

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

Elizabeth said to Mary: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. How is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" Was Elizabeth astonished at the words that she uttered? Where did these words come from? Clearly, Elizabeth had received this revelation from God. She knew that the child that Mary was carrying was a very special child. She realised that this child would be her Lord.

Do we take Jesus' coming into the world for granted? Or are we amazed, astounded, and filled with joy that our Lord Jesus came to earth as a small, fragile, baby boy? He was born to peasants, not royalty. He wanted to become "one of us." He wanted to walk among us.

Today Jesus will come to us. Most likely, he will come to us when we least expect him. He may come disguised as a friend or he may come to us in the helping hand of a stranger. Perhaps Jesus simply will come in quiet and peace.

Be awake throughout this day. You may encounter Jesus several times and others may meet Jesus through you.

Prisoner Outreach Do you – like me – find carrying round small coins a waste of time? The Prisoner Outreach Organisation is a Christian network of volunteers who have been voluntarily working in HM Prisons and supplies copies of the BIBLE ALIVE booklets to prisoners.
Drop your loose change into the bottle on the bookshelves in the porch and help to support this organisation.

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.

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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

23rd DECEMBER 2018 4th SUNDAY ADVENT (CYCLE C) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 22nd December	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Paul O'Connor
Sunday 23rd December	9:30am 11:00am	People of the parish Father Simon's family
Monday 24th December Christmas Eve	5:00pm 8:00pm	Children's Mass Noel Stewart RIP
Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day	10:00am	Kathleen Harrison RIP
Wednesday 26th December		No service
Thursday 27th December		No service
Friday 28th December		No service
Saturday 29th December	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Tracey Simpson RIP
Sunday 30th December	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish Betty O'Grady RIP
Monday 31st December New Year's Eve	10:00am	Hugh Duffy 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 – Miss Margaret Cannon

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

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Flowers for the church were donated
by Gloria Jones

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.

Children’s Society Boxes If you have an old Children's Society box
please collect your new Caritas box from the table in the porch. You
just need to put it together but the instructions are on the box.
Thanks, Elaine Birkett.

Coffee morning Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 22nd January
2019 at 10:30am. Come along and join in the fun, everyone is
welcome. £600 raised from the coffee mornings has gone to pay for
essential electrical work in the Parish Centre. The £600 **was not**
raised from the Bingo Night as last weeks newsletter stated.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers The new Rotas will be published
after Christmas. If you need your details to be amended can you
please contact Beryl preferably by text (0789094250) or leave a note
in the music cupboard.

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 1: 39-45

Mary didn’t waste a minute. She got up and travelled
to a town in Judah in the hill country, straight to
Zachariah’s house, and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s
greeting, the baby in her womb leaped. She was filled with the Holy
Spirit, and sang out exuberantly,



You’re so blessed among women,
and the babe in your womb, also blessed!
And why am I so blessed that
the mother of my Lord visits me?
The moment the sound of your
greeting entered my ears,
The babe in my womb
skipped like a lamb for sheer joy.
Blessed woman, who believed what God said,
believed every word would come true!



Prayers for John Please keep John – our Saturday organist – in your
prayers. He can hardly walk, but the good news is he has been given the
go ahead for a new knee. There is no date yet for the operation, but he is
hoping it will be soon. John hopes to be back with us soon so please
remember him in your prayers.

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi