

### Gospel Reflection

Widows are mentioned in both sections of this gospel. They represent the poorest and most vulnerable people in society. But those who "devour widows' houses", who multiply their sufferings, can be seen strutting around in public, even praying in public, seeking to be honoured. Such hypocrisy is hateful to Jesus.

Then Jesus sees a poor widow putting her last couple of small coins ("all she had to live on") into the temple treasury. He is astounded and contrasts her generosity with the disposition (not necessarily bad) of the rich who made large offerings "out of their abundance". Implicitly he may be criticising the religious authorities for the pressure they put on people to part with what they cannot afford.



Do I appreciate the qualities that can be found in the widows (and other poor) of my world?

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Al Anon are holding an Open Evening at 8pm to which everyone is invited to see the work that they carry out for those with alcohol problems. Please see the flier on the Notice Board.

**Belgian Beer Night:** On Friday 7th December (7:30pm to 11:30pm). Tickets available from Phil Martin in advance of the night (07720 807162). Price is £10 for 2 beers (one draught and one bottle) plus food (Belgian Stew). More beers available to purchase on the night. £4 for those who only want the food. Pre-order forms will be made available before the event if you want to order additional beers for the Christmas period.

### **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.

**There are no Baptism meetings now until the first Friday of January 2019.**

## NEWSLETTER

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

Parish Priest- Fr Simon O'Connor

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General Queries – contact Derek Pearce

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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

### **11th NOVEMBER 2018** **32nd SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE B)** **MASS & SERVICE TIMES**

This Sunday we commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

Saturday 10th November	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mrs Kathleen Harrison RIP
Sunday 11th November	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish World War deceased
Monday 12th November	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 13th November	9:30am 10:30am	Mass – Father Simon's Intentions Coffee morning
Wednesday 14th November	2:00pm 7:15pm	Requiem Mass – John Joseph Fennell RIP Music Ministry Rehearsal
Thursday 15th November	9:30am	School Harvest Mass
Friday 16th November		No service
Saturday 17th November	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Tony Kearns RIP
Sunday 18th November	9:30am 11:00am	Bernard Cannon RIP People of the Parish
Monday 19th November	9:30am	Gordon Noad RIP Anniversary

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 Chris McCormack

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

### FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Flowers for the church were donated  
by Gloria Mundie

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 next Coffee morning is on Tuesday 13th November at 10:30am. Come along and join in the fun - Refreshments, Bingo, Raffle and Bring-and-Buy Sale. We would love to see more people supporting these events.

**Irish Centre Medjugorje:** The Centre is now taking bookings for 2019. If you would like more information please contact the Centre on 020 3239 8662 or visit their website - [www.med-irishcentre.com](http://www.med-irishcentre.com). Alternatively, contact Derek and he can email you the Programme, Prices and Calendar.

**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.

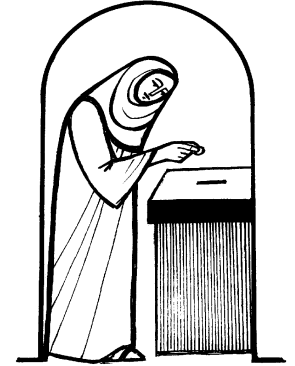
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St Joseph pray for us

### Gospel Reading Mark 12 38 – 44

Jesus continued teaching. "Watch out for the religion scholars. They love to walk around in academic gowns, preening in the radiance of public flattery, basking in prominent positions, sitting at the head table at every church function. And all the time they are exploiting the weak and helpless. The longer their prayers, the worse they get. But they'll pay for it in the end."

Sitting across from the offering box, he was observing how the crowd tossed money in for the collection. Many of the rich were making large contributions. One poor widow came up and put in two small coins - a measly two cents. Jesus called his disciples over and said, "The truth is that this poor widow gave more to the collection than all the others put together. All the others gave what they'll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn't afford - she gave her all."



**Bingo Night:** Friday 23rd November, doors open at 7pm and the bingo starts at 7:30pm. **We would be grateful for donations of Prizes for this event.** And of course your support on the evening itself - always a great evening out. The money raised will help to pay for essential equipment and electrical works in the Parish Centre. Tickets are now on sale.

**Parish Trip to York – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** We are planning a Coach Trip to York. A magical experience – visit the Christmas Markets, York Minster, the Shambles, Margaret Clitherow's House, The Railway Museum – and much more. See York in all its glory. Please sign up on the clipboard in the porch ASAP. Price is £20 per person. Well worth a visit if you haven't been – or even if you have been before.

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi

## **NEW PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**

As you will no doubt have seen in previous Newsletters I will be “retiring” from this post at the end of this month.

When Fr Stephen left the parish in September 2011 the Vicar General of the Diocese asked me if I would administer the parish until a new priest was appointed. Little did I know that it would not be until six months later in March 2012 that Fr. Simon would come to us. When he arrived he asked me if I would carry on in this role.

I will be 75 this month and I now feel that the time has come for me to hand over to someone else, but despite the recent Newsletter items no-one has come forward offering to take over.

Time is getting short and it is essential that a new administrator is appointed without delay so that I can hand over in an orderly fashion and things can run smoothly with the transfer. If you feel that you can help please let me know. I can let you have a list of the duties involved.

Contrary to what I understand is the common belief, I have not been paid for being Administrator - this has been a voluntary role. But Fr. Simon is willing to consider making a payment to whoever takes over.

But obviously whatever expenses you will incur (postage, stationery, minor purchases, etc.) you will be reimbursed for these.

What are the necessary qualifications? Just time and a willingness to serve the parish in this way - and you would need to be computer literate, familiar with Emails, Word Processing, Spreadsheets, etc.

In a parish of this size there must be plenty of talented people who can take on this role. So - over to you. We await your call.

Derek  
Tel: 01606 889048

## **Clergy Training Fund:**

Each November we are asked to take a special collection for the training of Priests and Deacons. We do not like to burden you with too many Retiring Collections – so we will not be taking a collection as such. But there are envelopes in the porch – please take one if you wish to make a donation and bring it back next weekend.

## **St. John Vianney Trip:**

A visit to Douai Abbey has been arranged 7th to 10th May 2019 by Fr Paul and is available to local parishes. Cost: 190.00 which includes trips to Oxford and Winchester. More details to follow.

## **Confirmations:**

Please pray for the Confirmation candidates who will be Confirmed on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Children's Christmas Party: Sunday 16th 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.

## **Pensioner's Meal 9th December - noon onwards:**

Please add your name(s) to the list in 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.