

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

So, there was a time when Jesus was just one of the crowd – an everyman in the everyday; versed in the scripture and the tradition of Israel.

A good Jew, an ordinary Jew, who fitted into the society that he belonged to. Like us, he had gone to school, learnt to pray and to worship, he had been shown how to include God in his daily life. Like us, and Luke is very clear about this, Jesus was 'ordinary', in his life and in his faith.

All the wonderful mysticism and prophecy around his birth seems to have been forgotten. How? I often wonder. Why weren't there tales of angels and wise men enlivening the words of the storytellers? Why did no-one listen when he was brought to the temple as a baby?

Whether it was a choice to disbelieve - after all, '*nothing good has ever come out of Nazareth*' - or a smokescreen by God to guarantee his Son this anonymity - it worked. Jesus was no-one special when he left his village in search of his fortune.



The return is something else; as carpenter and prophet; son of Mary and Son of God. The mission has begun in earnest. Luke promises his reader a well founded account – it begins with the fulfilling of a prophecy – and we call this '*ordinary*' time.

What an understatement!

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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

23rd JANUARY 2022 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE C) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 22nd January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 23rd January	10:00am	Mass
Monday 24th January		
Tuesday 25th January		
Wednesday 26th January		
Thursday 27th January		
Friday 28th January		
Saturday 29th January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 30th January	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 – Mr John Henry Hughes

**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

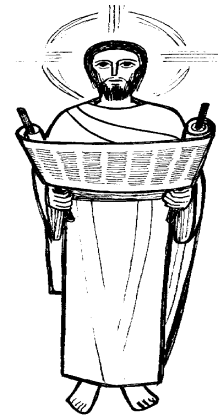
Luke 1 1 – 4 4 14 – 21



So many others have tried their hand at putting together a story of the wonderful harvest of Scripture and history that took place among us, using reports handed down by the original eyewitnesses who served this Word with their very lives. Since I have investigated all the reports in close detail, starting from the story's beginning, I decided to write it all out for you, most honourable Theophilus, so you can know beyond the shadow of a doubt the reliability of what you were taught.

Jesus returned to Galilee powerful in the Spirit. News that he was back spread through the countryside. He taught in their meeting places to everyone's acclaim and pleasure.

He came to Nazareth where he had been reared. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place. When he stood up to read, he was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,



God's Spirit is on me; he's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor, He has sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the burdened and battered free, to announce, "This is God's year to act!"

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the place was on him, intent. Then he started in, "You've just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place."

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi