



# Parish of The Sacred Heart and St Joseph

with the churches of  
The Sacred Heart, Hemsworth and Saint Joseph, Moorthorpe

Diocese of Leeds: Registered Charity No 249404



## Year B, Eastertide, Low Sunday, 7/8 April 2018

*Getting in touch*

Father Anthony G Fenton  
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<b>Saturday</b> 7 April	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	John Evans
<b>Low Sunday</b> 8 April	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass <i>3.15pm Mass in Polish</i>	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Fr J.P McGurke Joe Sankey
Monday 9 April	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Deceased Joyce & Palmer Families
Tuesday 10 April	7.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Vincent Wood
Wednesday 11 April	12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Patrick Cope
Thursday 12 April	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	John Murphy
Friday 13 April	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Patrick & Janet Byrne
<b>Saturday</b> 14 April	9.30-10.30am Exposition 6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Eileen Pickering
<b>Sunday</b> 15 April	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Phyllis Chadwick Parish Family

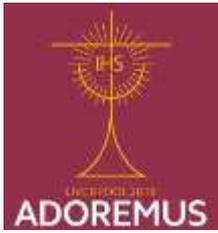
This Sunday, at our 10.45 Mass, prior to her baptism, we present and give welcome to  
**Charlotte Grace Crisp**, daughter of **Katie and Adam**

Next Sunday, 15 April, at our 10.45am Mass, we will celebrate the Baptisms of  
**Harry Alexander Kirwan**, son of **David and Karen**  
**Frederick Gabriel Richard Vickers**, son of **Sophie and Oliver**



**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



**Adoremus,**  
a National Catholic Pilgrimage  
and Congress, will take place in  
Liverpool, 7-9 September 2018.

To highlight the essential place  
of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in the  
Eucharist.

Evangelisation is not primarily finding out about doctrines and dogmas, but the invitation for an encounter with a person, Jesus Christ. One way for this encounter to happen is through faithful witnesses; those who have received and desire to pass this on. Whether the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on an altar, or in the Tabernacle, any adoration before the Sacrament is a time to get to know Christ better. This then returns us to the Mass, where Christ reveals himself most of all. And, at every Mass, we are sent out to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to all of creation.

*Pope Benedict XVI (in Sacramentum Caritatis)*

The more ardent the love for the Eucharist in the hearts of the Christian people, the more clearly will they recognize the goal of all mission: to bring Christ to others. Not just a theory or a way of life inspired by Christ, but the gift of his very person. Anyone who has not shared the truth of love with his brothers and sisters has not yet given enough. The Eucharist, as the sacrament of our salvation, inevitably reminds us of Christ and the salvation he won for us by his blood. The mystery of the Eucharist, believed in and celebrated, demands a constant catechesis on the need for all to engage in a missionary effort centred on the proclamation of Jesus Christ.

*Pope Francis (in Evangelii Gaudium)*

In their own way, all these instances of joy flow from the infinite love of God, who has revealed himself to us in Jesus Christ. I never tire of repeating those words of Benedict XVI which take us to the very heart of the Gospel: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction". Thanks solely to this encounter - or renewed encounter - with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being. Here we find the source and inspiration of all our efforts at evangelisation. For if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?



## Things happening in our Parish

**Gift Aid** Please remember that if you pay anything more than a minimum amount of income tax, we can reclaim the tax you have already paid on the money you give to our Parish. If you do not already Gift Aid, all you need do is sign a Gift Aid Form and allow us to record what you give (eg by numbered envelopes or a bank standing order): and it won't cost you a penny more than what you are already giving. For more information, please have a word with Jackie Ventom, Margaret Whitehouse or Fr Anthony.

Please note: one-off donations, favouring our Parish, can also be gift aided by income tax payers.

**Refurbished** Hall Kitchen - donations, small, big, in the middle - towards the cost, still welcome. Nor is it long, now, before the London Marathon: sponsors are invited by Caroline Copeland, who will run to add to the Hall Kitchen Fund (see our Church notice boards).



**Forewarning** Last summer brought so many remarks of appreciation, when we celebrated our first *International* Mass. Plans are now afoot to celebrate an **International Mass** on **Sat 30 Jun**, at **5.00pm**, in our Sacred Heart Church, with some music and prayers from different traditions, and a Shared (Faith) World Foods Feast after. Do book this as a date in your diary.

