

## NEWSLETTER

### Gospel Reflection *'The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness'*.

Mark makes it clear that Jesus' retreat into the desert is not a voluntary act. The Spirit drives Jesus where She wants him. This is a beginning - this rush of power; this gift of recognition; the handing over from John - but Jesus has to know what it means. We have to be prepared to be lifted up in the Spirit's hands - we also have to learn what our discipleship means. In these first days of Lent have we given ourselves over to God's will or have we been focused on pursuing our own aims; what we decided was the right choice; the right action?

If we have been 'Spirit driven' we will find ourselves, like Jesus, in the wilderness; the place beyond control; the place of encounter; the place of finding out. Our first reaction to losing control is to withdraw; to mistrust; to fear - the ideal territory for the devil's work. The suggestion comes to take care of yourself first. But the invitation is to submit; to become part of the wilderness; to encounter the wild beasts; the untamed truths of who we are; where we have come from; what hurts us and what feeds us.

To know ourselves in God's eyes.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February is CAFOD Family Fast Day. Please pick up an envelope in the porch.

**Parish Holiday:** We will be going to Scarborough on 26<sup>th</sup> September for five days. Cost will be £209 per person – which includes Transport, Dinner Bed and Breakfast and also 3 Trips (to the Yorkshire Moors, Whitby and York). Please sign up by adding your name(s) to the list in the porch.

### 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.

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

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

### 18TH FEBRUARY 2018 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE B) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 17th February	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Paul Martin RIP
Sunday 18th February	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish P. Wyatt & P. Norris RIP
Monday 19th February	10:30am	Funeral Service – Peter Kennerley RIP
Tuesday 20th February	9:30am 10:30am TBC 7:30pm	Mass – Peter Kennerley RIP Coffee morning Craft Group Parish Council meeting
Wednesday 21st February	12:00pm	Mass – E. & T. Wyatt RIP
Thursday 22nd February	9:30am	Mass – Mrs Joan Delnevo
Friday 23rd February		No service CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY
Saturday 24th February	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Paul Martin RIP
Sunday 25th February	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish Noel & Jubal Oliveros RIP

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 – Mr. William Matthams

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

**SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS**

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases. Before the spectacles are sent out to the Missions they are checked and repaired as required by a group of prisoners providing them with valuable work.

**Family Fun Day:** On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March we are having a Family Fun Day in the Parish Centre. There will be a Shared Table and an Easter Egg Tombola. We would like to start collecting Easter Eggs now so if you would like to donate one please leave it in the Box in the Sacristy. Thank You.

**Coffee Morning:** Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February. Come along and meet up with your friends, everyone is welcome.

**Parish Council Meeting:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm. If you have any items that you would like to be discussed – or suggestion for future activities – please tell Fr Simon, Derek or Phil Martin.

**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** Mk 1: 12-15

At this time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

The moment he came out of the water, he saw the sky s God’s Spirit, looking like a dove, come down on him. Along with the Spirit, a voice: “You are my Son, chosen and marked by my love, pride of my life.”



At once, this same Spirit pushed Jesus out into the wild. For forty wilderness days and nights he was tested by Satan. Wild animals were his companions, and angels took care of him.

After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee preaching the Message of God: “Time’s up! God’s kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Message.”



**Craft Group:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at Beryl Harwood house – 18 Handley Hill, CW7 1JG Phone No 552664 - please ring Beryl for the time. All are most welcome. Come along and join in the fun.

**Bingo Night Friday 13th April:** In aid of Doctor Fallon’s chosen Charities – Autism Group and Carer’s Association. We would be delighted to receive any donations and prizes for the bingo night. Please leave them in the sacristy marked “Bingo”.

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi