

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

Philosophers and scientists of the Enlightenment were enthralled with Reason. They looked at the universe and saw logic and law, and they likened God to an expert watchmaker. He had created a Rolex of a universe and was now contentedly allowing his creation to run its course. The perfect and implacable laws of physics had freed him from the cares of creation — a visit to his celestial office would reveal a vacationing God “gone fishing.” This deistic notion of God is not the God we worship. Our God is an ever-present God, intimately concerned about his children. He has not forgotten about the world. He is not far away. He became man and even when his time came to leave this world, he devised a way to remain with us. Could God get any closer than being truly present within us through the Eucharist? He shows infinite intensity in the focus of his love. Anyone who threatens the sheep of this loving God does so at his own risk: “No one can take them out of the Father’s hand!”

If Jesus is the Shepherd unlike any human shepherd, we should be sheep unlike any typical wool-covered mammals. Their ardour for the next tuft of grass is such that the voice of the shepherd hardly suffices to keep them in the flock. Barking dogs are an essential element to good flock maintenance. But Christ’s sheep don’t need that kind of coercion. In prayer we “hear [his] voice.” May we never tire of belonging to the blessed flock of Christ! May we always listen and heed his voice.

On a lighter note: An RE teacher said to her children, "We have been learning about how powerful the Kings and Queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?" John blurted out, "I know, Aces."

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

Parish Priest- Fr Simon O’Connor
 Tel: 01606 543877
 Website; www.stjosephs-winsford.org.uk
 email: stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk
 General Queries – contact Rebecca Vickers
 Tel: 07939 294442
 email: rebeccafinnegan@hotmail.co.uk
 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

12th MAY 2019		
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE C)		
MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 11th May	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Private Intention
Sunday 12th May	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish Mathew Thuruthikkara RIP
Monday 13th May	9:30am	Sick of the Parish
Tuesday 14th May	9:30am 10:30am	Mrs Marion Graham & Mr Stirling Blair Anniversary RIP Coffee morning
Wednesday 15h May	Noon	Sick of the Parish
Thursday 16th May	9:30am	Jack (Birthday age 13) Recovering from illness.
Friday 17th May		No service
Saturday 18th May	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sunday 19th May	9:30am 11:00am	Children making their First Communion Children making their First Communion
Monday 20th May	9:30am	Private Intention
We would welcome Mass Intentions for weekday Masses.		

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 Thomas Laffey

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous: There is an Open Meeting on Wednesday 5th June in The Social Centre at St. Josephs RC church to learn more about the illness which is affecting so many people, their families, and loved ones today. Doors open at 7:30pm when tea, coffee, and biscuits will be served before the meeting starts at 8:00pm. Please see the poster in the porch for more information.

First Eucharists: On Sunday 19th the Mass at 11am is likely to be standing room only once the children and their families are seated.

Coffee morning: The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday May 14th at 10:30am. There will be tea and coffee, cakes and biscuits, Bingo and a Bring and Buy Sale. Everyone is welcome.

CAFOD Climate Change appeal: Get involved in the CAFOD campaign 'Our Common Home' to tackle climate change, for more information go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/Climate-Change>

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

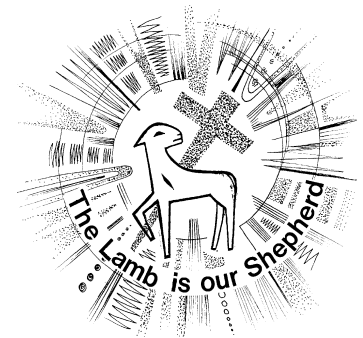
Gospel Reading John 10 27 – 30



Jesus and his disciples were celebrating Hanukkah just then in Jerusalem. It was winter. Jesus was strolling in the Temple across Solomon's Porch. The Jews, circling him, said, "How long are you going to keep us guessing? If you're the Messiah, tell us straight out."

Jesus answered, "I told you, but you don't believe. Everything I have done has been authorised by my Father, actions that speak louder than words. You don't believe because you're not my sheep.

My sheep recognise my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them real and eternal life. They are protected from the Destroyer for good. No one can steal them from out of my hand. The Father who put them under my care is so much greater than the Destroyer and Thief. No one could ever get them away from him.
I and the Father are one heart and mind."



Sponsorship request: Tony Montgomery is running the Manchester Half Marathon with his daughter Lucy to raise money for St Luke's Hospice. There is a sponsorship form in the porch if anyone would like to donate.

Prisoner Outreach: So far Parishioners have raised £109 for The Prisoner Outreach Organisation. Thank you to everyone who has donated their loose change to this organisation. Please continue to donate your loose change into 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