



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, Feast The Baptism of Our Lord, 12/13 January 2019

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 12 January	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Bill & Gladys Tyrell
Sunday 13 January	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 3.15pm Mass in Polish	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Stanislaus & Margaret Czajko Parish Family
Monday 14 January	<i>No Morning Prayer today</i> 9.30am Mass 11.15am Funeral Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	<i>With SJ School Children</i> : Peter Gee Joseph Gray
Tuesday 15 January	7.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Thanks Infant of Prague
Wednesday 16 January	9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	<i>With SH School Children</i> Decd Bailey, Roberts, Davis Families
Thursday 17 January	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Decd Spencer, Smith . . . McNally Families
Friday 18 January	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Debbie Lane
Saturday 19 January	9.30-10.30am Exposition 6.00pm Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Kathleen Walsh
Sunday 20 January	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Linda Scott & Family Parish Family

At this Saturday's Mass, prior to his up-coming Baptism, we present and pray for
Harvey Matthew Callam, son of Laura and Matthew

First Communion (2018) Family Thanksgiving Mass
Saturday 19 January, 11.00am, in our Sacred Heart Church: all are invited.
Our Children will receive their Certificates and Parish Gift at the end of Mass. Any staying for
Refreshments please bring something towards the Shared Meal. Soft drinks will be provided.

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 Gospel tells that the Lord went to the Jordan River to be baptized and wished to consecrate himself in the river by signs from heaven.

Reason says that this feast of the Lord's baptism should follow soon after the Lord's birthday, during the same season, even though many years intervened between the two events.

At Christmas he was born a man; today he is reborn sacramentally. Then he was born from the Virgin; today he is born in mystery. When he was born a man, his mother Mary held him close to her heart; when he is born in mystery, God the Father embraces him with his voice when he says: *This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased: listen to him.* The mother caresses the tender baby on her lap; the Father serves his Son by his loving testimony. The mother holds the child for the Magi to adore; the Father reveals that his Son is to be worshipped by all the nations. That is why the Lord Jesus went to the river for baptism, why he wanted his holy body to be washed with Jordan's water.

Someone might ask, "Why would a holy man desire baptism?" Christ is baptized not to be made holy by the water, but to make the water holy, and by his cleansing to purify the waters that he touched. The consecration of Christ involves a more significant consecration of the water. For when the Saviour is washed, all water for our baptism is made clean, purified at its source for the dispensing of baptismal grace to the people of future ages. Christ is the first to be baptized, then, so that Christians will follow after him with confidence.



I understand the mystery as this. The column of fire went before the sons of Israel through the Red Sea so they could follow on their brave journey; the column went first through the waters to prepare a path for those who followed. As the apostle Paul said, what was accomplished then was the mystery of baptism. Clearly it was baptism in a certain sense when the cloud was covering the people and bringing them through the water.

But Christ the Lord does all these things: in the column of fire he went through the sea before the sons of Israel; now, in the column of his body, he goes through baptism before the Christian people. At the time of the Exodus the column provided light for the people who followed; now he gives light to the hearts of believers. Then it made a firm pathway through the waters; now he strengthens the footsteps of faith in the bath of baptism.

From a Sermon of St Maximus of Turin



Bishop Marcus will be with us to celebrate The Rite of Confirmation for 25 of our Parish Family

Wednesday 30 January at 7.00pm Mass

All are invited

Things happening in our Parish

Prayer Group Meets weekly on **Mondays**, 7-8.00pm, at 40 Wood Street, South Hiendley. All very welcome.

Seniors Group Meets weekly on **Wednesdays**, in our Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 2-3.30pm. All aged 55+, both males and females, most welcome. Chat, refreshments, entertainments, all the order of the day.

Our Parish SVP is to meet **Wed 16 Jan**, 7.30pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall. To know more of their work or to join them, please have a word with any present Member.

Faithful Departed The list of Names, given during last November, for commemorative Masses is displayed by the Prayer Trees at both of our Churches. During coming months an individual Mass will be celebrated for each offering returned and all those listed will be remembered in a monthly Mass.

All Names listed were carefully checked against the information given, but if any errors are spotted, please inform Fr Anthony by 27 Jan. If you gave a donation but cannot find your intended names listed, again, please inform Fr Anthony.

Please note that our First Reconciliation Programme for 2019 has begun. It is a full and tightly timed Programme, so we are not able to take late starters. Details for the 2020 Programme should become available during next Autumn.

Settlement Scheme EU Citizens who wish to remain in the United Kingdom, after Brexit takes full effect, should be aware that they will need to apply to HM Home Office, if they wish to be sure they can remain. There is a letter on our Church notice boards, on behalf of the Bishops of England and Wales, regarding this. Details about how to apply, conditions, and costs can now be found online at: www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families.

& In our Diocese

Catechists' Meeting: Sat 9 Mar, Hinsley Hall, Leeds, 10.00am-1.00pm. All catechists and any involved in faith formation are invited. A chance to meet fellow catechists, share best practice, and to meet the new Co-ordinators for Catechesis (Gregory Stacey and Kieran Hughes). There will be a particular focus on the opportunities presented by "Family Catechesis" and the ways in which the Diocese is developing ways to support catechists in their work. Any interested in attending are encouraged to email gregory.stacey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

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 Our *Candidates* are due to be Confirmed during 7.00pm Mass, at our Sacred Heart Church:

Wed 30 Jan- all welcome

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 Our *Children* are to meet at our Sacred Heart Hall:

Sat 26 Jan, 10.00-12.00am

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Annas and Caiphas were high priests, at the Temple in Jerusalem, when Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan, and three years later the same two pleaded with Pontius Pilate to crucify Jesus.

Chrism is used during the Sacrament of Confirmation, but of what does it consist and what does it represent?

OR MAYBE NOT SO!

Which football team did the baby Jesus support?

Manger-ster United

How did Mary and Joseph know how much Jesus weighed when he was born?

There was a weigh in a manger

Every one a cracker!



Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose	£355.42
Envelopes	£472.48
Dec Bank Orders	£1086.00

Collections, etc

This Weekend After our Masses, Door Collection to assist the poorer (mostly rural) parishes within our Diocese.

THE GOD WHO COMES

My Father is extremely sensitive to the freedom of each man.

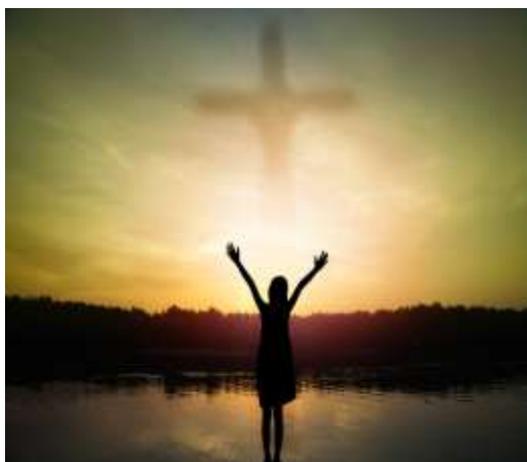
“And I too, was sensitive to the freedom of betraying Me, which my brother Judas had in his hands. And he betrayed Me.

“When he came to accompany the temple guards to my quarters, which he knew of, I still accepted his embrace, even though it was tied to the agony of being betrayed with a kiss.

“I should like My disciples to understand that the kingdom we are building together is different from all the other kingdoms, precisely because it is a kingdom of true love, not false love.

“And true love is rare, extremely difficult to live out.

“Look it is a question of dying ourselves, not of making others die. It is too easy to thrust the spear into the hearts of others; it is more difficult to thrust it into our own. Yet this is my revolution.



“And that is why I freely accepted the mounding of Calvary.

“Do you believe I could not have set myself free? It would have taken so little. No, I did not want to hold out hope to those who see the good news as the constitution of an ideal earthly kingdom, even if it were a kingdom of which I myself were king.

“It is always the same illusions that beguile the hearts of men: to reign, to dominate, to be strong, to be well, to have no need of anything or anybody, never to get ill, never to die, Always to win.

“And at the end they are always surprised by reality, which is something different. The reality is that “My Kingdom does not belong to this world” (John 18:36)

“The reality is that there is a passage, to which death is the door.

“The reality is that the resurrection cannot come about without death preceding it.

“My friends forget this too easily, but that is how it is!

“And it is not just a question of that death which is the final act of human life, but that death which I have shaped and which must be accepted every day in order to rise every day.

After My death on Calvary, the sons of the kingdom were dead with Me, buried in My death; after My resurrection they arose with Me. But since I have not separated the two times, the two realities, they cannot, must not, separate the two mysteries.

“It is too easy to exalt ones self in My resurrection; it is too cheap not to want to pass through my death even if it is costly.

“That is why it is difficult to love: man wants to rise without dying first.

From The God Who Comes—Carlo Carretto

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently** especially
Joseph Gray, Geraldine Michelle Palmer, and their families



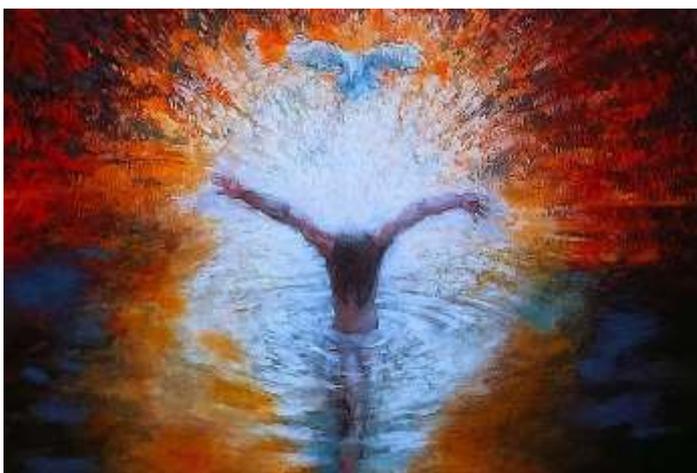
Also: All those **sick** or **infirm**, especially:

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, Feast of The Baptism of Our Lord, Jesus Christ

Gospel: Luke 3: 15-16.21-22

Luke does not tell us who baptised Jesus. In Luke the story of John the Baptist ends with his promise of one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit—then John is arrested. At the baptism itself all Luke's concentration is on the coming of the Spirit. Indeed it is hardly an account of the baptism at all, for the baptism is only a time marker for the coming of the Spirit when "Jesus, after his own baptism, was at prayer". Jesus' mission begins with the coming of the Spirit. In the same way, Luke's second volume (the Acts of the Apostles) begins with the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. It is as though Luke wants to show the importance of the Spirit from beginning to end of the Christian life. And this is the case: in both books the part played by the Spirit directs all the action. The same is still true in the Christian community today, though sometimes human stubbornness and blindness does its best to impede the leadership and guidance of the spirit. Most of us are artists at blocking the Spirit when the Spirit's promptings are inconvenient!



First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11

The reading from Isaiah for today is the joyful song which opens the second part of Isaiah. After the 70 years of the Exile the people of Israel are looking forward to the return to Jerusalem, aware that they are soon to be released

from their captivity. They have 'served their sentence' in Babylon and their sin has been forgiven. The Lord will lead them in joy across the great desert as he led them across the desert at Exodus, and will manifest his glory again. For Christians the excitement is that John the Baptist picks up this message as he prepares for the coming of Christ. We can see the fulfilment of this passage from Isaiah in the coming of Christ in history and in his future return in glory. Christ brings about his Kingship of God but it is for us Christians, as we await his coming again, to show by our lives the glory and the love and the generosity of God to a world which refuses to see the splendour of his coming. This is the daunting responsibility of those who bear the name of 'Christian', who see in Jesus the manifestation of God's reign.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

The phrase in this reading which seizes the attention is "he saved us by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit. Is this referring to Jesus' baptism or to yours and mine? My guess is that in the original letter it referred to our baptism, but that, by putting it forward on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the church is referring it to Jesus' baptism as the model of your and my baptism. We received in our baptism the same rebirth as children of God and the same renewal in the Holy Spirit as Jesus did in the Jordan. The image of birth from the waters is a fascinating one, and can be taken on many levels: the ocean as the great, turbulent place from which all life derives, the source of life and fertility for plants, animals and humans, the 'waters' of each mammal's birth. By the waters of baptism we are given a wholly new life as adopted sons of God. We have seen how, in Luke's account of the Baptism of Jesus, the coming of the Spirit is the main focus. On us too the Spirit comes at baptism and empowers us to do all kinds of good works beyond any human ability.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 2

1st Reading Isaiah 62:1-5

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2: 1-11

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 1

Sun Of the Feast

Mon Week 1

Tue Week 1

Wed Week 1

Thu + Proper of Saints

Fri Week 1

Sat (or + Common of Pastors)

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu St. Anthony, Abbot

Fri

Sat St. Wulstan, Bishop

