



# 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, Ordinary Time, Sunday 31, 3/4 November 2018

**Getting in touch** Father Anthony G Fenton  
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<b>Saturday</b> 3 November	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Gilbert Walker
<b>Sunday</b> 4 November	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Czeslawa Staszczyk Sarah, Billy & Will Kelly
Monday 5 November	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Intentions Barbara & Michael O'Donnell
Tuesday 6 November	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
Wednesday 7 November	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
Thursday 8 November	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
Friday 9 November	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
<b>Saturday</b> 10 November	<i>No Exposition today</i> 6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Eileen Pickering
<b>Sunday</b> 11 November	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 3.15pm Mass in Polish	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Joe Sankey

The November Books of Remembrance  
will be by our Parish Prayer Trees throughout this month.

This week, Fr Anthony will also celebrate Masses for:  
Our Parish Family and Ronnie McCombe (2)

### November Faithful Departed

Envelopes, for Masses, are available in our Church Entrances, or you may use your own envelope (but please write on *November Faithful Departed*). These may be returned via the Offertory Basket.

Masses will be celebrated, through the year, for the various families/friends listed in/on each envelope and all listed will be included in a monthly Mass for the Faithful Departed.

It is usual for those who can afford it to include a donation.

**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

The more extreme Pharisees Jesus came across were destroying the real image of God as Father. They had put law at the centre, instead of love. They portrayed God as a stern judge, not as a loving Saviour. Jesus came to reveal the true God, the God who entered the life of his chosen people as Saviour first and lawgiver only later. Before there was mention of law, God, moved by compassion, delivered his chosen people from slavery in Egypt. Only after was there mention of law as the chosen people accepted the covenant with this saving God, and promised to keep his wise laws. This they did in a spirit of thanksgiving and joy. Later, love grew cold. People came to accept the law not out of joyful gratitude, but out of fear. It was a way to be on the safe side of God. They ceased to realise they were pleasing to God in themselves and thought they had to win his favour. Strict observance of the law was thought the way to do this, to be a condition to gain God's love. Many Pharisees encouraged this attitude, presenting God as the lawgiver who had to be pleased by observance of the law, an observance that depended on human effort. So also the way opened to interpret misfortunes and sicknesses as punishment for failure to keep the law. When Jesus' disciples one day saw a blind man, they instinctively said, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' (John 9:2).

This impoverished, narrow, fundamentalist notion of God leads to a rigid and impoverished idea of the salvation God offers. This salvation is seen as a state that can easily be defined, a state where a person can almost be, even now. The fundamentalist sets boundaries to this state. He

knows who belongs, who is outside. This breeds intolerance. Ones considered outside are judged as sinners, lost, even as enemies of God. They must be converted or punished. Between right and wrong the line is clear. There are no grey areas or surprises. Surprise is not welcomed by those who crave security. Yet, in his parable of the Last Judgment, Jesus suggests that his kingdom will be filled up with surprises. (Mtt 25:31-46)

*From 'Give God a Chance' (Ch.21) (abbreviated) -  
by Robert Kelly, SJ*



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

3 WEEKS ONLY

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**Our Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 24 November  
in our Sacred Heart Hall, starting 10.00am**

Boxes await quality gifts at  
both of our Churches.  
We much need helpers for the  
stalls - and/or help to set up -  
and/or to clear up after.  
Please see lists  
in our Church entrances.



**Also needed, goods for the M&S Hamper.**  
Festive and also general items (such as pkts/tins of  
tea, coffee, biscuits), but please check sell by dates.  
Also wanted - **a lotta bottles** - full, of course.

## Things happening in our Parish

**Open Heart Memory Cafe** Next gathering in our Sacred Heart Hall, this **Fri 9 Nov**, 10.00-12.00am.

**All Our Children** of Primary School age are invited to design a picture, for use on a Card we hope to give all our Parishioners for Christmas. A prize will be given for any picture *used on the card*. The pictures must have a religious/nativity theme (no Santas or reindeers), should be on A4 white paper, may be coloured or line drawings, and must be returned no later than **Sun 18 Nov** (and please do not fold). Also, write on the back your name, age, which of our Churches you mostly come to, and an email or telephone number. The pictures may be handed to Janet Ward, Stephanie Knowles, Hazel Duffield, or Elizabeth Smith. Parishioners will be invited to have their names added to this card: details soon.

**Send your Christmas Greeting** to all our Parish Family and also help raise funds towards the *Bradford Catholics 'Assisting the Homeless Project'*. Write on an envelope *Christmas Card* and add your Family name (Christian name/s, too, if you wish) - add at least £2 as a donation - put the envelope in the offertory basket at any of our Weekend Masses, by no later than **Sun 25 Nov**. Your name/s will then be listed on a Parish Card, that will be distributed to all of our Parish Families, at our Masses, on the last two weekends before Christmas.

**Please Note** If Fr Anthony is away, be it a day or several days, it is important that requests for funerals, at either of our Churches, go via our Sacred Heart Presbytery. Daily checks are made for messages and arrangements are in place to assist Funeral Directors and, importantly, to avoid a double booking of either priests or Churches.

## The Bench Kneeler Cushions

at our St Joseph's Church, as many are aware, have been in stages of disintegration. The benches have one or two kneelers, depending on length, and it has cost £20 per kneeler, to re-cushion. The work is now done and donations of £20 (or more/less, as individuals might afford) would be much welcome. Donations can be given in cash, in an envelope marked 'Kneeler' and returned in the offertory basket, or direct to Fr Anthony. Any cheques, please, are payable to 'Sacred Heart Parish, Hemsworth'.

## Sacraments

**Baptism** A Preparation Programme, for Parents of Children to be baptised, will be held in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Weds 5 & 12 Dec**, 7.30-9.00pm. 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** Meeting for *Applicants along with their Parents/Carers*, in our Sacred Heart Hall:

**Sat 10 Nov**, 9.30-11.30am

**First Sacraments** Our *Children*, who are now preparing for **First Eucharist**, will next meet in our Sacred Heart Parish Hall:

**Sat 17 Nov**, 10.00-12.00am

*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 2019, 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.

## Parish Monies

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

Loose £225.86  
Envelopes £438.50

## Collections, etc

**Many Thanks Also** for donations received, by last weekend, towards the cost of St Joseph's Kneelers - then amounting to - £350

## THE GOD WHO COMES

It is useless to want anything else from the Church except this mystery of infallibility and fallibility, sanctity and sin, courage and weakness, credibility and the lack of it.

People who are dreaming of something different from this reality are simply wasting time and keep going back to the beginning again. More-over, they show they have not understood man.

Because that is man, just as the Church shows him to be, in his wickedness and, at the same time, in his invincible courage, which faith in Christ has given him, and the love of Christ has him live.

When I was young I could not understand why Jesus, notwithstanding Peter's denial, wanted him as head, his successor, the first pope. Now I am no longer bewildered: I understand better and better how building the Church on the tomb of a traitor, a man who got frightened at the chattering of a servant-girl, was like a constant warning to keep every one of us humble and conscious of our own frailty.

No, I am not leaving the Church which was founded on such a weak rock, because I should found another on an even weaker rock.

And what do rocks matter anyway? What matters is the promise of Christ, the cement which holds the stones together, and that is the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit is capable of building the Church with such badly hewn stones as ourselves!

Only the Holy Spirit can hold us together, notwithstanding ourselves, notwithstanding the centrifugal force which is given us by our limitless pride.

When I hear the debate within the Church I am pleased. I take it as a serious, profound meditation, resulting from a thirst for good and a clear, free vision of things.

"We must be poor... evangelical... we must not believe in alliances with great powers...etc."

But in the end, I feel that this debate, concerning my parish priest, my bishop, my pope, as persons, concerns me too, as a person, and I feel I am in the same boat, the same family, the blood-brother of matriculated sinners and a sinner myself.

That is when I go in for debate myself, and I realise how difficult conversion is.

Because it could be—and it happens—that while I am in the drawing room after a sumptuous dinner discussing the burning problems of Portuguese colonialism, I forget my wife or my mother all alone in the kitchen, washing the dishes from that feast with my sophisticated friends. Is the spirit of colonialism not at the bottom of our hearts.?

Because maybe—and it happens—that at the same moment I am hurling myself furiously against the sins committed by the racist pride of whites against blacks, I find I am the kind of person who is always right, who tells his father he understands nothing because he is a poor peasant, who burns a little incense daily before the idol who has had the good fortune to be a 'manager', a 'boss', a 'clerk', a 'teacher', or if I am a woman, a 'beautiful body'....

From: The God Who Comes—Carlo Carretto

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

Jesus called *twelve* apostles. After his Ascension, the remaining apostles agreed that Judas Iscariot (now dead) should be replaced and so Matthias became an apostle. St Paul referred to himself as an Apostle, having been called directly by Christ, during his vision on the road to Damascus. The reference to Paul, as an apostle, then continued. Thus, it might sort of be said that there were fourteen apostles.

*St Paul wrote nine letters to various Churches or the Christians in particular towns. He also addressed four letters to individuals - what were their names?*

### OR MAYBE NOT SO!

One way for a husband to learn about 'do-it-yourself', is to criticise his wife's housekeeping.

Please Keep  
in Prayer

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time  
All who have **died recently**



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, Hilda Bailey, Kazia Andruszko, Ann Pearson  
David Olbison, Liz Allen, Malcolm Stuart, Peter Gee  
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

## The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 31

### Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

The basic command of Judaism, which should dominate all life, was love of God above all things. Jesus audaciously adds to this another commandment of the Old Testament, the love of neighbour. This is the only case in the gospels where a scribe positively approves Jesus. Why is this the case? The scribes were the experts in the Law and its interpretation. To stress the importance and the equality and the second commandment of love Jesus uses a technique of interpretation common and approved in Israel. If two passages of scripture have a parallel sentence structure and use similar words they may be closely associated. In these two commandments, and only here in the whole of the Bible, are the words used, 'And you shall love...' with a direct object. This enables Jesus to put the command to love neighbour on the same level as the command to love God—and the lawyer approves his interpretation. The first Letter of John puts it in this way: 'No one who fails to love the brother whom he can see can love God whom he has not seen.' This was, of course, not a new commandment; it was the equality of the two commandments of love which was new.



### First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

This reading is very special: it is the command which rules Israel's life, and the life of every true Christian too. The

faithful Jew recites this passage morning, noon and night, and in prayer carries the text literally before the eyes, on the hands and on the doorposts of the house, so that one is always aware of the most important loyalty in life. All this is a symbol that love of God must dominate our actions and thoughts; it must be always in our minds, and must be the guide for all our deeds and for our motivations. God is a God of love and tenderness of the heart, not a God of threats or compulsion. To serve God is a joy and happiness, bringing light and colour into our lives. If God is not in our lives and thoughts, we are the poorer for it, and lack not only truth but also the warmth of an unspeakable, personal friendship. The only difference which the New Testament brings, as St. Paul explains, is that for Christians there is not merely one Lord God. For us there is one God, the Father, from whom all things come, and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom all things come.

### Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

The pagan idea of sacrifice was to make reparation to a demanding and often angry god, to divert a capricious god from our own failings by flattery and gifts. The blood of the victim that was shed was a substitute for human blood, paying the price for a life which should have been forfeit. The Christian idea is entirely different. Christ is the perfect human being who is also divine, united to his Father in a perfect and permanent act of love. This reached its highest expression in the offering of his life in loving obedience, a loving obedience or loving embrace, accepted and vindicated by the Father in the Resurrection. It was not a barbaric act of paying a penalty which I should have paid, but a return in tender love to the Father, a return in which I may share. The Letter to the Hebrews, written for Hebrews of Jewish origin, makes clear that Christ's offering is the perfect fulfilment of all the objectives and devotion expressed in the rituals of the Temple.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

## The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 32

1st Reading Kings 17:10-16

2nd Reading Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

## Prayer of the Church

### Psalter Week 3

**Sun** + Seasonal Proper

**Mon** Week 3

**Tue** Week 3

**Wed** (or + Common of Pastors)

**Thu** Week 3

**Fri** Proper of Saints

**Sat** + Proper of Saints

## This Week's Feasts & Saints

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed** St. Willibrord, Bishop

**Thu**

**Fri** THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN

BASILICA

**Sat** St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church