

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

There are many directions a sermon on this text could take. One would be to explore our commonality with the disciples in their fear and doubt. Are we so different today, even after we've heard — just one week ago — that Jesus is risen from the grave? How do the anxiety and fear in our lives betray our own disbelief? A preacher could name some of the fears and anxieties that keep us locked in—as individuals and as congregations—and keep us from fulfilling the mission for which Jesus has called and sent us.

The natural thing to do when we are feeling anxious or threatened is to hunker down and lock the doors, to become focused on our own security rather than the risky mission to which we are called. The promise of this text is that Jesus cannot be stopped by our locked doors. Jesus comes to us as he came to the first disciples, right in the midst of our fear, pain, doubt, and confusion. He comes speaking peace, breathing into our anxious lives the breath of the Holy Spirit.

What is more, he keeps showing up. As he came back a week later for Thomas, Jesus keeps coming back week after week among his gathered disciples — in the word, the water, the bread, and the wine — not wanting any to miss out on the life and peace he gives. And he keeps sending us out of our safe, locked rooms, into a world that, like us, so desperately needs his gifts of life and peace.



BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to make preparations for your child to be Baptised you should telephone Fr Simon (01606 543877).

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
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Parish Priest- Fr Simon O'Connor
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General Queries – ring the Parish Number and/or send an email to the Parish contact
 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

16th APRIL 2023 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 15th April	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 16th April Divine Mercy Sunday	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 17th April		No Mass
Tuesday 18th April	10:30am	No Mass Coffee morning
Wednesday 19th April		No Mass
Thursday 20th April		No Mass
Friday 21st April		No Mass
Saturday 22nd April	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 23rd April	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)

If Fr Simon is unobtainable please leave a message and send an email to stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk

200 CLUB DRAW

Winner: £40 Prize
This week – Mr George Snape

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

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases.

Offertory Envelopes. The new Boxes of Envelopes are in the Porch for you to collect. Please look for your name on the Boxes. If you can't find a Box for you – or if you would like to start using Envelopes – please take one of the spare Boxes and complete the slip in the Box and hand it in the next time you are at Mass. Alternatively, if you would prefer to make your Offertory Donations on a monthly basis by Bank Standing Order there are forms available in the porch. Similarly, if you are an Income Tax Payer you can join the Gift Aid Scheme by taking a form from the porch. Please hand in any Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms to the Parish. Please don't send them to your Bank or the Diocese.

Coffee morning. The next coffee morning is on this Tuesday at 10:30am, everyone is welcome to come along for tea, coffee and cake.

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 John 20 19-31



Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house.

Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he showed them his hands and side.

The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were exuberant. Jesus repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you."

Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master." But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it."

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he focused his attention on Thomas.

"Take your finger and examine my hands. Take your hand and stick it in my side. Don't be unbelieving. Believe."

Thomas said, "My Master! My God!" Jesus said,

"So, you believe because you've seen with your own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for those who believe without seeing."

Jesus provided far more God-revealing signs than are written down in this book. These are written down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.



"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi