

### Gospel Reflection

Joseph dreams of a life yet to be revealed. Herod is searching to keep the life he already knows. Joseph dreams about what might be. Herod searches for what was.

Joseph is willing to get up and go, leave behind what he has, and change his life. Herod is afraid, grasping for and holding onto his life, unwilling to change. Joseph leaves home. Herod stays home.

Joseph is forward looking and open to the future. Herod is backward looking and closed to the future. Joseph has faith in come-what-may. Herod has a belief in the way things are. Joseph acts out of concern for others. Herod acts out of concern for himself.

Joseph wants to protect and preserve the child's life. Herod wants to protect and preserve his own life. Joseph puts himself at risk. Herod puts others at risk.

Joseph exposes himself to the risky business of life. Herod is in the business of managing the risks of life.

Joseph is a dreamer. Herod is a searcher.

### **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](http://www.stjosephs-winsford.org.uk)

email: [stjosephwinsford2012@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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



### **28th DECEMBER 2025 THE HOLY FAMILY (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES**



Saturday 27th December	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 28th December	10:00am	Mass
Monday 29th December	10:00am	Mass
Tuesday 30th December	10:00am	Mass
Wednesday 31st December	10:00am	Mass
Thursday 1st January 2026	10:00am	Mass
Friday 2nd January		<b>No Mass</b>
Saturday 3rd January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 4th January	10:00am	Mass

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 – Mrs Monica Magee

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

#### Prisoner Outreach

Do you – like me – find carrying round small coins a waste of time? The Prisoner Outreach Organisation is a Christian network of volunteers who have been voluntarily working in HM Prisons and supplies copies of the BIBLE ALIVE booklets to prisoners. Drop your loose change into the bottle on the table in the porch and help to support this good cause.

#### Epiphany Mass Times

The Mass times for the Epiphany on Tuesday 6th January are 10:00am (school Mass) and 7pm. The Epiphany is a day of Holy Obligation.

#### Coffee morning

Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 27th January 2026 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

Matthew 2 13-15 19 - 23

After the scholars were gone, God's angel showed up again in Joseph's dream and commanded, "Get up. Take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt. Stay until further notice. Herod is on the hunt for this child, and wants to kill him."

Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother under cover of darkness. They were out of town and well on their way by daylight. They lived in Egypt until Herod's death. This Egyptian exile fulfilled what Hosea had preached: "I called my son out of Egypt."

Later, when Herod died, God's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt: "Up, take the child and his mother and return to Israel. All those out to murder the child are dead."

Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother, and re-entered Israel. When he heard, though, that Archelaus had succeeded his father, Herod, as king in Judea, he was afraid to go there. But then Joseph was directed in a dream to go to the hills of Galilee. On arrival, he settled in the village of Nazareth. This move was a fulfilment of the prophetic words, "He shall be called a Nazarene."



"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi