

# NEWSLETTER

**Gospel Reflection**

There are a lot of similarities among these ten bridesmaids: they all gather to meet the bridegroom; they all carry lamps; the bridegroom’s timeframe is drawn out for them all; they are all awakened by the invitation to ‘come and meet’ their ‘Lord’.

But there is one key difference: the wise also brought oil; the foolish neglected to do so.

*And so the story unfolds for these two groups very differently.* The wise are found waiting and ready. The foolish, however, are at the dealers purchasing oil as the bridegroom arrives. Their late arrival seals their fate. They are left *outside*. It seems harsh: the wise bridesmaids refusal to share; the closed door; the denial of any knowledge of the five fools. *But this is not a story told after the event.* Jesus’ audience, and Matthew’s readers, live *before* the dramatic coming of the kingdom. It is a pre-warning. A giving of advanced notice. Listen and prepare well. *There is no need for this to be a surprise.*

And that is the very purpose of this story: that we might be ready and awake at the coming of heaven’s kingdom. Matthew’s narrator sums it up well: ‘Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour’

This Sunday we commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**

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

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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General Queries – ring the Parish Number and/or send an email to the Parish  
 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

<b>12th NOVEMBER 2023</b>		
<b>32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE A)</b>		
<b>MASS &amp; SERVICE TIMES</b>		
Saturday 11th November	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 12th November	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>		
Monday 13th November		<b>No Mass</b>
Tuesday 14th November		<b>No Mass</b>
Wednesday 15th November		<b>No Mass</b>
Thursday 16th November		<b>No Mass</b>
Friday 17th November		<b>No Mass</b>
	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Bingo Night (doors open at 7pm)</b>
Saturday 18th November	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 19th November	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)

If Fr Simon is unobtainable please leave a message and send an email to [stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk)

**200 CLUB DRAW**

Winner: £40 Prize  
This week – Mr John Kealey

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

**Volunteers required**

We need 4 or 5 volunteers to help paint the Parish Centre ASAP. If you are able to help, please speak to Father Simon.

**Coffee morning**

The next coffee morning will be on Tuesday 21st November at 10:30am, everyone is welcome to the last coffee morning of 2023.

**Bingo Night**

Friday 17th November at 7:30pm (doors open at 7pm). We just need your support on the night - it's always a great evening out.

**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

**SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS**

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases

**Gospel**      Matthew 25 1 – 13



“God’s kingdom is like ten young virgins who took oil lamps and went out to greet the bridegroom. Five were silly and five were smart. The silly virgins took lamps, but no extra oil. The smart virgins took jars of oil to feed their lamps. The bridegroom didn’t show up when they expected him, and they all fell asleep.

“In the middle of the night someone yelled out, ‘He’s here! The bridegroom’s here! Go out and greet him!’

“The ten virgins got up and got their lamps ready. The silly virgins said to the smart ones, ‘Our lamps are going out; lend us some of your oil.’

“They answered, ‘There might not be enough to go around; go buy your own.’

“They did, but while they were out buying oil, the bridegroom arrived. When everyone who was there to greet him had gone into the wedding feast, the door was locked.



“Much later, the other virgins, the silly ones, showed up and knocked on the door, saying, ‘Master, we’re here. Let us in.’

“He answered, ‘Do I know you? I don’t think I know you.’

“So stay alert. You have no idea when he might arrive.

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi