envelopes is now available at the back of church. If you have not already done so, please collect your box which should be marked with your name.

Covid 19 restrictions have made the collection of weekly offerings very difficult. It would be a great help and much appreciated if more people gave their donation by Standing Order. This applies whether you Gift Aid or not. 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.

