



# Parish of The Sacred Heart and Saint Joseph

with the churches of  
The Sacred Heart, Hemsworth and Saint Joseph, Moorthorpe  
(Diocese of Leeds: Registered Charity No 249404)



## Year B, Advent, Sunday 1, 2/3 December 2017

*Getting in touch*

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<b>Saturday</b> 2 December	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Valerie Hannan
<b>Sunday</b> 3 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm <i>Baptism</i>	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Bernadette & Vic France Sarah & Billy Kelly
Monday 4 December	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Patricia Slatter
Tuesday 5 December	7.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Faithful Departed (Nov List)
Wednesday 6 December	9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass	SH School Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	With KS2 Pupils : Parish Family Patrick Black
Thursday 7 December	<i>No Morning Prayer today</i> 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's SJ School Sacred Heart	With KS2 Pupils : Terence Carter
Friday 8 December	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Debbie Lane
<b>Saturday</b> 9 December	9.30-10.30am Exposition 6.00pm Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Min Walker
<b>Sunday</b> 10 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 3.15pm <i>Mass in Polish</i>	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Mrs Robinson Theresa Molloy



This Sunday, we congratulate and pray for  
with a Rededication and Blessing, at our 9.00am Mass  
Bernadette and Vic France, celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary  
and on the event of his being baptised into our Parish and Church Family, later at Sacred Heart  
Cody Jack Tate, with parents Karl and Rachel



All are invited to the Masses in our Parish Schools, at 9.30am  
Wednesday at The Sacred Heart School - **Thursday at St Joseph's School**

**Saturday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 9.30-10.30am**  
*1st & 3rd of the month at St Joseph's 2nd & 4th of the month at The Sacred Heart*  
**with the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10.00am**  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation otherwise by appointment with Fr Anthony*

## From Fr Anthony



When we think of growth and progress, we might think of it as an outward and upward movement, or of our climbing to a point of perfection outside of and above us. The image of a ladder comes to mind. We see ourselves go up a few rungs as we feel we are making some progress. But then we slip back down.

We feel we are back where we started or even on a lower rung. We might better think of the goal of perfection as growth not outside or above us, but as within, deep down at the centre of our being. Our faith journey is not climbing up into the clouds but a journey into the deep, into self, into the depths of the mystery of God within us.

The motion is not so much upwards as circular, covering familiar ground, passing familiar landmarks on the way but, it is to be hoped, over the years, penetrating more deeply the mystery, the reality lying beneath external signs. We journey through familiar seasons of the Church calendar - Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, but each year we discover more meaning and riches in these seasons. We read familiar Scripture passages, but discover new and hidden treasures we had not noticed before. We are present at Masses and again, over the years, we slowly grow in our awareness of something far greater and more wonderful than ourselves. So then, we become more motivated by personal desire rather than a sense of duty to Church law. And when we find ourselves in areas of terrible suffering, it is to be hoped that there is less anger or bitterness, and an awareness that this pain is not wasted, as we deepen in appreciation of the suffering of Christ.

The model for spiritual growth is not a state of moral perfection. The elder boy, in the parable of the Prodigal Son, seemed to have reached such a state. He never broke the law and worked hard on his father's farm. But he showed little love for his father or his young brother. At the end of the story he is all alone, sulking, while the others are celebrating. It is a fearful lesson, that it is possible to keep all God's laws and still have no love of God in our hearts. The key to spiritual growth is love and our model is Christ. St Paul invites us to put on Christ, to have the mind of Christ, to become other Christs. Each of us, in our limited but unique way, must try to love like Christ, reflect his understanding, compassion and forgiveness. We are called to be Christ-like, but we can do this each only in our own special way - not in another's way. There is only one you: so you can make a unique contribution and show features of Christ's image in ways no one else can.

*From 'Give God a Chance' (Ch.16), (abbreviated),  
by Robert Kelly, SJ*

## Mass Times for Christmas

### Advent, Sunday 4

*Usual Saturday/Sunday Mass Times*

**Mass of Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 December  
Sacred Heart, 5.00pm -&- St Joseph's, 7.30pm**  
(The Eve Masses will include special thought  
for our Children attending)

**Mass of Christmas Day, Monday 25 December  
Sacred Heart, 10.00am only**

## Things happening in our Parish

**First Reconciliation** If Parents of any eligible to prepare for their First Confession (school year 3 or older), have not yet applied, they must return an application form **in the next week or so**. Application forms can be got from Fr Anthony, at weekend Masses. Once the programme begins, it will not be possible to take late starters.

