

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

Even as school children, we learn that the word 'salary' comes from the theory that the pay Roman soldiers received had a link with the price of salt in the area they served. It would be interesting to see what the exchange rate would have been in this parish!

Particularly in the desert countries; salt is not just a 'spice' it is necessary for life - just as necessary as water. With hundreds of uses, many around purification, cleansing and prolonging life. Salt is even acknowledged as being spiritually cleansing and giving protection against the 'dark'.

There is connection, something very human about salt - the saltiness of tears and sweat - salt flavours our emotions, our life's journey. Jesus calls us salt; salt of the earth- salt for the earth. We are that precious commodity that God has given the rest of the world. We may be individuals or small communities but Jesus believes that that is enough; enough to make a difference whether through the tears of our compassion or the sweat of our desire to be the change.

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

5th FEBRUARY 2023 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 4th February	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 5th February	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 6th February	10:00am	Mass
Tuesday 7th February	10:00am	Mass
Wednesday 8th February	10:00am	Mass
Thursday 9th February	10:00am 2:00pm	Mass St Joseph's School Coffee afternoon
Friday 10th February		No Mass
Saturday 11th February	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 12th February	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)

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.

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 Tony Montgomery

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

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases.

St Joseph's School Mini Vinnies Coffee afternoon

The Mini Vinnies are having a coffee afternoon this Thursday at 2pm for everyone from the Parish.

Coffee morning

The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 14th February at 10:30am, everyone is welcome.

The Funeral Mass for Edna Ravenscroft will be on Wednesday 22nd February at noon.

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

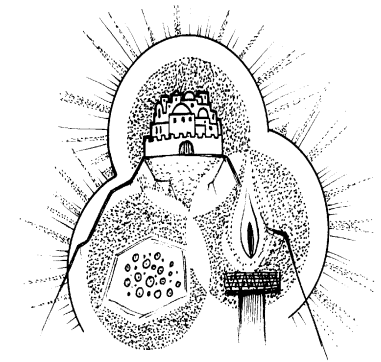
Matthew 5 13 -16



Jesus said: You are like salt for everyone on earth.
But if salt no longer tastes like salt, how can it make food salty? All it is good for is to be thrown out and walked on.

You are like a light for the whole world.

A city built on top of a hill cannot be hidden, and no one would light a lamp and put it under a clay pot. A lamp is placed on a lamp stand, where it can give light to everyone in the house. Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven.



“Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand - shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

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