

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

We are told, we know with the benefit of hindsight, that John is the last of the Old Testament prophets; the last one who will come wielding threats and calling down fire and brimstone from an Angry God.

But knowing that you seem to be following the path of many of the prophets; knowing that your life; your ministry; your chance of making a difference was about to end; wouldn't you want reassurance? To be able to say to God as Simeon said '*now your servant can go in peace*'? Faith is a great thing but it does not belong in isolation – it needs relationship; it needs communication.

When John sends his message to Jesus - it is with a sense of helplessness and a need for the reassurance that Jesus truly is the one. That it has been worthwhile.

And the message in return is Jesus' promise – yes, John, it is different; you have been a good and faithful servant; peace is with you; the Kingdom is here.



Prisoner Outreach Grateful thanks to all who have been bringing in their bits of Loose Change over the last few months. A total of £315 has been raised in the last 10 months. The Daily Bible Reading Books that are given to people in Prison make a huge difference to them. Please keep up your generous support. All donations of any amount – however small - are very much appreciated.

Jokes Q: How many letters are there in the Christmas alphabet?
A: 25 – there is No L. Q: What is the best Christmas present in the world? A: A broken drum, you just can't beat it.

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

15th DECEMBER 2019 3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 14th December	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Alan Jones & family private intentions
Sunday 15th December	9:30am 11:00am Noon	William & Mary Cannon RIP (Marys birthday 14 th December) People of the Parish Children's Christmas Party
Monday 16th December	9:30am	Claire Backhouse RIP
Tuesday 17th December	9:30am	Vincent Cannon RIP anniversary
Wednesday 18th December	Noon	Guiseppe Baccelliere RIP
Thursday 19th December	9:30am	Service of Word and Communion
Friday 20th December		No service
Saturday 21st December	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Brian Kennerley RIP anniversary
Sunday 22nd December	9:30am 11:00am	People of the Parish Palus Baliko, Cesarina Dias Ximenes, Gabriela
Monday 23rd December	9:30am	Betty Latham

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 & Mrs Murray

WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB AND HELP THE PARISH?

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Flowers for the church were donated by Marie Rimmer

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.

Pensioner’s Christmas Dinner: We are most grateful for all the hard work put in by those who helped to organise the dinner and made it such a success. The meal was fantastic and the children from the school entertained the pensioners with some Carols. A big thank you to the ladies group who organised the Bingo Night and the coffee mornings, the money raised from these events purchased many of the items needed for the dinner.

Coffee morning: If you would like to come to our coffee mornings for a chat, laugh, cuppa or even a bargain in our bring and buy sale or for a game of bingo you will be made very welcome. Our next coffee morning on Tuesday January 21st 2020, we look forward to seeing you there.

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 Matthew 11 2-11



John was in prison when he heard what Christ was doing. So John sent some of his followers to ask Jesus, “Are you the one we should be looking for? Or must we wait for someone else?”

Jesus answered, “Go and tell John what you have heard and seen. The blind are now able to see, and the lame can walk. People with leprosy are being healed, and the deaf can hear. The dead are raised to life, and the poor are hearing the good news. God will bless everyone who doesn’t reject me because of what I do.”

As John’s followers were going away, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John:

“What sort of person did you go out into the desert to see? Was he like tall grass blown about by the wind? What kind of man did you go out to see? Was he someone dressed in fine clothes? People who dress like that live in the king’s palace. What did you really go out to see? Was he a prophet? He certainly was. I tell you that he was more than a prophet. In the Scriptures God says about him, “I am sending my messenger ahead of you to get things ready for you.”

I tell you that no one ever born on this earth is greater than John the Baptist. But whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than John”.



“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi

Salt For The Winter A supply of salt is available in the outer porch. Please use this to make safe the steps in front of the church entrance doors during icy weather.