**Our Parish SVP** is to meet **Wed 6 Dec**, 7.30pm, in our Sacred Heart *Presbytery*. To know more of their work or to join them, have a word with any present Member.

**Parish Pastoral Council** Is due to meet **Thu 14 Dec**, in our Sacred Heart Hall, 7.00pm. Please give any items for the Agenda by this **Sun 3 Dec**, to Elizabeth Smith, Janet Ward or Fr Anthony.

### & In our Deanery

**Bishop Konstant Youth Choir** Carol Service: Sunday, 10 Dec, 4.00pm, at St. Michael's Church, Knottingley. All are very warmly invited.

### Again, much and many thanks

to all who in any way assisted with or contributed to our Christmas Fayre. We had many good donations for the stalls, a pleasing turn out of people to chat and spend, and a goodly number of hard workers before, during and after the selling time.

We made a **£1822.08 profit** (inc after sales of Draw tickets and donations). Last year's raised £2141.

**Draw Prizes: White**, 362 M&S Hamper, 646 Blanket Bale, 628 Lakeland Spiralizer - **Blue**, 539 Party Box, 6 Basket Beer, 245 Ladies Gifts, 17 Family Hamper, 52 Christmas Treats - **Pink**, 777 Chocs Box, 964 Btl Champagne, 315 Cocktails, 784 Bear.

Unclaimed items: contact Fr Anthony with ticket.



### Our Advent Appeal

Storms and floods, in the Asian Sub-Continent, earlier this year, caused far spread devastation. Our Appeal is to help Cafod to help victims in the Sub-Continent. There will

be a collection for this after all our Advent weekend Masses. If any are able to raise money in other ways, their contributions will be much welcomed.

*Notices for the Bulletin need to be received  
by Wednesday 12.00noon, at the latest.*

## Sacraments

**Baptism** Next Preparation Programme for Parents of Children to be baptised will be in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Weds 6 & 13 Dec**, 7.30-9.00pm. To join a Programme, Parents should talk with Fr Anthony, after a weekend Mass, to arrange an initial meeting with him.

The Programme is for expectant, as well as Parents with baby born.

**Confirmation** Our *Candidates* are to first meet at our Sacred Heart Hall:

**Sat 9 Dec**, 9.30am-12.30pm

Their *Parents* should please come to meet, with them, 9.30-10.00am.

**First Reconciliation** Any parents who wish eligible children (school year 3 or above) to join our Parish Programme, to prepare for their First Reconciliation in 2018, and who have not completed an application form, should obtain a form from Fr Anthony, after a weekend Mass, and return the completed form direct to him, *as soon as possible*.

**Marriage** Usual minimum notice, six months. Contact, Fr Anthony.

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

The well where Jesus asked a Samaritan woman for a drink was famous because, St John (4:5,6) tells us, it was at a plot of land given by the Patriarch Jacob to his son Joseph, and so it was Jacob's well. and by a mountain where people had gathered to worship from ancient times.

*St John tells that after this event, Jesus went to Galilee and then to Jerusalem. Following the festival he went to Jerusalem for, he performed the feeding of the five thousand - where?*

### OR MAYBE NOT SO

A man walking past a beautiful garden says to the gardener, 'What a wonderful job you and God have made of this garden', to which the gardener replies, 'You should have seen it when God looked after it by himself!'



## Parish Monies

**Thank You** very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose £264.36  
Envelopes £426.20

## Collections, etc

**This Weekend** Retiring Collection after each of our Masses, towards our Advent Project, to help victims of this year's storms in the Asian Sub-Continent.

## THE GOD WHO COMES

*In the fullness of time God places Himself on the reality of man. With the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost man becomes God's dwelling place. From now on man lives out the covenant with God through the dynamics of history; within his earthly limits, man waits for the last coming of the One who has no limits.*

*'We will come to him and make our dwelling place with him, "' (John 14:23)*



I am a dwelling place.

I am not alone.

In the secret depths of my poor human substance is the presence of God.

Not a God who is a solitary, but a God who is Trinity, a God who is love.

A God who is Father, a God who is Son, a God who is Holy Spirit. But a God made One by love.

And a God whose love enables me to become one with Him: 'that all may be one/ as you, Father, are in me, and I in you;/I pray that they may be one in us / that the world may believe that you sent me' (John 17:21).

I believe that no moment exists for man which is more important, more beautiful, more dramatic, more decisive, more radical, than the moment when he becomes aware of—or rather, 'lives'—this reality.

When God reveals Himself in His nature as one and in His actions as three, Pentecost penetrates the depths of man's heart.

