

Gospel Reflection

It can be just as hard for us to hear Jesus' message today. We have learned how comforting and strengthening our polarisation can be. Corporations have discovered how lucrative algorithms that feed our dualisms and outrage are. To seek common ground is often viewed as betrayal by "our people" and as manipulation by "those people". But we cannot eradicate evil by dehumanising one another. We cannot find purity and righteousness for ourselves by projecting our evil onto others. And we cannot build a just and loving world by seeking to destroy our enemies. In the light of this, there are perhaps three truths we need to draw from Jesus' parable in our quest to create beauty, truth, and goodness in a world that seems to be the opposite.



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

19th JULY 2026 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE A) MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 18th July	5:15pm	Mass – Parishioners
Sunday 19th July	10:00am	Mass – Hall family
Monday 20th July	10:00am	Funeral – Colin John O'Reilly RIP
Tuesday 21st July	10:00am	Mass – Jacinta Canossa et al
Wednesday 22nd July	10:00am	Mass – Rebecca Sarmento
Thursday 23rd July	10:00am	Mass - Ann Hayes
Friday 24th July		No Mass
Saturday 25th July	5:15pm	Mass – Christopher Bollard
Sunday 26th July	10:00am	Mass – Parishioners

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 Moira Rose

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

Cake Sale

Maureen will be selling cakes again
on Sunday after Mass



We Believe Festival

We are writing to make you aware of the We Believe Festival of Catholic Life which is happening at St Mary's College, Oscott, 24-27 July 2026. There is content for people of every age. Book a place here <https://www.webelievelfestival.com/>.

Father Simon

On Thursday of this week Fr Simon will be celebrating the anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. Congratulations!

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 13 24 – 43

Jesus told another story. "God's kingdom is like a farmer who planted good seed in his field. That night, while his hired men were asleep, his enemy sowed thistles all through the wheat and slipped away before dawn. When the first green shoots appeared and the grain began to form, the thistles showed up, too."

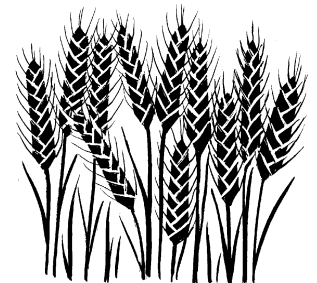


"The farmhands came to the farmer and said, 'Master, that was clean seed you planted, wasn't it? Where did these thistles come from?'"

"He answered, 'Some enemy did this.'"

"The farmhands asked, 'Should we weed out the thistles?'"

"He said, 'No, if you weed the thistles, you'll pull up the wheat, too. Let them grow together until harvest time. Then I'll instruct the harvesters to pull up the thistles and tie them in bundles for the fire, then gather the wheat and put it in the barn.'"



All Jesus did that day was tell stories - a long storytelling afternoon. Jesus then dismissed the congregation and went into the house. His disciples came in and said, "Explain to us that story of the thistles in the field."

So he explained. "The farmer who sows the pure seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the pure seeds are subjects of the kingdom, the thistles are subjects of the Devil, and the enemy who sows them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the age, the curtain of history. The harvest hands are angels."

"The picture of thistles pulled up and burned is a scene from the final act. The Son of Man will send his angels, weed out the thistles from his kingdom, pitch them in the trash, and be done with them. They are going to complain to high heaven, but nobody is going to listen. At the same time, ripe, holy lives will mature and adorn the kingdom of their Father."

"Are you listening to this? Really listening?"

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"

St Francis of Assisi