



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 C, Advent, Sunday 1, 1/2 December 2018

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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Saturday 1 December	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Catherine Wilson
Sunday 2 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Decd King Family Maidie Donovan
Monday 3 December	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.00-10.30am Exposition 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Ronny McCombe <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation also</i>
Tuesday 4 December	7.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Kirton Family
Wednesday 5 December	12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass 7.30-8.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Parish Family <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation also</i>
Thursday 6 December	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Privat6e Intention (B.G)
Friday 7 December	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Eunice Toyne
Saturday 8 December	9.30-10.30am Exposition 6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Min Walker
Sunday 9 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Decd Hughes Family John Gallivan

Between both of our Masses this Sunday, we are celebrating
The First Communion of twenty four of our Children
Please keep them and their families in prayer.

Additional Advent opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Monday 3 Dec, 10.00am at St Joseph's -&- Wednesday 5 Dec, 7.30pm, at The Sacred Heart

At our Masses next weekend, we will celebrate with our Applicants
The Rite of Election for Confirmation

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

In Jesus' story of the Prodigal Son, the elder son sees his father more as a taskmaster than a loving parent. He has kept all the rules and he expects a reward. He has kept the rules by his own effort. He did not seem to feel he needed God's help and then, in some way, God is beholden to him. In our modern speech he is saying to God, 'You owe me.' He has destroyed the notion of God who gives his all as gift. In a sense he does not need God, except as the one who is to reward him. This false understanding of his Father is so sad because it robs the boy of all joy and love.

This false understanding of his father spoils not only his relationship with his father, but flows over into his relationship with his young brother. He judges his brother not as God does, but from his own distorted perspective. In his eyes, his brother had failed, had broken the laws, and therefore should be punished. He has no love, no

pity for the boy, only judgment. Notably as, in the story, the young son begins to apologise for his sins, the Father stops him mid sentence. But the older son is quick to list the sins. He is unmoved by the compassion that stirred the father. The elder boy cannot tolerate the idea that there should be a celebration for the other's return and refuses to have anything to do with it. Notice that this boy is really playing God. He is telling us what the father should have done, how God should treat human failure. He kills mercy, gift, love.

If you kill the genuine love of God, you also kill the true love of people. Love is indivisible. Our relationship with each other is intimately bound up with our relationship with God. The way we see and understand God colours the way we see and treat each other. If we expect love from God only as a reward for laws kept, then we will withhold love from each other till law is kept and our standards reached. If I expect reward for law kept, I will expect, even demand, punishment for law broken. The elder boy's attitude to his young brother is a direct consequence of his attitude to his father. If he had had a relationship of love with his father, he would have loved his brother, he would have been running down the road with the old man to welcome his brother, delighted that he had come back home. He would have shared his father's joy and would happily have entered the celebration.

*From 'Give God a Chance' (Ch.22)
(abbreviated) - by Robert Kelly, SJ*



Our Advent Appeal is to help *Inn Churches*, a charity involving Catholic and other churches, through Bradford. Their purpose is to provide some care for the homeless (rough sleepers), during the winter. Churches take a week each, to provide two meals and accommodation overnight (in such as Parish Halls). Hereabouts there are rough sleepers, but the cities and large towns are a much greater attraction, because of wider options.

See further details on our Church notice boards.

Things happening in our Parish

First Reconciliation If Parents of any Children who are eligible to prepare for their First Confession (Baptised Catholics now in school year 3 or above), have not yet applied, they need to return an application form within the next week or so. Application forms can be got from Fr Anthony after our Masses, this and next weekend, and should be returned direct to him.

Parish Council is to next meet **Thu 6 Dec**, 7.00pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall. Please give items for the Agenda to Janet Ward, Elizabeth Smith, or Fr Anthony by **Sun 2 Dec**, at the latest.

Paulinus Lottery Our latest winner is M Czajko, with a return of £675.

The Management regrets the recent limited editions of our Parish Bulletin - especially the absence of the jokes!! To cut a long story short: it's amazing how much now depends on the internet, to work correctly. A new service provider is about to be engaged.

Mass Times for Christmas

Mass of Christmas Eve, Monday 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, Tuesday 25 December
Sacred Heart, 10.00am only

Again, many thanks to all who helped with or contributed to our Christmas Fayre. We had many donations for the stalls, a goodly turn out of people to chat and spend, and a pleasing number of hard workers before, during and after the selling time. We made a **£1844 profit** (inc after sales of Draw tickets and donations). Last year's raised £1822.

Draw Prizes: **Blue** 126 M&S Hamper, 322 Trio Chocs, Puzzle Board - **Green** 490 Drinks Hamper, 855 Retro Sweets, 489 Electrics, 876 Ringtons Hamper, 614 Blanket, 569 Cake Board, 221 Planter - **Yellow** 652 Choc Bouquet, 725 Bear - **White** 263 Monopoly, 385 Cookie Jar, 162 Toiletries.

Unclaimed items: contact Fr Anthony with ticket.



*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 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 8 Dec, 9.30-11.30am

First Communion Thanksgiving Our Children, who have just received their First Eucharist, with their Families, will celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass, at our Sacred Heart Church:

Sat 19 Jan, 11.00am

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.

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Besides Paul, three Apostles wrote New Testament letters. James (first Bishop of Jerusalem) wrote one, Simon Peter wrote two, and three are ascribed to John the Evangelist. The Apocalypse or Book of Revelation has traditionally been ascribed to John.

This year, the very first Advent Mass First Reading is from the Prophet Jeremiah. But our Advent Masses most use, by far, first readings from which Old Testament Book?

OR MAYBE NOT SO!

A Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to—my Mum's a good cook."



Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose	£215.24
Envelopes	£459.00
Oct Bank Orders	£1216.00
SJ Kneelers	£145.00

Collections, etc

This Weekend and each weekend of Advent, Retiring Collection after each of our Masses, for our Advent Appeal.

THE GOD WHO COMES

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life"
(John 6:68)

No it is not rocks we must examine when we are thinking of the Church, whether it be the rock of Peter, the rock of James, the rock of Paul.

What we must examine is the promise of Jesus about her: "On this rock I will build my Church", and, even more, the person who, in the name of Jesus and the Father, can make separate things one—the Holy Spirit.

The mystery of the church is the same mystery as that of the Holy Spirit: the uncreated love which unites Father and Son, and which unites us to God in Christ, after being poured out upon us at Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit is God's smile on mankind washed in the blood of Jesus; it is like his confidence, His trust in our attention. God, in the Holy Spirit, looks at mankind with a gaze of love and gives mankind the possibility of union with Him and, in Him, of union with our brothers.

The Holy Spirit, which is the same Spirit of Jesus and of the Father, is God's feast, God's joy, God's bliss, God's creativity, God's finger on our wounds, God's light in our hearts, God's mercy on our sins. The Holy Spirit is what happened to Zacchaeus as Jesus went by: "I give half my belongings, Lord, to the poor. If I have defrauded anyone in the least, I pay him back four-fold" (Luke 19:8). He is what passed in the heart of the Magdalene touched by Jesus; what illumined the intelligence of Peter under the action of the Father and made him say: "You are the Messiah... the Son of the living God!" (Matt. 16:16)

What is the use of still looking at misdeeds of Zacchaeus, at sins of Magdalene, at the weaknesses of Peter?

They are all part of the Church, as I am part of the Church, as those as those to be converted are part of the Church, as potentially, the thief in a little Palestinian village, waiting for Jesus beside Him on Calvary is already part of the Church. Yes, the thieves, too, belong to the Church and the overbearing, the exploiters, the capitalists; in other words, they are like the sick to be healed, the possessed to be liberated, the blind to be saved, the dead to be raised.

And they belong to the Church, not because I like them or do not like them, because they think as I do or disagree with me. They belong to the church because of God's gaze of love, which is the Holy Spirit, trusts them and wants to save them.

From: The God Who Comes—Carlo Carretto



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 C, Advent, Sunday 1

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28. 34-36)

The first Sunday gospel of the year (and the liturgical year begins. It comes at the end of Jesus' ministry, when he is preparing his disciples for their own ministry—in succession to him. Jesus is speaking to them on the Mount of Olives, looking down on the white city of Jerusalem, glittering in the sunshine. The city is soon to be destroyed by the Romans, with dreadful horrors of famine, massacre, burnings and executions. This is seen as a foretaste of the end of the world when Jesus, the Son of Man, comes to save his people. We do not know when this will happen, and more importantly, when it will happen for us, when we will meet the Son of Man and be judged and saved by him. But our Christian faith is a guarantee that it will be a moment of God's mercy, whenever it occurs. We must look forward to it, and have it ever present before our mind. But we would be fooling ourselves if we think that there are no struggles and trials and hardships to be undergone on the way. Why is the passage appointed for the first Sunday of Advent, the turning-point between the years? Because the birth of Jesus at Christmas, for which we are beginning to prepare, is a significant move towards the fulfilment of the promises of salvation, the coming of Christ as a baby—with all the budding potential as a baby.

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

At the darkest moment of Israel's history, when the storm- clouds of invasion were gathering, and the threat of Babylonian conquest and subsequent exile seemed most inevitable, comes this prophecy from the mouth of Jeremiah that the promise made long ago to David will not fail. Jerusalem will be sacked, but the promise remains that the city will be named 'The Lord is our integrity' or, more accurately, he is our 'Saving Justice'. The justice of God is not like human justice which is conformity with the law. It is God's fulfilment of his promise made to Abraham, Moses and David. So at this dire moment, Jeremiah renews those promises that the stock of David will never fail, and gives

a corresponding symbolic name to the city of David. Today's gospel speaks of another destruction of Jerusalem, that wrought by the Romans in AD 70, and looks beyond it to the final coming of Christ. So several layers may be uncovered in this reading: God's promise, seemingly lost when the Babylonians sack Jerusalem, will be restored by the coming of Christ at the incarnation, and then by the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans, which is the prelude to and promise of the final coming of Christ. In all these events the Lord is our Saving Justice.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Paul gives instructions about living in holiness while waiting for the coming of our Lords Jesus Christ. Each year the Church reminds us of the final coming of the Lord, which is to be the end of the world as we know it. In the Old Testament the 'Day of the Lord' is the day when God will come to re-establish all things, to put wrongs right, to punish the wicked and reward the righteous. In the New Testament, from this earliest letter of Paul onwards, this Day of the Lord is the Day of the Lord Jesus. It is pictured as a day when the Lord Jesus will come in a triumphal procession 'with all his holy ones', to be joined first by those who have died in the Lord, and then by those who are still living. For Paul, the Day of the Lord is so dominated by his triumph that he does not even mention or envisage punishments for the wicked. The Lord will overcome all evil, sweeping all before him, and will carry all with him in his triumphal procession. Writing later to the Corinthians, Paul envisages that Christ will put all things under his feet, even the last enemy, death, and he will then hand over the Kingdom to his Father.



Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Advent, Sunday 2

1st Reading Deuteronomy 6:2-6

2nd Reading Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 1

Sun + Seasonal Proper

Mon Week 1

Tue Week 1

Wed Week 1

Thu Week 1

Fri Week 1

Sat Week 1

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Tue St. John Damascene, Priest

Wed

Thu St. Nicholas, Bishop

Fri St. Ambrose, Bishop

Sat Immaculate Conception of the BVM