



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)

12th March. 2023. 3rd Sunday of Lent. A

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Saturday.

Sacred Heart 5pm.

Margaret & Thomas Delaney.

Sunday 12th March

St. Richard's Church 9-30am.

Kevan, Greg & Sam.

Sunday @ 11-00am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Ken Long.

Mon. 13th Mar. S H.

Sorry, No Service Today.

Tue 14th Mar. St.R's. 10-30am

Kathleen Finch.

7pm. Stations of the Cross.

Wed 15th Mar. SH. 12noon.

Maria Rignall 60th Birthday.

Thur 16th Mar. St.R's. 10-30am

Emma Newton.

Fri 17th Mar. SH. 5-45pm.

Eucharistic Service.

6pm. Stations of the Cross.

Next week

Sat 18th March. SH 5pm.

Evelyn Griffin.

4th Sun of Lent 19th Mar.

St. Richard's Church. 9-30am

Leonard & Gertrude Sandilands.

Sunday @ 11-00am.

Sacred Heart Church.

Dorothy Meakin.

Pray for our sick

Joan Baines.
 Fr. Strowbridge.
 Joyce Gorton.
 Nora Smith.
 Jed Bamber.
 Cheryl Morris.
 Pat Woodward.
 Dennis Green.
 Shelia Ratcliffe.
 Maureen Blears.
 Jean Culkin.
 Phyllis Smith.
 Harry Doyle.
 Janina Herko.
 Peter Weatherhead.
 Neil Gunson.
 Jean Rafferty.
 Teresa Gallagher.
 Jimmy Allen.
 Elaine Owen.
 Frank Vose.
 Sheila Holden.
 Teresa Ward.
 Christopher Holding.
 Doreen Hayes.
 Dominic Kearns.
 Mary Griffin.

Lately Dead

Harry Mercer.
 John Healy.
 Andrew Usher.
 Barry Gallagher.
 Kathleen Finch.

Anniversaries

Shelia O'Halloran.
 Mary Harrison.
 Harry Holden.
 Geoffrey Harrison.

(Organist)

READINGS FOR THE WEEKEND.

First Reading- Exodus 17:3-7

Despite their ingratitude, God shows his care for his people by providing water for them in the desert.

Second Reading- St. Paul to the Romans 5:1-2.5-8

God has proved his extraordinary love for us by the fact that Jesus died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Reading- John 4:5-42

Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and asks her for water. He gives her, and many others, the water of life.

Easter cards are now in the shop at Sacred Heart Church.

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 - stjohrigrby@rcaol.org.uk

Parish Centre next concert,
 1st April Folk Night. Tickets £5
 23rd April St. Georges Day
 Proms in Church followed by
 Cheese and wine in the Centre.
 Tickets £5

Parish Centre open for
 functions.
 Slimming World Tuesday
 4-30pm & 7-30pm.
 Friendship Club Wednesday,
 1pm till 4pm.
 Craft every other Thursday.

GOSPEL REFLECTION.

In the Gospel this weekend we hear of the wonderful encounter that Jesus had with the woman from Samaria. Jesus asked her for water, then later gave her the water of life, the water of hope, faith and love. She was very much an outcast, yet Jesus approached her and made her feel loved and special by asking her to help him, to give him water. St. Paul tells us that the three main virtues are faith, hope and love, with the greatest being love. It is very clear that without faith there can be no hope, and without these two there can be no lasting love. We are challenged by God to have hope not only in God's saving grace but in our own capacity to lead people closer to God, even when we feel we are not up to the task.

Both Moses, in the First Reading, and the Samaritan woman, in today's Gospel, became leaders when they learned that God's power can and does overcome our weaknesses. In God's eyes, whatever our weaknesses are, we are enough. When we open ourselves up to live in intimate relationship with Jesus, nothing can separate us from God's love. On our own we are powerless. But with God, all things are possible, and even our poor efforts can make a difference to how the world is and will be. So, as we continue our journey through Lent, let us pray that we may allow God's grace to flow through us so that, in our own little way, we may make a difference to the world in which we live.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2023.

We will be celebrating First Holy Communions during the month of May this year. Many thanks to those who came along to the first preparation meetings last week. This week we will be meeting on the following dates: -

St. Richard's Church, Atherton, Tuesday at 4pm.

Sacred Heart Church, Hindley Green, Thursday at 3.30pm.

The First Holy Communion Celebrations themselves will take place in May.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.

During Lent, we will have a time of prayer and exposition in the two churches every Saturday morning from 11am-12noon. During this time, you will be able to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). Prayer and Exposition will end with a short Benediction each week. Next Saturday Exposition and Reconciliation will take place in Sacred Heart Church.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER.

During Lent we will have a time of prayer every Wednesday evening at one of the two churches. This week, an hour of Exposition and Gospel Reflection will take place in St. Richard's Church at 7.00pm on Wednesday March 15th. Please come along and join us in prayer. Stations of the Cross will take place in St. Richard's every Tuesday at 7pm and Sacred Heart Church every Friday at 6pm.

CONFIRMATIONS 2023.

Year 8 students who wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation this year are invited to register online with the Archdiocese at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk and click on "Register For Confirmation". The website is now open but will close THIS WEEK March 17th.

CAFOD LENT WALK.

Emre Gungor (Altar server) is doing a 200km walk for CAFOD and is looking for sponsors if anyone would like to donate. All money is going to CAFOD. Thank You.

DONATIONS TO UKRAINE.

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.

Response to the Psalm....

"O that today you would listen to his voice: 'Harden not your hearts'"