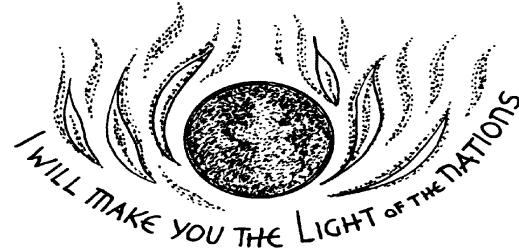


Gospel Reflection

This is day 2 of Jesus' ministry. John sees Jesus coming towards him and uses the phrase "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" for the first time. This concept would have been earth shattering to a Jew. The concept of an animal absorbing sin in place of man was quite familiar to the Jews. John's statement now introduces the concept of God being the sacrifice for the sin of the entire world -not just for the Jewish nation. This is utterly unthinkable and incredibly shocking on two accounts: That instead of a lamb for sacrifice, it would be God Himself and That the sacrifice would atone for all of mankind, not just for the Jews. This would have been earth shattering and probably offensive to the Jews.

John would have been quite familiar with the Jewish sacrificial system since he was the son of a priest (Zechariah). Every morning and evening a lamb was sacrificed at the temple for the sins of the people. This was a practice that had to be done repeatedly. John the Baptist confidently looks at Jesus and gives Jesus the title He so rightly deserves, regardless of who might be offended. John points others to Jesus with this proclamation, especially his own disciples.



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
Deacon Chris Wells contact details:
deaconchriswells@gmail.com or Mobile No.
07751 136957
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

18th JANUARY 2026 2nd SUNDAY ON ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
Saturday 17th January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 18th January	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 19th January		No Mass or Service
Tuesday 20th January	10:00am	Service of Word and Communion
Wednesday 21st January		No Mass or Service
Thursday 22nd January	10:00am	Service of Word and Communion
Friday 23rd January		No Mass or Service
Saturday 24th January	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 25th 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 Luciana Hutchings

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

Please bring in any unwanted Christmas Cards as they can reused.

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

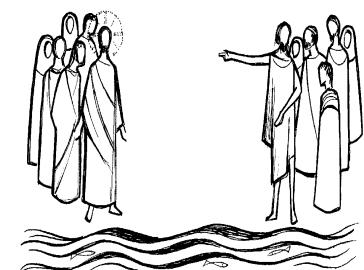
SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases

Gospel John 1 29-34

The very next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and yelled out, "Here he is, God's Passover Lamb! He forgives the sins of the world! This is the man I've been talking about, 'the One who comes after me but is really ahead of me.' I knew nothing about who he was—only this: that my task has been to get Israel ready to recognize him as the God-Revealer. That is why I came here baptizing with water, giving you a good bath and scrubbing sins from your life so you can get a fresh start with God."

John clinched his witness with this: "I watched the Spirit, like a dove flying down out of the sky, making himself at home in him. I repeat, I know nothing about him except this: The One who authorized me to baptize with water told me, 'The One on whom you see the Spirit come down and stay, this One will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' That's exactly what I saw happen, and I'm telling you, there's no question about it: *This is the Son of God.*"



"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi

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