

# NEWSLETTER

## Gospel Reflection

John is writing to Christians who will never 'see' Jesus with their eyes, their fingers and their hands. So maybe a better translation should be that 'blessed are those who have not had physical contact with Jesus and yet 'see' and believe'?

And actually, we cannot believe in a Jesus we have not seen. We can learn the words, read the stories, follow the instructions. We can hope and we can pray. And we can do that every day, all of our lives. We can be active for social justice, we can live in a Christian culture, we can belong and be involved in a parish - all very good, all very human. Perhaps to believe in the human Jesus - the Nazarene - is enough to make us want to just be better people - as he was 'the best of us'.

We don't need to believe in a Risen Christ for that. But to take the journey that step further - to enter into God, for God to enter into me - I have to *see* - encounter the Cosmic everythingness of Christ. And that is not just with eyes, fingers, hands but with heart and soul and every atom of who I am. Even just once, to know the Presence, to recognise the Absence. To be happy to believe.

**Confirmations:** Preparation will begin soon for young people in School year 8 and above. The date of the introduction meeting will follow shortly. Please see Fr Simon for more information.

**Coffee morning:** Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 17th April at 10:30am. Everyone is welcome.

**Scripture Group:** The next meeting is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April. The group meets once a fortnight on Monday evening in the Presbytery. At present we are looking at the Sunday readings. The meeting gives an opportunity to ask questions, discuss and reflect on the readings in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. There is no need to come to every meeting or to have academic knowledge - all welcome.

### 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

### 8TH APRIL 2018 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE B) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 7th April	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Maura Flood RIP
Sunday 8th April <b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b>	9:30am 11:00am	Father Stephen RIP People of the Parish
Monday 9th April <b>The Annunciation</b>	9:30am	Peter Kennerley RIP
Tuesday 10th April	9:30am	Margaret Cannon & Marie Noad intentions
Wednesday 11th April	10:00am	School Mass – Jack Insley RIP
Thursday 12th April	9:30am	Mrs K. Harrison RIP
Friday 13th April	7pm for 7:30pm	No service Bingo Night
Saturday 14th April	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Noel Stewart RIP
Sunday 15th April	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish Mrs Mary Doran

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 Lisa Chilton Evans

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

### FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Flowers for the church were donated  
by Mairie 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.

**Readers:** We would like to recruit more Readers for the 9:30am  
Sunday morning Mass. If you are interested in becoming a Reader  
please speak to Fr. Simon.

**St George's Fish & Chip Supper** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Evening starts at  
7pm. There will be a Raffle and a Quiz. The Meal will be served at  
approx. 8:30pm. Pricing and menu options are available in the porch.  
Please sign up indicating your choice from the Menu and if you  
would like the Bar to be available. We are currently proposing  
people bring their own drinks unless enough sign for the bar to be  
open (40+ needed).

**Bingo Night Friday 13th April 7:30pm:** We would be delighted to  
receive any donations and prizes for the bingo night and for your  
support on the night. Please leave the donations in the sacristy  
marked "Bingo". See the poster in the porch for more information.

**Catholic Children's Society:** We will be collecting the Catholic  
Children's Society boxes, now known as Caritas, this weekend and  
next weekend. Please bring along your box for emptying.

### 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 John 20 19-31

Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but,  
fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house.



Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you."  
Then he showed them his hands and side.

The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were exuberant. Jesus  
repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you."

Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy  
Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good.  
If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with  
them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master."  
But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail  
holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it."

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was  
with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and  
said, "Peace to you." Then he focused his attention on Thomas.

"Take your finger and examine my hands.

Take your hand and stick it in my side.

Don't be unbelieving. Believe."

Thomas said, "My Master! My God!"

Jesus said,

"So, you believe because you've seen with your  
own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for  
those who believe without seeing."



Jesus provided far more God-revealing signs than  
are written down in this book. These are written  
down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

### SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

If you have any that you no longer need please bring them in.

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi