

## Gospel Reflection

God asks us to live - from childhood to old age, to make the most of who we are and what we have. The word 'Prodigal' doesn't mean bad or wrong, it means wasteful and extravagant, without the need for economy. The young boy, seeing his life before him, decides, maybe foolishly, that he isn't going to live forever; so why not spend, spend, spend?

The reality being that he is going to live a lot longer than he thought; and that he will learn that life is not always about the good stuff. But, he has to find out the hard way; and they will be hard lessons that he will never forget. He takes the journey down as far as it will go, but sitting at the bottom of the barrel, he sees sense and heads back home.

He knows the heart of love that allowed him to go; the generosity that gave him his inheritance without condition; the grace that wished him well; the joyful love that will welcome him back. He knew that love before he left. It was that love that actually gave him the confidence to go; to be free to be young; to grow up; to be lavish, extravagant and wasteful. It was that love that allowed him to make mistakes and so to learn from them. And then to remind him where he needed to be when there was nowhere else to go – - because sometimes Home is not a place but a Person.

**Bingo Night:** The Parish Bingo Night is on Friday 29th November, doors open at 7pm and the bingo starts at 7:30pm. **We would be grateful for donations of Prizes for this event.**

**Blackpool Trip:** The money for the trip to Blackpool must be paid before the end of September. Please place your money in an envelope marked "Blackpool" and hand it in ASAP.

### **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

<b>15th SEPTEMBER 2019</b>		
<b>24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE C)</b>		
<b>MASS &amp; SERVICE TIMES</b>		
Saturday 14th September	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Hilda & Albert Clarkson RIP
Sunday 15th September	9:30am 11:00am	Paulina and Chris wedding People of the Parish
Monday 16th September	9:30am 6:00pm 7:30pm	Tony Lister RIP Confirmation meeting First Sacraments meeting
Tuesday 17th September	9:30am	Isobel & Stan Lyle RIP
Wednesday 18th September	10:00am	Requiem Mass – Tony Lister RIP
Thursday 19th September		No service
Friday 20th September		No service
Saturday 21st September	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd September	9:30am 11:00am	James Cuffe RIP anniversary Bobby Norris RIP
Monday 23rd September	9:30am	Tony Kearns RIP

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 – Sarah Williams

### 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

**Sacraments Meetings:** Anyone in year 9 or above who would like to make their Sacrament of Confirmation this November should come to the first meeting, in church, on Monday 16th September at 6.00pm. Fr Simon and Mairie Gelling, the chaplain at St Nicholas, will be leading the sessions over the next weeks. If you have not already completed a form, there will be some available that evening.

Parents of Yr3 and older primary children, who wish them to receive the First Sacraments of Forgiveness and Eucharist this year, are invited to an enrolment and information meeting on Monday 16th September at 7:30pm in church.

**Coffee morning:** The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am, everyone is welcome.

**WINGS** If you have any Euros or Dollars left over from your holidays please put them into the Bottle in the Porch. **But please – only Euros & Dollars!**

### 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 15: 1-32

Jesus also told them another story: Once a man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, "Give me my share of the property." So the father divided his property between his two sons.

Not long after that, the younger son packed up everything he owned and left for a foreign country, where he wasted all his money in wild living. He had spent everything, when a bad famine spread through that whole land. Soon he had nothing to eat. He went to work for a man in that country, and the man sent him out to take care of his pigs. He would have been glad to eat what the pigs were eating, but no one gave him a thing.

Finally, he came to his senses and said, "My father's workers have plenty to eat, and here I am, starving to death! I will go to my father and say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough to be called your son. Treat me like one of your workers.'"

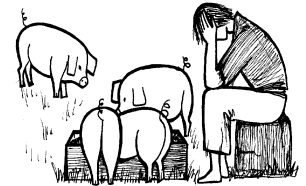
The younger son got up and started back to his father. But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt sorry for him. He ran to his son and hugged and kissed him. The son said, "Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough to be called your son."

But his father said to the servants, "Hurry and bring the best clothes and put them on him. Give him a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. Get the best calf and prepare it, so we can eat and celebrate. This son of mine was dead, but has now come back to life. He was lost and has now been found." And they began to celebrate.

The older son had been out in the field. But when he came near the house, he heard the music and dancing. So he called one of the servants over and asked, "What's going on here?" The servant answered, "Your brother has come home safe and sound, and your father ordered us to kill the best calf." The older brother got so angry that he would not even go into the house.

His father came out and begged him to go in. But he said to his father, "For years I have worked for you like a slave and have always obeyed you. But you have never even given me a little goat, so that I could give a dinner for my friends. This other son of yours wasted your money on prostitutes. And now that he has come home, you ordered the best calf to be killed for a feast."

His father replied, "My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we should be glad and celebrate! Your brother was dead, but he is now alive. He was lost and has now been found."



"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words" St Francis of Assisi