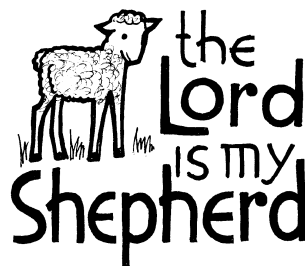


Gospel Reflection

So, who would be a good shepherd? Months at a time when you have a flock to protect from wolves, wild dogs, thieves and other shepherds; when you have to provide that flock with food, water, shelter; when you have to know the lie of the land and the cost of safe passage. Experience builds a good shepherd from one who has been there, done that, walked that, fought that and suffered that.

He has to do it for the least as well as the most valuable of his flock and he has to put them first over and over again, so that they are safely delivered to his Lord's enclosure. This is an image of a fierce man; but you will not get sheep to obey through fear. A fat, healthy sheep depends on being part of a flock; of feeling safe; of being cared for. So there is another side to the shepherd – the mother – who imprints his voice, his smell on the young lambs by being there at the birth, by carrying them around with him. He lives in and among them; knowing them intimately. As we wish to be known. All we have to do is to listen to his voice.



Diocese of Shrewsbury Education Service: They currently have vacancies for Foundation Governors within the Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority area. If you would be interested in this role please go to the diocesan website (Diocese of Shrewsbury), where if you click on the main heading 'Education' drop downs will appear on the left hand side, you should click on 'Governors' and then 'Governor Vacancies'. You will find the paperwork to be completed which also includes information about the role of a Foundation Governor. Or you can email this address - Sue.Blackwell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org - where they can issue the necessary paperwork either via email or by post. There are instructions in the porch for navigating to the website.

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
Tel: 01606 543877
Website; www.stjosephs-winsford.org.uk
email: stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk
General Queries – contact Derek Pearce
Tel: 01606 889048
email: pearcederek36@talktalk.net
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

22ND APRIL 2018 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE B) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 21st April	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation John Payne Jnr RIP
Sunday 22nd April	9:30am 11:00am	Peter Kennerley RIP People of the Parish
Monday 23rd April St George's Day	9:30am	Mass – Thanksgiving for the safe delivery of a great grandchild
Tuesday 24th April		No service
Wednesday 25th April		No service
Thursday 26th April		No service
Friday 27th April		No service
Saturday 28th April	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Joseph Matthew RIP
Sunday 29th April	9:30am 11:00am	Mrs Matthew RIP People of the Parish

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 George Chilton

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.

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases.

Coffee morning: Our Coffee Morning last Tuesday raised a total of £134. Thanks to all who helped to organise it and to those who came along to make the event such a success. Our next Coffee Morning will be on Tuesday 15th May at 10am – come along and join in the fun - Refreshments, Bingo, Raffle and Bring-and Buy Sale.

A very successful Bingo Night raised a record breaking £1,236 to be shared equally between Cheshire Autism Practical Support and Cheshire West Carer Support. Both charities well represented by friends and families and a great turnout by parishioners. A huge amount of organisation goes in to setting this up and running it so smoothly on the night, but the Bingo Girls (and boy- Joe Davis! The Bingo Caller) have it all down to a T! Many thanks to all concerned.

Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 8th May at 7:30 pm. If there is anything you would like to be discussed at this meeting please tell Fr Simon, Phil Martin or Derek. If you have any ideas/suggestions as to what the Parish could/should be doing please let us know.

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 John 10 11-18

Jesus said to his disciples. "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him".

"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They'll also recognise my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd".

"This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father."



Variety Show: St. Andrew's Drama Group, present their next variety show here at St. Joseph's, on Friday 4th May at 7.30 pm. Come and be entertained! Well known songs, duets, comedy sketches and jokes! Enjoy an uplifting evening, down memory lane! Tickets £5, by contacting Phil Martin (07720807162), or pay on the door. Please see the poster in the porch.

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi