

**NEWSLETTER**

**Gospel Reflection**

Matthew’s people are suffering; they are being cast out of the Temple; they are told that they are no longer Jews. The Temple never did accept Jesus after his death and resurrection; his followers are now outcasts. Matthew puts the words of his frustration into the mouth of the Baptist.

Matthew's words give us an understanding of the early church; its fears and its trials. He speaks up against those who have tormented them. Now that we are the 'organised church' which side of Matthew are we standing on. Whose message are we listening to?

At this time of Advent we listen to John calling us to ‘turn again’ – we all, always, live in need of God's grace - do we turn with joy that we are called or with a need to prove ourselves worthy of His promise?

Maybe the only important thing is that we turn.

**‘You Are A Gift’** – Sat 10 December at St Wilfrid’s, Northwich. A day of talks and discussion examining our true identity through the Theology of the Body and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Fr David Marsden, a Clinical psychologist, and Dr Christine Ward will be the guest speakers at this one-day event which is dedicated to unpacking the beautiful teaching of this great work of St Pope John Paul II. Booking essential at - [tobnetworkuk@gmail.com](mailto:tobnetworkuk@gmail.com) - or more information from - [lisa.martinez@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:lisa.martinez@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**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 10am 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.

**St Joseph’s RC Church**  
**Woodford Lane**  
**Winsford**  
**CW7 2JS**



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“United in conviction and united in love, with a common purpose and a common mind”  
 Philippians 2:2

<b>4th DECEMBER 2022</b>		
<b>SECOND SUNDAY ADVENT (CYCLE A)</b>		
<b>MASS &amp; SERVICE TIMES</b>		
Saturday 3rd December	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 4th December	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 5th December	10:00am	Mass
Tuesday 6th December	10:00am	Mass
Wednesday 7th December	10:00am	Funeral Mass – Frank Buckley RIP
Thursday 8th December	10:00am	Mass
Friday 9th December		
Saturday 10th December	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 11th December	10:00am 11:00am	Mass (Livestreamed) Pensioners meal

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 Oscar Vayro

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

### Coffee morning

The next Coffee Morning is on  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at  
10:30am, everyone is welcome.

### Bingo Night

The Bingo Night on 25<sup>th</sup> November raised a magnificent total of £1,140. Thank you to those who helped to organise the event, to those who donated prizes, those who bought raffle tickets (sorry if you didn't win) and especially to those who supported the Bingo on the night. There are 3 unclaimed raffle tickets, green ticket 445-450, yellow ticket 361-365 and yellow ticket 186-190.

### Icon Exhibition

An icon exhibition at St Teresa's Church, Wilmslow 11-18 December 2022. The exhibition introduces viewers to the art and history of icon painting, the symbolism of icons and their role in Christian worship. Opening times: 7:15 am-6:00 pm  
The exhibition is located in Our Lady's transept.  
Address: Green Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1LD

### 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

Matthew 3 1 – 12



Years later, John the Baptist started preaching in the desert of Judea. He said,  
“Turn back to God! The kingdom of heaven will soon be here.”

John was the one the prophet Isaiah was talking about, when he said, “In the desert someone is shouting, ‘Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him.’”

John wore clothes made of camel's hair. He had a leather strap around his waist and ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

From Jerusalem and all Judea and from the Jordan River Valley crowds of people went to John. They told how sorry they were for their sins, and he baptized them in the river.

Many Pharisees and Sadducees also came to be baptized. But John said to them:

You bunch of snakes! Who warned you to run from the coming judgment? Do something to show that you have really given up your sins. And don't start telling yourselves that you belong to Abraham's family. I tell you that God can turn these stones into children for Abraham. An axe is ready to cut the trees down at their roots. Any tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into a fire.

I baptize you with water so that you will give up your sins. But someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His threshing fork is in his hand, and he is ready to separate the wheat from the husks. He will store the wheat in a barn and burn the husks in a fire that never goes out.



“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi