

# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

Alton Staffordshire

**St John the Baptist Catholic Church**  
Castle Hill Rd, Alton, Staffordshire, ST10 4TT  
07774 939 109

stjohntb.alton@rcaob.org.uk

**Parish Priest - Fr Chris Yule**

Parish Safeguarding Representatives Josie Shepherd (07745 545196) and Jacqueline Shaw (01889 562422)

**3rd December 2023**

**1st Sunday of Advent Yr B**

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1st Sunday of Advent Yr B	9.00am	Ken Mainey RIP
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>			
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>			
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	No Mass		
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>			
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	2nd Sunday of Advent Yr B	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>			

**Sick List:** Please keep in prayer those who are unwell at this time and those who care for them; Margaret and Michael Stapleton, Joanne Hymers, those with Covid-19, those struggling with mental ill health and all those in our nursing homes, care homes, hospitals and hospices. Those unable to be at mass and ask remembrance in our prayers, and the assurance of their prayers for us.....Frances and Roger Delf

## **Parish Meeting**

There will be a parish meeting after Mass today, 3rd December. Following the changes in September it will be a good opportunity for us to look forward to the year ahead and discuss challenges, hopes and needs for our parish. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting so please do stay after Mass. If you are aware of any other parishioners who wish to attend please do let them know that the invitation is open to any parishioner and they are very welcome.

## **Christmas Mass Times**

6.00pm Christmas Eve  
Midnight  
10.00am Christmas Morning  
10.00am 26th December

There will be Mass at 9.00am as usual on Sunday 24th December celebrating the 4th Sunday of Advent.

## **Offertory Collections**

12th November - £129.39 with £101.00 Gift Aided  
19th November - £139.29 with £135.00 Gift Aided



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## **Bounty Club**

A new year for the Bounty Club will start in January 2024 and will again consist of 12 x monthly draws through the year with subscriptions remaining at £12 for the full year. Subscriptions will need to be paid before the end of December and preferably before Christmas (sooner if possible). The Bounty Club remains a very important part of our fund raising for the parish and new members are very welcome to join. If further information is required please speak to any of the collectors, Edwin, Elizabeth, Stella, Tony, Mary, Jo or Jenny."

## **Christmas Cards**

There are Christmas cards available for sale, hand made by Fr Chris. There are limited numbers available today but there is a sheet you can place an order and they will be available next weekend. The cost is £2.50 per card or 5 for £10. The money raised will support me in being able to accompany a group of 22 young people from across the diocese on a mission to Malawi, working in collaboration with St Francis Malawi Trust in July. We will be working in a school, a health centre and assisting the community to become sustainable agriculturally. I need to fundraise to be part of the mission.

## **Carol Service**

The children of Faber School will be leading a Carol Service here at St John's on Monday 18th December at 6pm. The children sing and read so beautifully it promises to be a prayerful and joyful way to prepare ourselves for the coming Christmas festivities.

## **Painsley Catholic College Christmas Party**

Mrs. Waugh, staff & pupils warmly invite young at heart parishioners to a Christmas party at Painsley Catholic College on Wed 13th. Dec. 1.30 until 3pm. RSVP Sheila Smith 01538702463

## **Love Christmas**

We are excited to be working with schools and parishes across Staffordshire Moorlands on the 'Love Christmas' project. This match-funded community project aims to fill and deliver over 200 'bags of kindness' to be given to anyone who may find Christmas a challenge in any way this year. In giving them a bag of kindness we hope that through us they receive a sign of the love and hope which Christ's coming and Christmas brings. You can help by:

Bringing donations of items to go into the bags of kindness – Christmas groceries, treats, gifts, toys, toiletries are all welcome. Please label them 'Love Christmas project' and bring to church.

Could you help to deliver any bags of kindness to someone who would appreciate it in the week from Monday 18th December? (picking up from your parish church and taking them where you know they would be welcomed?) Are you able to give an hour to assist in packing the bags of kindness in December at St John's parish, Alton? Talk about it – spread the word among the community! Pray for the project!

If you can offer to help or need any further information please email:

[anna.howard@kenelmoyouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:anna.howard@kenelmoyouthtrust.org.uk)

## **Edge@Alton youth hub**

It's a meeting place for young people from the Catholic parishes of the Staffordshire Moorlands in school years 6,7 and 8. Sessions take place once a month at Soli Centre, Alton. Cost is £2 each and are packed full of fun, faith and friendship! For further information contact [edgeatalton@gmail.com](mailto:edgeatalton@gmail.com)