

Gospel Reflection

Mark begins with John not Jesus. Mark knows the need for waiting. This is the time to take time. To know what it feels like to have heard the words of Isaiah year after year after year and yet have heard nothing. No prophet, no thunder, no Messiah. And yet, through faith, having to wait and wait and wait.

We have the 'Ordinary' times in the Church's year when we read and learn about scripture until it becomes a comfortable tale of morality and justice, a part of how we think and who we are.

But like Easter, Advent is not an ordinary time. It is a time well worth visiting as if we didn't know, had never heard, had no idea. So that we can become part of a history, of a longing, of a world crying with impatience for the Good News.

A SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION will take place on Monday 18th December at 7pm. An opportunity for us all to prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

BEER NIGHT: We are having another Beer Night on Friday 15th December. Price is £10 for 2 beers and hot food. £4 for food only. There will be pre-order forms for those who wish to purchase additional beers for Christmas. Price list and choices to follow soon. - Please add your name and contact information on the list in the foyer.

MASS INTENTIONS:
There will be no weekday Masses as Father Simon is on a retreat, please be aware that Mass intentions will be behind.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to make preparations for your child to be Baptised you should telephone Fr Simon to arrange to see him after an 11am Mass on Sunday morning.

Following this there are Meetings on the first Friday of each month at 7:30pm.that you will need to attend, where you will meet Mrs Gerri Doherty and Deacon Tony Ford.

NEWSLETTER

**St Joseph's RC Church
Woodford Lane
Winsford
CW7 2JS**

Parish Priest- Fr Simon O'Connor
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Diocese of Shrewsbury Registered Charity No 234025



“United in conviction and united in love, with a common purpose and a common mind”
Philippians 2:2

10TH DECEMBER 2017 2ND ADVENT (CYCLE B) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 9th December	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Francis
Sunday 10th December	9:30am 11:00am 12:00pm	People of the Parish Bridget Walsh PENSIONER'S PARTY
Monday 11th December	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 12th December	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Wednesday 13th December		No Service
Thursday 14th December	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Friday 15th December	7:30pm	No Service BEER NIGHT
Saturday 16th December	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation James Cuffe RIP
Sunday 17th December	9:30am 11:00am 12:00pm	People of the Parish John Dunne sick CHILDREN'S PARTY
Monday 18th December	9:30am 7:00pm 7:30pm	James Graham RIP Service of Reconciliation Scripture Group

If Fr Simon is unobtainable and you urgently need a Priest please phone the parish mobile: **07548 222133** Please use this number for emergencies only i.e. where a priest is needed urgently.

200 CLUB DRAW

Winner: £40 Prize
This week – Mrs Christina Shaw

WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB AND HELP THE PARISH?

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please bring in your unwanted spectacles

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Flowers for the church were donated by Marie Rimmer

If you would like to make a donation for the flowers please add your name to the list in the porch and place your donation into the wall box.

OUR ADVENT CHARITY:

As you know, Fr Simon spends his annual holiday in a parish in Arizona. In the White Mountains there is an Apache Indian Reservation whose people live in great poverty. So for our Advent Charity we will be having two collections – one today and one on 17th December. The money raised will be sent to help these Apache people.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY: SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER

After 11am Mass. Shared table, games and a special guest. We would like parents to stay around to help with their own children (Coffees and teas will be provided). Should finish about 14:00.

THE DIOCESE YEARBOOKS:

The Diocese Yearbooks are now available at £3 each.

PARISH CENTRE BOOKING ENQUIRIES

If you are interested in hiring the Parish Centre for a function, please contact Phil Martin on 07720 807162

Prayer for our Parish:

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish
and grant us a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word
and a new consecration to your service,
that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come,
through Christ our Lord.

.....
St Joseph pray for us

Gospel Reading Mark 1 1 - 8

The good news of Jesus Christ - the Message!
- begins here, following to the letter the scroll of the prophet Isaiah.

Watch closely: I’m sending my preacher ahead of you;
He’ll make the road smooth for you. Thunder in the desert!

Prepare for God’s arrival!

Make the road smooth and straight!

John the Baptizer appeared in the wild, preaching a baptism of life-change that leads to forgiveness of sins. People thronged to him from Judea and Jerusalem and, as they confessed their sins, were baptized by him in the Jordan River into a changed life. John wore a camel-hair habit, tied at the waist with a leather belt. He ate locusts and wild field honey.

As he preached he said, “The real action comes next: The star in this drama, to whom I’m a mere stagehand, will change your life. I’m baptizing you here in the river, turning your old life in for a kingdom life. His baptism - a holy baptism by the Holy Spirit - will change you from the inside out.”



“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi

PARISH HELPERS’ PARTY Friday the 12th January at 7pm

Are you involved in the Parish work – for example:-
as a Reader, Eucharistic Minister, Offertory Counter, Cleaner, Flower arranger, Parish Council member, Gardener, Food Bank helper, Sacristan, Catechist, Musician and/or Choir member, Parish maintenance, Children’s Liturgy, etc.,etc.

You are cordially invited to a Party on the 12th January.
If you are able to attend please can you add your name(s) to the list in the porch as soon as possible so that we can plan for catering.