

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

So, there was a time when Jesus was just one of the crowd – an everyman in the everyday; versed in the scripture and the tradition of Israel.

A good Jew, an ordinary Jew, who fitted into the society that he belonged to. Like us, he had gone to school, learnt to pray and to worship, he had been shown how to include God in his daily life. Like us, and Luke is very clear about this, Jesus was 'ordinary', in his life and in his faith.

All the wonderful mysticism and prophecy around his birth seems to have been forgotten. How? I often wonder. Why weren't there tales of angels and wise men enlivening the words of the storytellers? Why did no-one listen when he was brought to the temple as a baby?

Whether it was a choice to disbelieve - after all, '*nothing good has ever come out of Nazareth*' - or a smokescreen by God to guarantee his Son this anonymity - it worked. Jesus was no-one special when he left his village in search of his fortune.



The return is something else; as carpenter and prophet; son of Mary and Son of God. The mission has begun in earnest. Luke promises his reader a well founded account – it begins with the fulfilling of a prophecy – and we call this '*ordinary*' time.

What an understatement!

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
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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

26th JANUARY 2025
3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE C)
MASS & SERVICE TIMES



Saturday 25th January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 26th January	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 27th January		No Mass
Tuesday 28th January		No Mass
Wednesday 29th January		No Mass
Thursday 30th January		No Mass
Friday 31st January		No Mass
Saturday 1st February	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 2nd February	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 Irene Duffy

WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB AND HELP THE PARISH?

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases

Father Simon's Sabbatical

Father Simon will be taking his 3 month sabbatical between May and August this year. A sabbatical is a break given to all priests who have served 25 years in the priesthood. Most priests use this time to go travelling. Father Simon would like to go to Japan. As it has been a very difficult two years with the loss of his dad and brother, we as a parish would like to help Father Simon with his expenses and day to day living costs. If you would like to donate and help him, we will be collecting after Mass in the porch for the next two weeks. Thank you. Father Simon will really appreciate your kindness.

Sad News

We have been informed that Vera Donagh has died. Before she got dementia, she was a regular Mass goer. The funeral is at Birches Crematorium on Thursday 30th January at 2pm. It would be nice if some parishioners went to the funeral.

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 1 1 – 4 4 14 – 21



So many others have tried their hand at putting together a story of the wonderful harvest of Scripture and history that took place among us, using reports handed down by the original eyewitnesses who served this Word with their very lives. Since I have investigated all the reports in close detail, starting from the story's beginning, I decided to write it all out for you, most honourable Theophilus, so you can know beyond the shadow of a doubt the reliability of what you were taught.

Jesus returned to Galilee powerful in the Spirit. News that he was back spread through the countryside. He taught in their meeting places to everyone's acclaim and pleasure.

He came to Nazareth where he had been reared. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place. When he stood up to read, he was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,



God's Spirit is on me; he's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor, He has sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the burdened and battered free, to announce, "This is God's year to act!"

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the place was on him, intent. Then he started in, "You've just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place."

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi

Coffee morning

The next coffee morning is on Tuesday 18th February at 10:30am, everyone is welcome.