**Paulinus Lottery** Recent draws have returned one win of £525, for Alf Howcroft.

**Conscientious Objection** (Medical Activities) Bill, This Bill is proceeding through Parliament. It aims to protect medical staff from having to be involved in abortion related activities and activities involving the withdrawal of medication, nutrition, and fluids, from patients at the end of life. It is an important Bill and further information about it, including how to contact your MP, can be found at the website [www.freeconscience.org.uk](http://www.freeconscience.org.uk). Please lobby your MP asking him/her to sign the Early Day Motion in support of the Bill. Help protect your doctors, nurses, midwives and other medical workers.

Very many thanks

to all who in any way helped our Holy Week Services to be so prayerful and meaningful: to all who helped organise them, to those who cleaned and decorated our Churches, to all who undertook the liturgical and social ministries, and to all who came along to contribute in prayer.

We had good attendances all round, but Good Friday and Holy Saturday especially, as well as Easter Sunday.

Also, Fr Anthony much thanks all of our Parish Family for their kind and generous offerings, gifts, and greetings, given during the Easter Festival.

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

## Sacraments

**Baptism** A Preparation Programme, for Parents of Children to be baptised, will run in our Sacred Heart Hall **Weds 13 & 27 Jun**. To join a Programme Parents should talk with Fr Anthony, at a weekend Mass, to arrange an initial meeting with him.

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

**Confirmation** Our *Candidates* are to next meet in our Sacred Heart Hall:

**Sat 21 Apr**, 9.30-11.30am

**First Sacraments** Our *Children*, who have this year already celebrated First Reconciliation, will meet in our Sacred Heart Parish Hall:

**Sat 23 Jun**, 10.00am-1.00pm

Details of the next Programme of Preparation for First Reconciliation will be given in the Autumn.

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

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

The Apostles and early Church commonly spoke of sharing in 'The Breaking of Bread' (*as when Jesus took the bread, he broke it and gave it to them saying, 'This is my Body'*). They also often referred to 'The Eucharist', from the Greek word meaning 'Thanksgiving' (note how words such as *praise, glory and thanks, to God*, are often used through the Mass.)

*Who spent quite a while walking with the Risen Lord, without recognising him, but then realised it was him 'in the Breaking of Bread', as they later told the apostles?*

### OR MAYBE NOT SO!

A small boy returned from Sunday School in tears.



When his mother asked him what was wrong he replied. "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, but I want to be a Fireman".

## Parish Monies

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

Loose	£
Envelopes	£
St Joseph's Raffle	£110.00

## Collections, etc

**Next Weekend** Retiring Collection after each Mass, for our Diocese of Leeds Catholic Care.

## THE GOD WHO COMES

I tell God about myself, and He tells me about Himself. And the Eucharist, taken in faith, is the vehicle.

But it is not very important for me to tell Him about myself, for me to make myself known to Him, because He has always gone before me and does not need me to speak in order to know me. He already knows everything about me. (Ps. 139:1-10)

It is much more important for Him to tell me about Himself, for Him to speak to me of that kingdom from which He comes and to which I must go, following Him who is the Way. This is very important!



Coming to this earth, Christ brought us the knowledge of God. Becoming food for each one of us, Christ carries into us the revelation of the things of Heaven.

Feeding upon Christ, I enter the 'Invisible', I enter Heaven, I begin an immense process of development within myself, I receive the knowledge of God which must lead me to the maturity of 'sonship'.

The Eucharist brings me knowledge of God: feeding upon Christ as food of eternal life makes me become co-heir with Him, like Him, as intimate with the Father as He is.

Naturally for this to happen fully, we must reply to the Eucharist, This reply is prayer, which is the dynamics of living faith.

He comes to us but we must go to Him: He comes to us in food, but we must make a gift of ourselves.

The Eucharist is dead without prayer, just as faith is dead without works.

You cannot make love by yourself.

Love by yourself remains sterile and empty: it has no reply to welcome and to fertilise it.

We cannot listen to God's 'yes' without offering Him our 'yes'.

God's 'yes' is the sacrament of the Eucharist our 'yes' is prayer.

Here, I think, is the real reason for the frequent unfruitfulness and sterility of the sacraments; they are just performed as rites, to which one can no longer reply with living, personal prayer.

The Eucharist given to a person who does not pray is like food given to a corpse: it increases the smell.

Prayer, which is a reply to the 'yes' of God's love, fertilises the Eucharist in us and transforms it into life.

It is too easy to receive Communion; it is much more difficult to remain motionless for a quarter of an hour, thinking of what has been done, forcing ourselves in dark faith to bind our wills to the will of Him who came to find us with such gratuitous love.

It is a mistake to hide from this knowledge for too long or to make the excuse that the Eucharist will act on its own.

The Eucharist acts, gives life, fertilises, only if we are alive, and being alive means believing, loving, praying.

From: The God Who Comes—Carlo Carretto

Please Keep  
in Prayer

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time  
All who have **died recently**  
especially Pat Holmes, Mary Bell, and their families



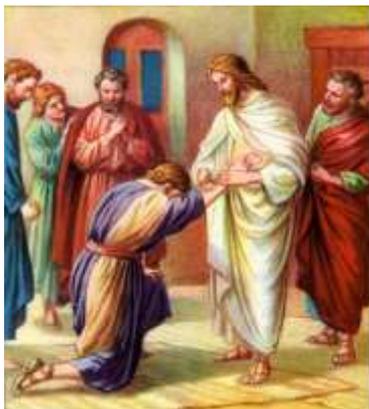
Also: All those **sick** or **infirm**, especially:

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,  
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

## The Word: Year B, Eastertide, Low Sunday

### Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Two aspects of this meeting of the disciples with Jesus are especially striking. This is the last scene of the gospel of John, for chapter 21 is an appendix added later. At the end of this gospel, before the concluding reflection, Thomas gives the only direct acclamation in the New Testament of Jesus as God. Nowhere else is Jesus directly hailed as 'God', though there are other ways in which readers come to recognise Jesus as God. So, in a way, this acclamation of the Risen Christ is the climax of the New Testament. Secondly, it is striking that Jesus' final blessing is of peace and forgiveness. The mission of all Christians is to bring peace and forgiveness to a troubled world. Throughout the Bible God is a God of forgiveness. The Old Testament consists of a series of covenants of forgiveness, each in turn broken by God's chosen people: the covenant with Noah after the Flood, the covenant with Abraham, the covenant with Moses after the worship of the Golden Calf, finally the new covenant promised by Jeremiah when Israel is exiled to Babylon. Christianity is not for the perfect but for sinners. Forgiven sinners must bring forgiveness to all those around them.



### First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

On the six Sundays of Eastertide we hear the story of the earliest Christian community. Each Eastertide the Church puts these readings forward as a model for us, emphasising important aspects of that early Christian life. This Sunday's first reading stresses the unity of the community and the mutual caring among members of the community to ensure that no one is in want. This care of those in need, and particularly in financial matters, remains a strong challenge to us today. Care for the needy received strong emphasis throughout the Bible, from the earliest part of the

Law Codes of Israel right up to the Letter of James and beyond. The Bible teaches us that, as man and woman are made in the image of God, so we are to care for one another and for those in need as God cares for us; this is part of the human obligation to foster life and to care for creation. The gospel of Luke especially stresses the dangers of wealth and the need to use wealth responsibly and generously. In the Acts of the Apostles (the continuation of Luke's gospel) this care for others is part of what it means to be 'united, heart and soul'. Another feature of this earliest description of Christian life together is the bold proclamation of the Resurrection of the Lord.

### Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

The second reading for the Sundays of Eastertide this year are all from the first letter of John. The main topic is Christian love. It is quite significant that this Sunday's passage occurs towards the end of the letter and so is read out of order to underline the importance of its message for the church. It centres on two overarching aspects of Christian love, which are vital for and genuine manifestation of that love. The first aspect is that this love, which conquers the world, is built on faith in Jesus as Son of God. 'The world' here stands for all the evil and godless attitudes standing in opposition to Christian values. By raising Jesus from the dead God has shown the vanity of these attitudes, and has made the victory of Christian love over them sure. These are the true values which in the end will prevail. The second aspect is that by Christian love we are raised to be sons of God, co-heirs with Christ and able to cry 'Abba, Father' truly to God. To the Hebrew mind to be a 'son of' is wider than mere physical generation. It involves respect, devotion, obedience, keeping an eye fixed on the other, and careful conformity in desire, ability and behaviour. It is much like being 'in the image of', but closer, stronger, more heartfelt and more intimate.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

### The Word: Year B, Eastertide, Sunday3

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15. 17-19

2nd Reading : 1 John 2:1-5

Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48

## Prayer of the Church

### Psalter Week 2

**Sun** + Seasonal Proper

**Mon** Proper of Saints

**Tue** + Seasonal Proper

**Wed** + Seasonal Proper + Proper of Saints

**Thu** + Seasonal Proper

**Fri** + Seasonal Proper (or + Proper of Saints)

**Sat** + Seasonal Proper

## This Week's Feasts & Saints

**Mon** THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

**Tue**

**Wed** St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr

**Thu**

**Fri** St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr

**Sat**