

Gospel Reflection

Jesus' *fulfilling* was to be seen in contrast to *annulling*. Jesus would bring a new mindset to the Torah. He was not the first to do this. The prophets had consistently interpreted and studied the Torah in depth, teasing out its consequences, purifying it and applying it to the ever-changing social conditions. In Jesus' day, the Pharisee movement had elaborated a complex body of detailed traditions by which it aimed to relate the Torah to the particulars of everyday living.

In protesting Jesus' faithfulness to the Torah, Matthew was responding to the criticisms of many of the Jews of his own day who accused Christians of abandoning the law.

It is significant, however, that Jesus did not see the details of the Torah as absolute and eternal. They would apply only until *everything comes about*. In Matthew's mind, that accomplishment would happen at the moment of Jesus' death, when *the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom [27:51]*. The final key to the interpretation of Torah would be the new covenantal relationship between God and humankind brought about by Jesus' death and resurrection [26:28], and the profound and mysterious trust and intimacy to which it gave rise.

Coffee morning

Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 10.30am, everyone is welcome.

Cake Sale

Next Sunday Maureen will be selling cakes so remember to bring in some money if you want to buy some.

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

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Deacon Chris Wells contact details:

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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

15th FEBRUARY 2026 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

| | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday 14th February | 5:15pm | Mass |
| Sunday 15th February | 10:00am | Mass (Livestreamed) |
| Monday 16th February | 10:00am | Mass |
| Tuesday 17th February Shrove Tuesday | 10:00am 10:30am | Mass Coffee morning |
| Wednesday 18th February Ash Wednesday | 10:00am 7:00pm | Mass Service of Ashes |
| Thursday 19th February | 10:00am | Mass |
| Friday 20th February | | No Mass |
| Saturday 21st February | 5:15pm | Mass |
| Sunday 22nd 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 – Mr Edward Deane
**WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB
AND HELP THE PARISH?**

*"Preach the Gospel always,
if necessary use words"*

St Francis of Assisi

Celebrating 60 Years of St Nicholas Catholic High School –Jubilee Afternoon tea on Thursday, 26th March at 4.30.

This year marks a wonderful milestone for our Catholic community as St Nicholas' celebrates its 60th anniversary. For six decades, the school has been a place where young people have grown in faith, friendship, and learning—supported by dedicated staff, loving families, and the prayers of all our parishes. To mark this special occasion, we warmly invite past pupils, former staff, governors, and friends of the school to join us to come and see how the school has grown and changed over the years. There will be guided tours, displays of old photographs, and refreshments. A wonderful chance to reminisce and reconnect.

We ask that people sign up so that we have an idea of numbers – by emailing at the address below.

We would also love to hear from past students and staff so we are also inviting people to write or email their memories of St Nicholas' over the years. Email address for memories and to book a place for our Afternoon tea - alumni@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk

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

Matthew 5 17 – 37

Jesus said to his disciples: Don't suppose that I came to do away with the Law and the Prophets. I did not come to do away with them, but to give them their full meaning. Heaven and earth may disappear. But I promise you that not even a full stop or comma will ever disappear from the Law. Everything written in it must happen.

If you reject even the least important command in the Law and teach others to do the same, you will be the least important person in the kingdom of heaven. But if you obey and teach others its commands, you will have an important place in the kingdom. You must obey God's commands better than the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law obey them. If you don't, I promise you that you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

You know that our ancestors were told, *"Do not murder"* and *"A murderer must be brought to trial."* But I promise you that if you are angry with someone you will have to stand trial. If you call someone a fool, you will be taken to court. And if you say that someone is worthless, you will be in danger of the fires of hell.

So if you are about to place your gift on the altar and remember that someone is angry with you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. Make peace with that person, then come back and offer your gift to God.

You know that our ancestors were told, *"Don't use the Lord's name to make a promise unless you are going to keep it."* But I tell you not to swear by anything when you make a promise! Heaven is God's throne, so don't swear by heaven. The earth is God's footstool, so don't swear by the earth. Jerusalem is the city of the great king, so don't swear by it. Don't swear by your own head. You cannot make one hair white or black. When you make a promise, say only "Yes" or "No." Anything else comes from the devil.



Six Bible Studies On The Lenten Sunday Gospels

Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Lenten Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions.

Starts: Tues 17th February, 2026 @7pm

Six consecutive Tuesdays: **17 Feb | 24 Feb | 03 Mar | 10 Mar | 17 Mar | 24 Mar** (7-8:15pm).

Free of Charge | LIVE on YouTube. Registration: comeandsee.org/lent26