

## Gospel Reflection

Short Gospels call for deep reading. Often it is easy, especially with the parables we know well, to accept the obvious. The Pharisee belongs to a group whose life is the Law, with all the 613 precepts that must be obeyed. He belongs to a group that has privilege and status. Many of the laws he is able to fulfil because he has the time and the money to fulfil them and for this he claims full responsibility. He proclaims his own praises; he prays - to himself. God can do nothing for this man except act as an audience. The only one who is not like the rest of mankind - is, surely, God. The Pharisee stands in the Temple and commits the greatest sins that there is - he does not love God; he certainly does not love others.

At the beginning of the Mass, we admit that we come as sinners to the Table of the Lord; we join with the tax collector in the Kyrie - 'Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord have mercy'. We look inwards to our need of God and offer 'what we have done and what we have failed to do'. This is our gift to God; that we know only God can heal us. This awareness of what we hold is a state of grace; of openness to God.



It's not a comfortable position to put ourselves in; it is easier to add 'but at least I'm not as bad as... at least I come to church...at least I've done...' which always means trying to hide from God and comparing ourselves to another. An 'other' that we are meant to love as we love ourselves

**NOVEMBER LIST** Envelope are available from the porch. We would welcome photos of your deceased relatives and friends to go on a display in church.

**BINGO NIGHT** Friday 8th December. As usual we would be grateful donations of Prizes for this event. And of course your support on the evening itself - always a great evening out.

### **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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"United in conviction and united  
 in love, with a common purpose  
 and a common mind"  
 Philippians 2:2

| <b>29th OCTOBER 2017</b><br><b>30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE A)</b><br><b>MASS &amp; SERVICE TIMES</b> |                          |   |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Saturday 28th October  | 4:45pm<br>5:15pm         | Sacrament of Reconciliation<br>John Payne Jnr. RIP  |
| Sunday 29th October  | 9:30am<br>11:00am        | People of the Parish<br>Pat Snape (sick)  |
| Monday 30th October  | 9:30am                   | Service of Word and Communion   |
| Tuesday 31st October   | 6:00pm                   | No morning Service<br><b>Service of Light</b><br>(particularly for children and OAPs) but all are welcome |
| Wednesday 1st November   | 11:00am<br>7:00pm        | Mass - All Saints<br>Mass - Gordon Noad RIP   |
| Thursday 2nd November  | 9:30am<br>Noon<br>7:00pm | Mass - All Souls<br>Mass - Deceased parishioners<br>Mass - Private Intention                              |
| Friday 3rd November  |                          | No Service  |
| Saturday 4th November  | 4:45pm<br>5:15pm         | Sacrament of Reconciliation<br>Bernard Cannon RIP   |
| Sunday 5th November  | 9:30am<br>11:00am        | Professor. Tim O'Brien RIP (Dublin)<br>People of the Parish   |
| Monday 6th November  | 7:30pm                   | <b>Scripture Group</b>  |

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 M Rose

### WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB AND HELP THE PARISH?

### FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

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.

#### **CRAFT GROUP:**

Please note that the Craft Group will **not** be meeting in November

#### **Pensioner's Meal 10th December - noon onwards (Not the 17<sup>th</sup>)**

Please add your name(s) to the list on the porch if you would like to attend. If you have any special needs (dietary, transport to and fro, access arrangements, etc) please let us know. We would also welcome volunteers to assist on the day - and Raffle Prizes please.

**FOOD BANK:** The number of people being helped continues to grow. It would be marvellous if each person brought in one item each week from now and during the run-up to Christmas.  
Items urgently needed are Bottles of Pasta Sauce, Tinned Fruits, Toiletries, Packets of Cereals, Cat and Dog food, etc. etc.  
Please do not bring in "fresh foods".

**BEER NIGHT:** We are having another Beer Night on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **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 Luke 18 9 – 14

Jesus told a story to some people who thought they were better than others and who looked down on everyone else:

Two men went into the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee stood over by himself and prayed, "God, I thank you that I am not greedy, dishonest, and unfaithful in marriage like other people. And I am really glad that I am not like that tax collector over there. I go without eating for two days a week, and I give you one tenth of all that I earn."

The tax collector stood off at a distance and did not think he was good enough even to look up toward heaven. He was so sorry for what he had done that he pounded his chest and prayed, "God, have pity on me! I am such a sinner."

Then Jesus said, "When the two men went home, it was the tax collector and not the Pharisee who was pleasing to God. If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honoured."



*"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"*

*St Francis of Assisi*

£158 was raised at last week's Coffee morning. Thanks to everyone who came and supported this event - and those who ran it.

#### **SAFEGUARDING (Protection of children and vulnerable adults.**

Helen Thorpe is our Safeguarding Officer and she needs to know who has completed their CRB registration so that she can check it against the electronic records. She would also like to know who doesn't have an up to date CRB - some seem to have started but not completed. Please add your names to the list in the porch as appropriate.