

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

We read that this Lenten fast was formerly observed by Moses and Elijah, and by it is shown that the Gospel does not differ from the Law and the Prophets. Moreover, by this fast we are instructed that after Baptism we ought throughout the whole time of this present world to live soberly, fasting from vices and from friendship with the world. Furthermore, the Lord's fast before His Passion signifies in Himself our labor, while His refreshment after His Resurrection signifies in us consolation. Mystically, the Lord's hunger signifies His desire for our salvation.

Just as the body lives by earthly food, so the soul lives by the word of God which proceeds from His mouth, when He wills to reveal to our frailty the counsel of His will through the sacred Scriptures. That He answered the devil by sentences of Scripture gave us an example of humility, so that whenever we suffer anything from wicked men we may be stirred more to instruction than to vengeance.



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.

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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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

22nd FEBRUARY 2026 1st SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES



Saturday 21st February	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 22nd February	10:00am	Mass (Livestreamed)
Monday 23rd February	10:00am	Mass
Tuesday 24th February		No Mass
Wednesday 25th February	10:00am	Mass
Thursday 26th February	10:00am	Mass
Friday 27th February		No Mass
Saturday 28th February	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 1st 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 Brenda Flannigan

WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB AND HELP THE PARISH?

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases

Parish Holiday

A Parish Holiday to Torquay for 5 days dinner/bed & breakfast. Two trips scenic cruise with afternoon tea. £399, beginning on Saturday May 30th. If you are interested, please phone Ann on 07447961425.

Coffee morning

Our Coffee Morning on Tuesday raised the sum of £96. Thanks to those who organised the coffee morning and those who came to support it. Only 10 people turned up at the coffee morning, and those who came had a good time. We hope to see more people for the next Coffee Morning on Tuesday 24th March at 10:30am to help support the parish, as all of the money raised goes to Parish funds. We have games of bingo and a raffle, it is a chance to have a nice chat.

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 4 1 – 11



Next Jesus was taken into the wild by the Spirit for the Test. The Devil was ready to give it. Jesus prepared for the Test by fasting forty days and forty nights. That left him, of course, in a state of extreme hunger, which the Devil took advantage of in the first test: "Since you are God's Son, speak the word that will turn these stones into loaves of bread."

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: "It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth."

For the second test the Devil took him to the Holy City. He sat him on top of the Temple and said, "Since you are God's Son, jump." The Devil goaded him by quoting Psalm 91: "He has placed you in the care of angels. They will catch you so that you won't so much as stub your toe on a stone."

Jesus countered with another citation from Deuteronomy: "Don't you dare test the Lord your God."

For the third test, the Devil took him to the peak of a huge mountain. He gestured expansively, pointing out all the earth's kingdoms, how glorious they all were. Then he said, "They're yours -lock, stock, and barrel. Just go down on your knees and worship me, and they're yours."

Jesus' refusal was curt: "Beat it, Satan!" He backed his rebuke with a third quotation from Deuteronomy: "Worship the Lord your God, and only him. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness."

The Test was over. The Devil left. And in his place, angels! Angels came and took care of Jesus' needs.

"Preach the Gospel
always, if necessary use
words"

St Francis of Assisi

