

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

Do you – like me – find carrying round small coins a waste of time? The Prisoner Outreach Organisation is a Christian network of volunteers who have been voluntarily working in HM Prisons and supplies copies of the BIBLE ALIVE booklets to prisoners. Drop your loose change into the bottle on the table in the porch and help to support this good cause.

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

Parish Priest- Fr Simon O'Connor

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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

11th DECEMBER 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 10th December	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 11th December	10:00am 11:00am	Mass (Livestreamed) Pensioners meal
Monday 12th December		
Tuesday 13th December	10:30am	Coffee morning
Wednesday 14th December		
Thursday 15th December		
Friday 16th December		
Saturday 17th December	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 18th December	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)

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 Colin MacKay
**WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB
AND HELP THE PARISH?**

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

Coffee morning

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

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 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