

NEWSLETTER

Gospel Reflection

St. John locates the giving of the Holy Spirit in Christ's death, followed by his breathing this same Spirit on the Apostles on Easter Day. On Golgotha, according to St. John, Jesus cried out: *I thirst!* (19:28). In accordance with John's habitual style, this bears a double meaning. Jesus suffered a tormenting physical thirst. More deeply, he thirsted to give us the Spirit, whose image is living water welling up to eternal life (cf. 4:14; 7:38). John's account of the moment of Jesus' death also bears a double meaning. *He said: it is accomplished, and bowing his head, - as our translation has it - he breathed his last.* But more literally: *he handed over the Spirit.*

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you (20:21). That is, from this moment, the mission of the disciples is to be a continuation or extension of his own divine mission. They are the ones who will now bear the divine life in the world; they will glorify the Father; they will draw all men to God, through Jesus; they will love, even as they have been loved, "to the end" (13:1).

When he had said this he breathed on them saying: Receive the Holy Spirit (20:22). Jesus breathed on his disciples the breath of God, the breath of heaven, his risen breath, the Holy Spirit, Life itself. *Whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven.* That is, henceforth you are to do divine things, things that only God can do. Or: henceforth God will carry out his work - I will carry out my work - through you. *And whose sins you retain, they are retained.* The power I now entrust to you is awesome indeed. Not the trivial, temporary, earthly power of Kings and Armies, but power for salvation, for peace with God, for everlasting life: or not.



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:

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

24th MAY 2026 PENTECOST (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES



Saturday 23rd May	5:15pm	Mass – Joan Fitzsimmons RIP
Sunday 24th May	10:00am	Mass – Parishioners
Monday 25th May		No Mass
Tuesday 26th May	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am	Rosary Mass Coffee morning
Wednesday 27th May	10:00am	Mass
Thursday 28th May	10:00am 10:30am	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday 29th May		No Mass
Saturday 30th May	5:15pm	Mass
Sunday 31st May	10:00am	Mass

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 Ann Hayes

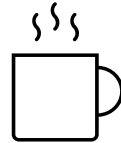
**WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB
AND HELP THE PARISH?**

SPECTACLES FOR MISSIONS

Please continue to bring in your unwanted spectacles and cases

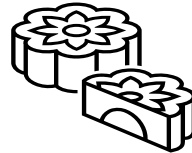
Coffee morning

Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 26th May at 10:30am, everyone is welcome. There will be bingo, a raffle and a chance to have a chat. All the money raised goes to Parish funds.



Cake Sale

Last Sunday's cake sale raised £195, so thank you again to Maureen for baking the cakes. Thank you to everyone who bought the cakes, and thank you to everyone who bought ingredients for the cakes.



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 John 20 19-23

Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he showed them his hands and side.

The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were exuberant. Jesus repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you."

Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"
St Francis of Assisi

Relic Notice

In the last week of May, our diocese will be privileged to host the relics of St Gerard Majella on their tour of England and Wales. This is to mark St Gerard's 300th anniversary. He was a Redemptorist lay-brother from Southern Italy who died at 29. There will be four locations across the Diocese; The Cathedral, Chester, New Brighton, and Stockport. St Gerard is popularly invoked as the patron of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. See the poster in the porch for details.

