

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

I wonder if expectancy was also growing in Jesus? If his faith, that had taught him love, trust and integrity, had also told him that there was something else, a place waiting to be filled. And then he set out to find the One who would change his life.

The Holy Spirit could have come on him in Nazareth, while he was in the workshop, John the Baptist could have come and found him. But God seems to appreciate people making the effort – even His Son; the journeys of Abraham and Moses, journeys that enrich the spirit through experience, trials, failure and fulfilment. It is not the Baptism that fulfils this part of the mission but the prayer. Jesus realising that that this is only the beginning; the opening of a door to something more.

As human beings we grow through both achievements and failures of a journey, becoming more and more aware of ourselves; and realising our need of God. God holding us and God within us.

The Holy Spirit will find a way into a willing heart—whether it is the drip, drip, drip of a prayerful life, or a dam-busting conversion. The Spirit will come upon us - and in our own way – we become like Jesus - extraordinary- filled with Grace, a part of the One who is loves us. Next week we enter Ordinary Time again; may I suggest that we don't. We know that the One has come. Let's live as if we believe it; that the Kingdom is here; that we live in an Extraordinary Time.



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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email: stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk

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

12th JANUARY 2025 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (CYCLE C) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 11th January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 12th January	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 13th January		No Mass
Tuesday 14th January		No Mass
Wednesday 15th January		No Mass
Thursday 16th January		No Mass
Friday 17th January		No Mass
Saturday 18th January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 19th January	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 – Mrs Sarah Williams

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

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases

The Order of Mass Cards

If you have taken one of the Order of Mass cards home with you can you please return it back. You can also download the Order of Mass document form to your mobile phone at the following web address:
<https://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Missal/Text/MCFL.pdf>

Coffee morning

The coffee morning on Tuesday 14th January 2025 has been cancelled due to the cold weather. The next coffee morning is in February (date to be confirmed).

Christmas Cards

After the Festive Season could you please bring in your unwanted Christmas Cards as they can be re-cycled.

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

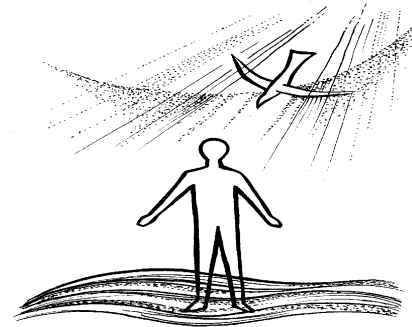
Gospel Luke 3 15 – 16 21 – 22



The interest of the people by now was building. They were all beginning to wonder, “Could this John be the Messiah?”

But John intervened: *“I’m baptising you here in the river. The main character in this drama, to whom I’m a mere stagehand, will ignite the kingdom life, a fire, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He’s going to clean house - make a clean sweep of your lives. He’ll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he’ll put out with the trash to be burned.”*

There was a lot more of this - words that gave strength to the people, words that put heart in them. The Message! But Herod, the ruler, stung by John’s rebuke in the matter of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, capped his long string of evil deeds with this outrage: He put John in jail.



After all the people were baptised, Jesus was baptised. As he was praying, the sky opened up and the Holy Spirit, like a dove descending, came down on him. And along with the Spirit, a voice: *“You are my Son, chosen and marked by my love, pride of my life.”*

“Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words”

St Francis of Assisi