

## Gospel Reflection

Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life. It is the gateway to life in the Spirit. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God. We become members of Christ's Body, the Church. Thus, as members of Christ's Body, we are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in Church's mission. "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

Most likely many of us were baptised as infants. Thus we likely do not have a memory of receiving this sacrament. Yet Baptism is the keystone for the other sacraments. Today sit quietly for five to ten minutes and reflect on the following questions: What gifts have I received from the Sacrament of Baptism? Am I grateful for this sacrament? Do I truly appreciate the Sacraments of the Catholic Church or do I take them for granted?

If you choose to do this, you may find a new appreciation for the gift of your baptism, and it may strengthen your appreciation for your parents, your faith, and for the love God has for you. You are a child of God. What more do you need or want?



### **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

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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

### **13th JANUARY 2019** **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (CYCLE C)** **MASS & SERVICE TIMES**

Saturday 12th January	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Paul Martin
Sunday 13th January	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish Brian Kennerley
Monday 14th January	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 15th January		No service
Wednesday 16th January	7:15pm	No service Music Ministry Rehearsal
Thursday 17th January	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Friday 18th January		No service
Saturday 19th January	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Tracey Simpson RIP
Sunday 20th January	9:30am 11:00am	Joe and Joyce Davies People of the Parish
Monday 21st January	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 22nd January	9:30am 10:30am	Service of Word and Communion Coffee morning

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 Jane Phillips

### 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 spectacle cases.

**Coffee Morning** Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Tuesday 22nd January. There will be tea and coffee, cakes and biscuits, Bingo and a Bring and Buy Sale. Everyone is welcome.

**Readers & Eucharistic Ministers** The new Rota List is now available in the porch. Please check the schedule as there have been some changes made.

**Welcome Back** Over the next few weeks we welcome back Father Colin whilst Father Simon is away on holiday.

**Christmas Cards** Can you please bring in your unwanted Christmas Cards which can be recycled.  
There is a Box for them in the Porch. Many thanks.

### 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 3 15 – 16 21 – 22



The interest of the people by now was building. They were all beginning to wonder, “Could this John be the Messiah?”

But John intervened: “I’m baptising you here in the river. The main character in this drama, to whom I’m a mere stagehand, will ignite the kingdom life, a fire, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He’s going to clean house - make a clean sweep of your lives. He’ll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he’ll put out with the trash to be burned.”

There was a lot more of this - words that gave strength to the people, words that put heart in them. The Message! But Herod, the ruler, stung by John’s rebuke in the matter of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, capped his long string of evil deeds with this outrage: He put John in jail.

After all the people were baptised, Jesus was baptised. As he was praying, the sky opened up and the Holy Spirit, like a dove descending, came down on him. And along with the Spirit, a voice: “You are my Son, chosen and marked by my love, pride of my life.”



**Prisoner Outreach** Thank you to everyone who has brought in their loose change for The Prisoner Outreach Organisation. 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.  
Please continue to bring in your loose change and leave the money in the bottle on the bookshelves in the porch and help to support this organisation.

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi