## **Gospel Reflection**

We wouldn't expect God to mix with us by becoming flesh. But the Word became flesh, God became one of us to convince us that God does care about us.

Because the Word became flesh Jesus was like us in every way except sin. He even had the same emotions that we do. He loved other people, Martha, Mary and Lazarus (John 11:15), his disciple John and the rich young man (Mark 10:21). He cried when he hurt a lot; when his friend Lazarus died (John 11:35-36) and before entering Jerusalem when he knew that the city would not accept him as the Messiah (Luke 19:41-44). He enjoyed social occasions. In Luke's Gospel in particular we read of Jesus attending many dinners (7:36; 11:37; 14:1), so much so that a rhyme was made up about him, 'a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners.' (Luke 7:34) Jesus felt pity for people when he saw them suffering (Matt 14:13-14), so when they were hungry he multiplied the loaves and fish (Matt 15:32-39). He got angry when people used the Temple for the wrong purpose (Matt 21:12-17). He needed companionship, so he took Peter, James and John aside with him on many occasions (Mark 5:37; 14:33) and John was his very close friend (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7,20). At the end of a hard day Jesus fell asleep in the boat, he was tired like all of us (Mark 4:38). He felt fear before his passion, 'Father let this cup pass me by' (Matt 26:39) and in John 12:27 he says, 'now my soul is troubled'. Imagine Jesus saying, 'now my soul is troubled'. When John says the Word became flesh, he really means it. After all, he had seen Jesus and had been his very close friend. As he says in our Gospel today,

The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory...

The Word became flesh, and was like us in every way except sin, to convince us that God does care about us.

## **NEWSLETTER**

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Sunday 10th January

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"United in conviction and united in love, with a common purpose and a common mind"

Philippians 2:2

# 2nd SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (CYCLE B) MASS & SERVICE TIMES Saturday 2nd January Sunday 3rd January 10:00am Mass Monday 4th January Tuesday 5th January 10:00am Mass Wednesday 6th January The Epiphany Thursday 7th January 10:00am Mass Friday 8th January Saturday 9th January

Mass

3rd JANUARY 2021

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.

10:00am

#### 200 CLUB DRAW

Winner: £40 Prize This week – Mr David Vayro

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

### 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 1 1-5, 9-14



The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one.

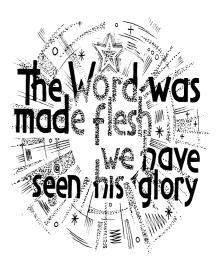
Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!— came into being without him.

What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by.

The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

The Life-Light was the real thing: Every person entering Life he brings into Light. He was in the world. the world was there through him, and yet the world didn't even notice. He came to his own people, but they didn't want him. But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, He made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves. These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten.

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.



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