St. John Rigby Parish NEWSLETTER.

Incorporating the Former Parishes of Sacred Heart, Hindley Green, St. Richard's, Atherton & Sacred Heart, Hindsford.

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon. (Tel: 883395)
Deacon: Ken Holding (Tel: 255834)

15th May. 2022. 5th Sunday of Easter - C

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Saturday.
Sacred Heart @ 5pm.
Rita Morrison.
Sunday 15th May
St.Richard's Church 9-30am.
Michael Walsh.
Sunday @ 10-30am.
Sacred Heart Church.
Eileen Higham.
Mon.16th May S H 10am
Eucharistic Service.
Tue 17th May St.R's.10.30am
Padraic Hynes.
Wed 18th May 12noon SH
Colin Gillespie.
Thur19th May St.R's 10.30am
Sorry, No Mass today.
Fri. 20th May. SH 10am.
Eucharistic Service.
Next weekend.
Sat 21stMay.Sacred Heart
First Communions ***11am.***
Mass 5pm.
Marie Jackson.
6th Sunday of Easter
22nd May.
St. Richard's Church.9-30am
Robert Carter.
Sunday @10-30am.
Sacred Heart Church
Theresa Weatherhead.

We welcome Florence Belle & Lilah who will be baptized into the Parish Family this week.

Sacred Heart Parish Centre is open for functions. We have snooker and dominoes on Friday nights. The Friendship Club on Wed. afternoon 1pm till 4pm and Craft every other Thurs. 1pm till 4pm.

Pray for our sick	Lately Dead	Anniversaries
Joan Baines.	Geoff Knowles.	Mary O'Mara.
Eileen McAlister.		Desmond Alison.
Joyce Gorton.	Michael Walsh.	Elfrieda Mortimer.
Nora Smith.	Margaret Gregson.	Marie Jackson.
Jed Bamber.	.	Marjorie McGrath.
Cheryl Morris.		.
Eileen Watkinson		.
Shelia Ratcliffe.		.
Maureen Blears.		.
Jean Culkin.		.
Phyllis Smith.		.
Harry Doyle.		.
Janina Herko.		.
Peter Weatherhead.		.
Neil Gunson.		.
Jean Rafferty.		.
Teresa Gallagher.		
Dennis Green.		
Jimmy Allen.		
Elaine Owen.		
Frank Vose.		
Sheila Nyland.		
Teresa Ward.		
Pat Woodward.		
Doreen Hayes	(Organist)	
Christopher Holding		

READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading- Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27

The first Christians were badly treated, but Paul and Barnabas lifted their spirits.

Second Reading – Book of the Apocalypse 21:1-5

There is to be no more suffering in God's new creation. Heaven will no longer be remote when God comes to dwell among his people.

Gospel Reading – John 13:31-35

Jesus helped his disciples to understand true glory. Selfless love was to be their rule of life.

The Legion of Mary are requesting from Parishioners any items you may have religious books or memorabilia you would like to donate for our stall. We would be grateful if it could be left at the back of Church in the shop. Many Thanks.

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 – stjohnrigby@rcaol.org.uk

GOSPEL REFLECTION.

Today's Gospel recalls the moment when the Lord gave the commandment of love to his followers. His immediate followers were a very diverse group, often t odds with each other. Jesus seems to have deliberately chosen people unlikely to form natural bonds of affection with each other. So when he told them to "love one another", especially their enemies, it would have been very challenging for them. He called this commandment of love his "new" commandment. This new commandment went much further than any before. Jesus was asking his followers, not just to treat people as they themselves would like to be treated, but to treat people kindly at whatever cost to themselves. To love as Jesus loved is to love the unlovable; to forgive the unforgivable; to keep on loving and forgiving, whether or not this love was reciprocated. We live in a world of rapid change, in an age of diversity were people need to be valued equally. Throughout these days of change and challenge, the Gospel calls us to love, not in the way that the world loves, but in Jesus' way.

DONATIONS TO UKRAINE.

To donate, text:

HELPUKRAINE to 70085 to donate £2.
HELPUKRAINE to 70450 to donate £3.
HELPUKRAINE to 70460 to donate £5.
HELPUKRAINE to 70470 to donate £10.

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION.

Next weekend we have the last of our celebrations of First Holy Communion in the Parish for this year. Please pray for all the children and their families at this special time. The final celebration takes place next weekend, Saturday May 21st at 11am in Sacred Heart Church.

CONFIRMATION MEETING.

Many thanks to all those who have volunteered to help with Confirmation preparation this year and to those who were able to attend the meeting last Wednesday. Very soon, probably after the summer, young people from our local high schools will be invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Hopefully we will be able to let you know dates and times of the Confirmation celebrations as soon as we have them. The dates should be confirmed very soon. The next meeting of helpers will take place at St.Richard's on Tuesday May 24th at 7pm. If you think you would like to help, please come along to the meeting. All welcome.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2023.

We are hoping to organise a pilgrimage to Walsingham during the summer of 2023. If you are interested, please put your name and contact number on the sign-up sheet at the back of church. Once we know how many people are interested, we will be able to give more information concerning possible dates and costs.

IOLANTHE.

The Three Towns Opera Group are staging a production of Gilbert & Sullivan's "Iolanthe" in St. Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh, from May 17th – 21st. tickets are priced at £12 & £14 (concessions available) and are available from Ratcliffe Sports, Bradshawgate, Leigh, or by phoning 01942-605369.

COVID RESTRICTIONS.

Face coverings are still strongly recommended at this time and the opportunity to sanitize hands, before and after Mass, should continue. We are keeping some parts of the church socially distanced for those who may feel vulnerable. Covid guidelines will continue to be reviewed by the Archdiocese.

Response to the Psalm….

"I will bless your name forever, O God my King"