His soul is enflamed and He becomes inebriated with light and with life.

It is as though he were going beyond his own limits, leaving his old earthly city, to enter the new land of God.

For the first time he touches the frontier of Christianity, he is aware of the nature of the Kingdom.

The first thought that comes to his mind is the superior value of this new discovery; he really adopts the attitude of the man who decided to sell everything to buy 'that field' (cf. Matt. 13:44) or to acquire 'that one really valuable pearl' (cf. Matt. 13:46).

Then his way becomes full of a new security, a security he has never felt before, a security that is complete and joyful and dynamic, a security that destroys fear just as food destroys hunger. It gives meaning to the words of Jesus: 'Do not live in fear, little flock. It has pleased your Father to give you the Kingdom' (Luke 12: 32).

From The God Who Comes—Carlo Carretto



Please Keep  
in Prayer

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time  
All who have **died recently**  
especially Dulcie Morrison, Edward Czajko, and their families

*Also:* All those **sick** or **infirm**, especially:

Br Hilarion Durkin, Margaret Hinchliffe, Bridget Johnson, Isabelle Blake, Elizabeth Olbison, Catherine Brown  
Karen Dearing, George Potts, Sheila Jordan, Peggy Heneghan, Phyllis Brown, Mary Ogley, Kazia Andruszko  
David Olbison, Liz Allen, Hilda Bailey, John Evans  
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

The Word: Year B, Advent, Sunday 1

**Gospel: Mark 13:33-37**

This brief parable of the master returning unexpectedly is typical of Jesus' vivid way of speaking. The message is typical, too, because Jesus was constantly stressing that there is no time to lose. When he came in his earthly ministry he again and again challenged his hearers to make up their minds NOW, to change their ways NOW. He challenges us to do the same. We can hear the rattle of the returning Master's key in the lock. There is no time to hide the contraband, to pull our uniforms straight before greeting the Master at his entry. Even if we do not think that the world's end is imminent, even if death is not threatening, every moment counts, every decision is for or against Jesus. Saints are rumoured to have said that, if they receive the news that they were to die that night, they would carry on doing what they were doing anyway. Saints can do this, because they are ready for the coming of the Lord. But what about us? If we need to put things a bit more in order to prepare for the Lord's coming, is there any valid reason to delay? The four weeks of Advent are a good time to clean things up for the Lord's coming.

**First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8**

Each Advent Sunday begins with a reading from Isaiah, for Isaiah is the great prophet of the Messiah. This reading is taken from the latest part of the Book of Isaiah. After the return to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, the Jews were passionately awaiting the coming of the Messiah. They were conscious that they had sinned and deserved their punishment, but still longed for the liberation from foreign interference which the Messiah would bring. After the coming of Christ, we too are waiting—waiting for the fulfilment of the sovereignty or kingship of God. Jesus brought the pledge of this kingship by his miracles of healing, his welcome to sinners, his teaching about the Kingdom, and above all by his resurrection from the dead. We no longer have any reason to fear death, but we are conscious of our own failings, of our co-operation with evil and long for the strength and fidelity which wholehearted membership

of God's Kingdom would bring us.

**Second Reading: Corinthians 1:3-9**

This reading from the opening of Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians is full of the excitement of the Spirit. The young community of Christians at Corinth flourished in the activity of the Holy Spirit, not just by extraordinary things like speaking in tongues, but by healing and teaching and guidance. Even being a good member of a family (husband, wife, parent, child) is an activity guided by the Spirit. All this is preparing for the final coming of Christ, for all Christian activity, no matter how humdrum, is given life and vitality by the Spirit of Christ. In Paul's day there was a freshness and enthusiasm which is sometimes lacking in our Church today. Let us ask at Christmas for a new infusion of the spirit which will help us to burst the bonds which keep us back from full service to the Lord.



*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

The Word: Year B, Advent, Sunday 2  
1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11  
2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14  
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Prayer of the Church

**Psalter Week 1**

**Sun** + Proper of Seasons

**Mon** + Proper of Seasons (or + Proper of Saints)

**Tue** + Proper of Seasons

**Wed** + Proper of seasons (or + Proper of Saints)

**Thu** + Proper of Saints

**Fri** Proper of Saints

**Sat** (or + Common of Holy Men & Women)

**This Week's Feasts & Saints**

**Mon** St. John Damascene, Priest & Dctr of Church

**Tue**

**Wed** St. Nicholas, Bishop

**Thu** St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

**Fri** THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BVM

**Sat** St. John Diego Cuahtlatoatzin