

## NEWSLETTER

### Gospel Reflection

This Gospel begins with the Pharisees murmuring about Jesus. They were arguing about his statement: "I am the bread come down from heaven." They looked at one another and said: "He is not from heaven. This man is Joseph's and Mary's son. How can we believe the fantastic claims he is making? Why is he saying: 'I have come down from heaven'?" And they refused to believe him.

Finally, Jesus responded to them. He bluntly told them to stop murmuring among themselves. Jesus then said to them: "No one can come to me unless my Father draws them. If they respond to my Father's call, I will raise them up on the last day." Jesus also says that if a person listens to the Father and learns from Him, they will come to Him. It is understandable why the Jews were murmuring about Jesus. He does sound a bit "out of his head."

Jesus, however, does not stop there. He then tells his listeners: "I am the bread of life. It is true that our ancestors ate manna in the desert. However, I am the living bread come down from heaven! Anyone who eats this 'bread' will never die." The people listening to Jesus were scandalized! After all, who was he to make such fantastic claims? True, he was a powerful preacher but how could he be "the bread of life?" And then Jesus goes one step further and says: "The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

How would you respond if you heard a person making these claims? We automatically might categorize them as a 'nut case' or a religious fanatic. However, we never know when, how or through what individual, Jesus may come to us. After all, Jesus is the "living" bread. He has power far beyond our imagination. The reality is: he is always with us! However, we are not always aware of his presence.

Today I invite you to be awake and alert. Jesus, our "bread from heaven," may appear to us in strange or unusual ways. Or he may appear to us in the daily: disguised in a friend, an unexpected helping hand or in the quiet of the morning. Keep your eyes, ears, mind and heart open and alert. Don't want to miss him! What a loss that would be!

### 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](http://www.stjosephs-winsford.org.uk)

email: [stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk)

General Queries – contact Rebecca Vickers

Tel: 07939 294442

email: [rebeccaфинegan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rebeccaфинegan@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

<b>8th AUGUST 2021 19th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE B) MASS &amp; SERVICE TIMES</b>		
Saturday 7th August		
Sunday 8th August	10:00am	Mass
Monday 9th August		
Tuesday 10th August	10:00am	Mass
Wednesday 11th August		
Thursday 12th August	10:00am	Mass
Friday 13th August		
Saturday 14th August		
Sunday 15th August	10:00am	Mass

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 Moira Rose

**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 6 41-51**



At this, because he said, “I am the Bread that came down from heaven,” the Jews started arguing over him: “Isn’t this the son of Joseph? Don’t we know his father? Don’t we know his mother? How can he now say, ‘I came down out of heaven’ and expect anyone to believe him?”

Jesus said, “Don’t bicker among yourselves over me. You’re not in charge here. The Father who sent me is in charge. He draws people to me—that’s the only way you’ll ever come. Only then do I do my work, putting people together, setting them on their feet, ready for the End. This is what the prophets meant when they wrote, ‘And then they will all be personally taught by God.’ Anyone who has spent any time at all listening to the Father, really listening and therefore learning, comes to me to be taught personally - to see it with his own eyes, hear it with his own ears, from me, since I have it firsthand from the Father. No one has seen the Father except the One who has his Being alongside the Father—and you can see *me*.

“I’m telling you the most solemn and sober truth now: Whoever believes in me has real life, eternal life. I am the Bread of Life. Your ancestors ate the manna bread in the desert and died. But now here is Bread that truly comes down out of heaven. Anyone eating this Bread will not die, ever. I am the Bread – living Bread! - who came down out of heaven. Anyone who eats this Bread will live—and forever! The Bread that I present to the world so that it can eat and live is myself, this flesh-and-blood self.”



“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi