



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



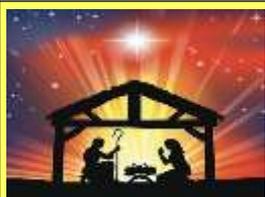
Year C, Advent, Sunday 4, 22/23 December 2018

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
The Sacred Heart Presbytery
Market Street, Hemsworth,
Pontefract, WF9 4LB

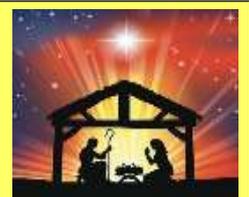
Email anthony.fenton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk
pp.sacredheartstjoseph@dioceseofleeds.org.uk
Tel 01977-610733
Parish Website www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

Saturday 22 December	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Terry O'Brien
Sunday 23 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Edward Czajko Peggy & Johnny Senior
Monday 24 December	9.15am <i>Funeral Service</i> 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Michael Patrick Swift
Christmas Eve	5.00pm Eve Mass 7.30pm Eve Mass	Sacred Heart St Joseph's	Donor's Intention (GF) Frank Cronin
Christmas Day 25 December	10.00am Day Mass	Sacred Heart	Parish Family
Wednesday 26 December	9.30am Mass <i>No Exposition today</i>	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Donor's Intention (GF)
Thursday 27 December	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Joan Ballinger
Friday 28 December	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Christopher, Mark & Derek Jones
Saturday 29 December	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Ivy Bell
Sunday 30 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Peter Gee Mrs E Wileman

*May each and everyone of our Parish Family and all who belong to them
enjoy a Christ-filled and happy Christmas - Fr Anthony*



Our Christmas Eve Masses, 24 December will include special thought for our Children attending
After the Eve Masses, do call into the Hall/Rooms to exchange Christmas greetings over a glass of sherry/juice and posh biscuits
Note: Mass of Day, 25 December, at Sacred Heart only



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

Advent might take us way beyond preparing for Christmas, as it has prepared us to be open to the gifts that come with the season. It has been filled with hope and expectation. Hopefully we have encountered what happens when we call and say, "Come, Lord, Jesus". However, Advent might also lead us into the mystery of being not only "preparing", but of being called to prepare the way for Jesus, in our world, for others.

Like John the Baptist, we are not meant to call attention to ourselves. We are asked to point the way to Jesus. We say, "There he is - Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!" When we point the way to Jesus, who is mercy, we become ambassadors of his mercy. One



of the most effective ways we can do this is to let ourselves not only be filled with the good news, personally, but to let ourselves fall in love with Jesus - to fall in love with his story, his example, his way of being, his trust in the Father, his parables, his healing presence. Everything about Jesus becomes more and more attractive.. We come to him, learn from him. Our very being "proclaims the greatness of our God."

As we live the life of Jesus in our world, we will experience how many opposites there are. It can be difficult to be compassionate in a harsh world. Living the life of Jesus, speaking truth to those who want none of it, will cost us. Sometimes, even being kind and compassionate will cost us. Speaking of mercy and acting with forgiveness, building bridges rather than walls, will often place us at odds with others. John the Baptist found himself in a Herod jail, for speaking out about Herod's life style. It must have shaken him, as he sent some of his followers to Jesus to ask if he had been mistaken: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus sent them back with this message: "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." (Lk 7)

John gave his life and become a martyr who inspires us today. He died with Jesus' assurance that he was blessed in his trust in Jesus and his way. John prepared the way and pointed others to Jesus, where they found healing and good news. Little wonder Jesus called him the greatest of the prophets.

Courtesy of Creighton University, Online Ministries, (abbreviated)



Baptism Thanksgiving
& Blessing of Children
9.00am and 10.45am Masses
Sunday 13 January
All with children, whether they
were baptised in our or another
parish, are invited
to share in this Blessing

Things happening in our Parish

Parish Christmas Cards Printed on *larger (A5) pink/yellow card*, are for all of our Parish Family to put one among their Christmas cards. Within, many are named as wishing to exchange Christmas greetings with all of our Parish Family. If you have not already got one at home, please take one today.

The Offerings at the Masses of Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day are traditionally your gift to your priest.

Please, please

remember to help tidy-up after Mass: take the Readings sheets home or neatly place them on a pile, in the Church Entrance Hall; also, ensure that

at our Sacred Heart Church, the Parish Pink Booklets are left neatly with, but not in, the Hymn Books, on the bench book shelves;

and at our St Joseph's Church, the Parish Pink Booklets and Hymn Books are returned to the Entrance Hall.

Any with Children, please encourage them to help tidy, too.

Ten seconds of your time saves
up to 30 minutes of another's.



& In Our Diocese

Diocesan Annual Review is now posted on the Diocese Website at <http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk>. Feedback appreciated at communications@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

Non Executive Directors are needed to help undertake the Governance of various charitable trusts and schools in our Diocese. Lay Catholics wishing to be considered as potential Trustees and School Governors please send CV and covering letter to: Mr Ian Burrell, Chief Operating Officer, Hinsley Hall, 62 Headingley Lane, Leeds LS6 2BX. Email volunteering@dioceseofleeds.org.uk to gain more details.

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

*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 13 & 27 Mar**, 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 12 Jan, 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 Meeting for the Parents who have applied for their child to prepare for First Reconciliation in the coming New Year, in our Sacred Heart Hall:

Thu 10 Jan, 7-15-8.45pm

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Jesus was born in Bethlehem as a result of an order given by the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus. He ordered a census of the people and that all should go to the city of their forefathers, to be counted. Joseph's family was from Bethlehem. While it was Augustus who gave the order, Jesus' birth in Bethlehem then fulfilled the ancient prophecy of where the Messiah would be born.

What was the name of the unkind innkeeper who would not allow the pregnant Mary to lodge in his inn?

OR MAYBE NOT SO!

Christmas is a:

time when the world breathes a great sigh of belief.

holiday when neither the past nor the future is of as much interest as the present.



Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose	£314.84
Envelopes	£390.80
SJ Kneelers	£20.00

Collections, etc

This Weekend last of our Retiring Collections, after our Masses, for our Advent Appeal.

Last week's collection	£224.17
Total to date	£793.62

THE GOD WHO COMES

The incarnation is the fruit of the Holy Spirit and mankind living in Mary.

He who was born of this union was called Jesus. Jesus is God living in the flesh of man.

That is why He is simultaneously son of man and Son of God. What he does as son of man, He does as Son of God.

The two natures belong to one person alone, that of Jesus.

Jesus is God made man.

Jesus is God near me.

Jesus is my master.

What Jesus does is the norm, the truth.

For each one of us, His gospel should be the constant search for a way to live on this earth.

It is the only book we need to know by heart.

And it is the gospel of love.



‘“Love one another as I have loved you” ‘ (John 15:12)

Here is the summary of everything.

I can no longer say I am incapable of loving, because He replies to me, “I gave you charity at Pentecost”.

I can no longer insist: What is charity for me, how can I get to know it, because He will tell me, “Do as I did. Love as I loved.”

And how did you love Jesus?

‘I loved by dying for you. You try, too, to die for your brother.’

What does it mean, Jesus to die for my brother? Must I, too, expect an end like yours?

‘No, I don't believe so and I hope not, because, although it is good to die crucified, it is not good that there should be crucifiers.

Now I shall explain what dying for your brother means. Listen! “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you;” (Luke 6:27)

“When someone slaps you on one cheek, turn and give him the other;” (Luke 6:36)

“Do not judge...Do not condemn...Pardon...” (Luke 6:37)

Why look at the speck in your brother's eye, when you miss the plank in your own?” (Luke 6:41).

“Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest” (Matt. 20-27).

From: The God Who Comes—Carlo Carretto

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently** especially
Michael Patrick Swift, Margaret Johnson, Tony Scott,
Joseph Gray, 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, Hilda Bailey, Kazia Andruszko, Ann Pearson
David Olbison, Liz Allen, Malcolm Stuart,
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

The Word: Year C, Advent, Sunday 4

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

Luke's account of the birth and infancy of Jesus is built on the comparison and contrast between the two stories of John the Baptist and Jesus: the annunciation to the parents, the birth of each child, the joy on earth and in heaven, the circumcision, the growth of the child. In each incident John is shown to be great, but Jesus greater still. Only in the incident narrated in today's gospel do the two families meet, the two stories cross. We see the two mothers together, marvelling at the destiny of their children. The journey from Nazareth to even the nearest of the towns in the hill country of Judah (traditionally Elizabeth's home is located at Ain Karim, now on the outskirts of Jerusalem) would have been arduous, a week's walk for a fit young woman. This special exertion and generosity shows Mary's love and care for her elderly relative, as well as the natural excitement of the two in sharing their motherhood. Luke has already told us that Mary was filled with the Holy Spirit. Now Elizabeth too is filled with the Holy Spirit as they participate in and exchange the praise of God for the gift of their children.



First Reading: Micah 5:1-4

On this first Sunday of Advent all the focus is on Mary as she prepares to give birth to her Son. The prophecy of Micah reminds us that God's standards are utterly different from human standards. Bethlehem was an insignificant little hilltop town, the home of the smallest clan of Judah, in an insignificant and oppressed country. Yet it had two moments of greatness, one when David was anointed king there, the other when Jesus was born. David was the youngest of his father's sons, left to look after the sheep when all he others were summoned to meet the great prophet Samuel. He stands in the long tradition in the Bible that God chooses the younger or lest distinguished: Abel instead of Cain, Jacob instead of Esau, Joseph from among Jacob's sons rather than his elder brothers; Mary had no roof over

her head for the birth of her child. We cannot dare to estimate any person's value in God's eyes, but amid all our striving, all the pushing and shoving for priority, we do have a lurking suspicion that those nearest to God, most marked by the image of God, are the humblest and least distinguished of people. Mary was among them,

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

As we prepare for Christmas we are reminded that Jesus came to trump the disobedience of Adam by his own perfect obedience. It was not someone suffering which is the key to the redemption of the world, as though suffering had some value in itself, or paid some penalty. The medieval theology which suggested this tied itself in knots about the recipient of this payment: God or the devil? Neither recipient works out! In Romans Paul is quite clear that the redemptive factor was Jesus' obedience even to the point of suffering on the Cross: 'Just as one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience are many to be made upright.' Adam is the image of human disobedience, the disobedience of us all. Today's reading from Hebrews tells us that Jesus was given a body to express his obedience. By his bodily obedience, the guarantee and expression of his full humanity, he brought all bodily men and women back to God. By our bodies we express our obedience, in sickness and in health. Jesus too, in his baby's body, his child's body, his youthful body, his fully mature body, expressed his obedience to his Father. In so doing he prepared for the ultimate expression of loving obedience on the Cross.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Feast of the Holy Family

1st Reading 1 Samuel 1:20-22.24-28
2nd Reading 1 John 3:1-2.21-24
Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 4

Sun + Seasonal Proper

Mon + Proper of Seasons

Tue Proper to the Mass

Wed Of the feast

Thu Of the feast

Fri Of the feast

Sat Of the feast + Former National Proper

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon

Tue THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Wed ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

Thu ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Fri THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

Sat ST. THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP & MARTYR