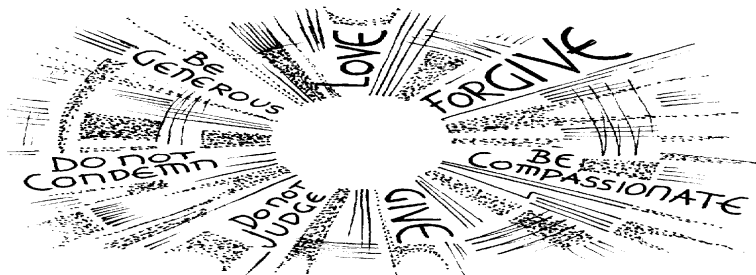


Gospel Reflection

The Gospel for today is a difficult one to hear. It is even more difficult to live out in our day to day lives. Today Jesus says to his followers, to us: "Love your enemies! Be kind, be good to those who hate or persecute you!" What is your instinctual response to Jesus' words?

These words of Jesus are very familiar to us. We have heard these words numerous times. I assume that all of us at some point in our lives have struggled to "love our enemies." At times we may have been able to do that but I assume that there have been times when it was impossible! The wound was too deep, too raw!

Perhaps the first step might be to ask for the desire and will to eventually forgive the other person. Forgiveness most often is a process. It may be a long process and taking this first step to even consider forgiveness may be all we can do. Jesus is asking us to take one step. We can determine what that step will be! Let us ask Jesus to give us the will and desire to forgive---eventually!



BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to make preparations for your child to be Baptised you should telephone Fr Simon or see him at Mass at 10am on Sunday.

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 Chris Wells.

NEWSLETTER

St Joseph's RC Church
Woodford Lane
Winsford
CW7 2JS

Parish Priest- Fr Simon O'Connor

Tel: 01606 543877

Website; www.stjosephs-winsford.org.uk

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

23rd FEBRUARY 2025 **7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE C)** **MASS & SERVICE TIMES**

Saturday 22nd February	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 23rd February	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 24th February	10:00am	Mass
Tuesday 25th February	10:00am	Mass
Wednesday 26th February	10:00am	Mass
Thursday 27th February	10:00am	Mass
Friday 28th February		No Mass
Saturday 1st March	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 2nd March	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 Moira Rose

WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB AND HELP THE PARISH?

Thank you

The family of Patrina Emes would like to thank the choir, the organist, the readers and the tea ladies for their hard work at Patrina's requiem Mass and wake on Tuesday 11th February. The family would also like to thank Deacon Tony and Father Simon for their support over the last few weeks.

Coffee morning

Our Coffee Morning on Tuesday raised the sum of £120. Thanks to those who organised the coffee morning and those who came to support it. The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 18th March at 10:30am, everyone is welcome.

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

Luke 6: 27-38



"To you who are ready for the truth, I say this:

Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer for that person. If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, giftwrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life. No more tit-for-tat stuff. Live generously.

"Here is a simple rule of thumb for behaviour: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! If you only love the lovable, do you expect a pat on the back? Run-of-the-mill sinners do that. If you only help those who help you, do you expect a medal? Garden-variety sinners do that. If you only give for what you hope to get out of it, do you think that's charity? The stingiest of pawnbrokers does that.

"I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind.



"Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticise their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you'll find life a lot easier. Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity."

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi