



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, Lent, Sunday 2, 16/17 March 2019

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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Saturday 16 March	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Stephen Tighe & Jasper Cotterill
Sunday 17 March	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	James G.E Johnson Jim Taylor
Monday 18 March	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.00-10.30am Exposition 11.30am Funeral Mass	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	George Quinn <i>Individual Reconciliation also</i> Sylvia Oldroyd
Tuesday 19 March	9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	<i>With SJ School Foundation Mass</i>
Wednesday 20 March	12.00nn Stations of Cross 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass 7.30-8.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Decd Family of E & K Dixon <i>Individual Reconciliation also</i>
Thursday 21 March	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.45am Funeral Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00-8.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart St Joseph's	Michael & Bridget Maguire Antony Sweeney <i>With guided reflections & Benediction</i>
Friday 22 March	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 6.30pm Stations of Cross	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart St Helen's CofE	Parish Family
Saturday 23 March	9.30-10.30am Exposition 6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Michael Liffey
Sunday 24 March	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Pat Holmes Decd Mair Family

This Tuesday, 19 March, is the Feast of St Joseph, Husband of Mary
All are invited to join with our St Joseph's School, in the Church, for Mass at 9.30am



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

Lent is a season of being invited by God in a deeply personal way. "Come back to me, with all of your heart," our Lord beckons. "We will," we respond, but we aren't quite ready yet, our hearts are not prepared. We want to think it over, how to behave. Our spirit is not yet perfect. We are not ready for God to love us as we are.

Of course we want to have a deeper relationship with God, we tell ourselves earnestly. And we will , , , soon. God calls to us again: *Come back to me, with all of your heart.*

Ok, I really will. Just a few more things to do at work. Let me spend a little more time in prayer first. Let me get to Reconciliation. Let me clean my oven, tidy my draws - sell my yoke of oxen. check a field I have bought - get myself sorted. *Come back to me, with all of your heart.*

It is an extraordinary invitation to each one of us. To *me* in a personal, individual way. God invites *me* to drop the defences that I hold up between myself and him. All God wants is for *me* to realize that *my* standards, *my* way of judging and loving are different from his way, and so much smaller. God offers an entire Lent season, a whole life time, of loving *me* unconditionally, no matter what I have done or how much I have tried to hide.



Our God is insistent, loving, gently prodding. God, as parent of the Prodigal Child, is waiting loyally on the road for our return, day after day. There are no folded arms and stern judging stares, only the straining eyes of a parent eager for our return, longing to embrace us. But, wait: what stops us from this great reunion? What keeps us from accepting

this invitation to a deeper relationship with God in our lives? We feel in our hearts that there are things we should say first: "wait - but - if only - *and finally* - can I really be like Christ Jesus?"

It doesn't matter. None of it matters. Only the joy that we have turned to God and that like a loving father or mother, God is smothering us with hugs and joyful cries. We have returned! *Come back to me, with all of your heart.*

We spend so much time trying to think of *how* to return and what to say. It's only when we finally appear, embarrassed, confused, that we begin to understand we don't have to say anything. We only have to show up. See, our loving God is jumping up and down for joy. The invitation to us has been heard. We have returned to him!

Courtesy of Creighton University Online Ministries: adapted.

Things happening in our Parish

Sponsors sought Some of our recently Confirmed are looking for Sponsors, at our Masses this weekend, for two+1 undertaking to walk 8 miles and another to run 25kms, to be completed by Palm Sunday (14 Mar). If you have not yet signed up, they would be pleased for your encouragement, with a financial offer. All monies so raised will go to our Lent Project, for Mary's Meals.



Offertory Envelopes for the coming Financial Year are now available, at our Churches.

All who **now use envelopes**, please ensure that you have your new box. If you are unable to find your box, or you find an error, please inform Jackie Ventom, Margaret Whitehouse or Fr Anthony - or have a word with the same if you -

wish to **transfer to Banker's Order** giving, or to **start using envelopes**.

Our Parish SVP is to meet **Wed 20 Mar**, 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.

Leading our singing From time to time, both our Parish Organists mention their wish that some other/s would assist, by sometimes playing the organ, at Mass. Most church organists really play piano, but get a way of using the organ sufficiently well to lead singing. Do we have any organ or piano players who are willing to have a go? We could certainly seek some basic training for any who are willing. Also, of course, at St Joseph's we have a piano. Or, do any play other instruments with which they could help lead our singing (violin, flute, sackbut . . .). If you can help, please do speak with Fr Anthony.

Extras especially for Lent

Stations of the Cross **St Joseph's, 12.00nn**
Wednesdays: 20 Mar to 10 Apr
(except 27 Mar)
Soup & Roll available after

& alternating **St Helen's CofE: 6.30pm**
Fridays: 22 Mar, 5 Apr
& Sacred Heart Sacred Heart: 6.30pm
Fridays: 29 Mar, 12 Apr

Adoration of the Blessed **St Joseph's, 7-8.00pm**
Thursday 21 March
Sacrament Sacred Heart, 7-8.00pm
& Reflections Thursday 4 April

*See pg 1 for extra times for Reconciliation
this coming Monday and Thursday*

**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 continue in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Wed 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 will next be celebrated, with our Deanery Parishes, January/February 2020 - for Baptised Catholics now in *school year 5 or older*. Details will be given, about Easter time, of an information meeting and applications, for those eligible and parents/carers.

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

Sat 30 Mar, 10.00am-1.00pm;
their *Parents* should return on the same day, to meet at 11.30am;
and they should please bring some food to share, 12.30-1.00pm.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Pancakes are closely associated with Shrove Tuesday because they are a good way of using up flour, eggs and fat, in the making. They may be covered with honey or various other things nice. Such would be the things that medieval Christians would fast from, or even completely abstain from eating, during Lent.

What was most commonly the actual cause of death for someone crucified by the Romans?

OR MAYBE NOT SO!

A little boy was kneeling beside his bed with his mother and grandmother and softly saying his prayers:

'Dear God, please bless Mummy and Daddy and all the family and please give me a good night's sleep.'

Suddenly he looked up and shouted:

'And don't forget to give me a transformer for my birthday!!'

There's no need to shout like that,' said his mother, 'God isn't deaf.'
'No,' said the boy, 'but Grandma is.'



Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose	£285.90
Envelopes	£446.05
Feb Bank Orders	£1323.00

Collections, etc

This Weekend Collection after our Masses towards our Lent Project - *Mary's Meals* - to provide school meals in developing nations.

Last week's collections £176.01

THE GOD WHO COMES



....My mother (Our Lady) was a woman of faith, and it is on this road that she can be your mother and your teacher.

"Try to put yourself in her place, if you want to understand at what point she succeeded in supporting the encounter between faith and reason, between the visible and the invisible, between what can be understood and what must be believed. Try to think what happened to her.

"Hearing from the angel that she was to become mother of the Son of God might have been something intriguing; but not be able to explain

her condition to Joseph, who was her fiancé and who absolutely could not grasp the significance of the mystery which was being fulfilled within her, was not so intriguing!

"Seeing some flash of light over the cave of Bethlehem may have given her a certain comfort, but realising that Herod's soldiers were about to slay all the Messiah's little companions of misfortune was not something very acceptable to reason.

"Feeling my intimacy, sharing My vocation to its depths, bearing the cry of the crowd that wanted Me dead were not easy for her.

"Having a dead body between her hands on Calvary, on that tragic Friday, and believing in My Resurrection was not the reasoning of this world.

"And so on right up to the end, My mother lived on pure faith, and God's love for her did not spare her sufferings so atrocious that it is difficult to imagine their extent.

"If she gave birth to Me without sorrow in Bethlehem, the Church was not born in the same way. The cost of Calvary and the lack of understanding on the part of men—all men, including our most intimate friends—made her truly deserve the title of Mother of the Church.

"And she always walked in faith, dark as the night, until the end of her bitter road, until My embrace after her passage.

"Only then could she breathe, since her struggle in the spirit was so harsh as to have no equal in any other creature on earth.

"But there is another thing my mother can teach you: *to live*.



From *The God Who Comes*—Carlo Carretto

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**
especially Brian Nolan, Antony Sweeney, Sylvia Oldroyd,
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
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

The Word: Year C, Lent, Sunday 2

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

The gospel reading for the Second Sunday of Lent is always the account of the Transfiguration, preparing the chosen three disciples and ourselves for the coming Passion of Christ. It is a scene of Christ's heavenly glory, his clothes bright as lightning, his glory extending even to the appearance of Moses and Elijah: these two Old Testament personalities are here privileged to speak to Jesus because they each had a vision of God on the holy mountain, called both Sinai and Horeb (in the Old Testament these are two names for the same mountain). The Voice from heaven at the baptism had been addressed to Jesus himself (in Mark and Luke); this time the Voice is a public declaration of Jesus' Sonship, and presents him now as the Chosen Teacher for all people. Luke foreshadows the Passion when he mentions Jerusalem—the place where Jesus is to suffer and die on the cross. The fact that the disciples are praying, and are the same three disciples as are present at the Agony in the Garden, makes strong link with the Passion of Jesus. This gospel also highlights the importance of prayer in Luke's gospel, for Luke mentions Jesus' prayer and the significance of prayer on several occasions and in several parables (e.g. in the Unjust Judge, the Friend at Midnight, and the Pharisee & the Tax-collector).



First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

There are different stories of exactly how God's pact with Abraham (or Abram) was made. There is no doubt that it was a promise of lasting perfection for Abraham and his descendants. This version takes the form of an ancient sacral covenant, of a kind known from other ancient New Eastern sources. The offerings are cut in half, and the parties making the pact pass between the halves, as a symbol that they will observe the pact faithfully until the two halves come together again. Such covenants were frequent between equals, or between overlord and vassal, but no such covenant is known between a deity and a human being. It perhaps marks the inequality between God

and Abraham that only the wondrous symbols of God (the furnace and firebrand) here pass between the halves of the offering: Abraham cannot impose conditions on God! Nor can Abraham do anything to earn of justify the promise God makes: he can only trust in God, for he himself remains a nomad without a settled territory to call his own. Only his descendants will inherit the land and become as the stars of heaven. The awesome mystery of the scene is increased by the deep sleep (the same sleep as fell on Adam for the creation of Eve) and by Abram's terror.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1

Last Sunday's second reading (from Paul's letter to the Romans) built on the first reading (from Deuteronomy); The Israelite profession of faith in God becomes the Christian's profession of faith in Christ as Risen Lord. So this Sunday, Abram's promised ownership of the land is transfigured into the promise of citizenship in heaven to the followers of Christ. In this world we are aliens rather than citizens: neither our fundamental values nor our final aim are those of this world. We cannot rest in contentment except in the expectation of the Risen Lord coming in triumph to assume lordship of all things. This, rather than food or any material goods, must be the basis of our whole system of values. To modern conventions Paul's repeated encouragement to follow his rule of life or to imitate him may seem boastful and complacent. But Paul asks us to imitate him not for his own glory, but because he sees himself as the servant of Christ, suffering for Christ, as Jesus suffered as the Servant Lord. Paul's sufferings are the badge of apostleship. In other passages, Paul shows that he is as aware as any of us of his own failings and of his inability to live up to his ideals.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Lent, Sunday 3

1st Reading Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15
2nd Reading Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12
Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 2

Sun + Seasonal Proper
Mon + Seasonal Proper
Tue Proper of Saints
Wed + Seasonal Proper
Thu + Seasonal Proper
Fri + Seasonal Proper
Sat + Seasonal Proper

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doc of Church
Tue ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BVM
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat St. Turibius of Mongrovejo, Bishop