



# 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, Eastertide, Low Sunday (2), 27/28 April 2019

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<b>Saturday</b> 27 April	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Brian Nolan
<b>Low Sunday</b> 28 April	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	James McNally Mary McDonough
Monday 29 April	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Special Intention (NG)
Tuesday 30 April	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
Wednesday 1 May	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
Thursday 2 May	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
Friday 3 May	12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart	
<b>Saturday</b> 4 May	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	<i>No Exposition/Reconciliation today</i> Eileen Pickering
<b>Sunday</b> 5 May	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Peter Gee



On the event of their Baptisms, this Sunday, we congratulate and pray for  
Parker Andrew Clarkson, with parents Mark and Lisa  
Harvey Matthew Callam, with parents Matthew & Laura

This week, Fr Anthony will also celebrate Masses for  
Thomas Senior (3), Brian Nolan, and our Parish Family

**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

Easter is not just a day. Our Church gives us a seven week Easter season to celebrate. Yet sometimes our everyday lives feel so heavy that celebration is not a part of them. Critical illness in the family, loss of a job, disappointment in a relationship, or the stresses of everyday life can make it a challenge to feel joyful.

But the joy we are being invited into during this season is beyond what we see in our everyday lives. Jesus says, "Come to me all you who are burdened and I will give you rest." But do we always appreciate his meaning - or even want to? If we really allow Jesus to come into our hearts the way he wants to, will he ask us to change our life in ways that are too hard? Maybe we prefer to stay with the familiar, even if it hurts. What would it cost to let go and change our life? Or how do we share the chaos of life with Jesus? How convinced are we that he can bring calm into the storms of life?

Further, how can Jesus love us and accept us the way we are right now? Maybe when we fix a few things about our lives - stop being so critical of family, friends, others - be more kind - love a little more - pray with more attention or more frequently ... when we are perfect, then Jesus will love us! But if we pray to overcome our fears and reservations, the real power of letting Jesus into our hearts will make us free; the fears will lessen, our confidence to both trust and follow Jesus will increase.



Jesus loves us, right now. At this moment, Jesus holds each of us in his warm and loving gaze, and loves us at a depth that our human minds cannot altogether take in. Whether we fully sense this or not, Jesus loves us endlessly and waits for us with open arms, ready to hold and support us. Wherever we are coming from, whatever our starting point, trying to feel the peace and joy of Easter encourages us to look to Jesus and see him as active in our lives. Then, we can realize that the real joy in our lives is that with him within us - we can put aside worrying about our faults, fears and reservations - we can cease to be afraid of the cost of changing our lives - we can know that Jesus is raising us up to be as we are meant to be and be the best that any can be.

It's a self generating spiral. The more we desire the Easter peace and joy of Christ, the more we come to appreciate it, then the more we desire it ... and, too, the more we find joy in following him.

Very many thanks

to all who in any way helped our Holy Week Services to be so prayerful and meaningful: to all who helped organise them, to those who cleaned and decorated our Churches, to all who undertook the liturgical and social ministries, and to all who came along to contribute in prayer.

Also, Fr Anthony much thanks all of our Parish Family for their kind and generous offerings, gifts, and greetings, given during the Easter Festival.

## Things happening in our Parish

**Gift Aid** Please remember that if you pay anything more than a minimum amount of income tax, we can reclaim the tax you have already paid on the money you give to our Parish. If you do not already Gift Aid, all you need do is sign a Gift Aid Form and allow us to record what you give (eg by numbered envelopes or a bank standing order): and it won't cost you a penny more than what you are already giving. For more information, please consult Jackie Ventom, Margaret Whitehouse or Fr Anthony.

Please note: one off donations, favouring our Parish, can also be gift aided by income tax payers.

**Car Parking** Any parking their cars in our Sacred Heart Grounds, daytime on weekdays, please ensure that your car is at least a few inches away from any grassed area, and not overhanging it, to allow for grass cutting.

**Forewarning** Our *International* Mass was again much appreciated, last year, so plans are afoot to celebrate an **International Mass** on **Sat 22 Jun**, at **5.00pm**, in our Sacred Heart Church, with some music and prayers from different traditions, and a Shared (Faith) World Foods Feast after. Do book this as a date in your diary.

**Paulinus Lottery** Recent draws have now returned two winners, with £260 each: J Ventom & J Needham.

**An SVP Van** is to come to Hemsworth, this Thu 2 May. If any have small items of furniture they wish to donate to SVP shops in our area, please let Paul Stuart know asap, regarding pick-up details (tel 07519-120741).

## & In our Diocese

**Lourdes 2019** The Hospitality Team desperately need volunteers (Doctors, Nurses, Helpers) for the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, 5-11 July 2019. If you are able to help please call Kim O'Connor (Medical) 07947-534989 or Angela Harvey (Helpers) 07939-262748.

**Lent Project** Monies additional to the £1083.23 raised in our Lent weekly Retiring Collections, from the sponsored events especially, should be announced in next weekend's bulletin. Any further monies not given to Fr Anthony, by this Sunday, can still be sent to Mary's Meals, in due course.



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 12 & 26 Jun**, 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, within our Deanery, January/February 2020 - for Baptised Catholics now in *school year 5 or older*. An information meeting will occur, for Parents/Carers and Applicants, in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Sat 15 June**, 9.30-10.30am.

**First Eucharist** Our Children who this year celebrated a First Reconciliation and their Parents/Carers are due to next meet, in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Sat 22 June**, 10.00am-12.00nn.

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

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

*Low Sunday*, the second Sunday of Easter, is the last day of the Easter Octave. As such, it is still, therefore, a day of festival. Why it is called *Low* is uncertain, but a common explanation is that this is because it is celebrated to a lower degree than Easter Day.

*Next Sunday, we will hear the words of the Gospel as told by St John the Apostle, or will we? What is peculiar about chapter 21 of John's Gospel?*

### OR MAYBE NOT SO!

As a middle aged couple were going to sleep, they smelled smoke. The husband jumped out of bed, went into the hall and rushed back to the bedroom. 'The whole back of the house is on fire' he cried. They scurried frantically into the hall filled with thick smoke. After what seemed an eternity, they reached the front



door. As the husband opened it, he glanced at his wife and saw a smile on her face. 'Good Lord!' he cried, 'What have you to smile about?' 'I can't help it,' she replied. 'this is the first night we've been out together in five years.'

## Parish Monies

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

*The Brown Envelopes given in on Easter weekend will be counted this weekend.*

## Collections, etc

**Door Collection** after each Mass, next weekend: 50% towards Holy Land Shrines and 50% towards the needs of the Vatican.

## THE GOD WHO COMES

"Without poverty man would become Satan,"

"That is exactly how it is!

"So as not to let you become Satan, God has made poverty the inheritance of the earth, the ground of your growth, the environment of your sanctification, the stimulus to your march forwards.

"You will repair the house on one side and a crack will open on the other.

"Seven fat seasons will enrich your granaries, and seven lean seasons will deplete the stores. You will recover from one illness, and you will feel latent within you the signs of another.

"You will run to the right to give a hand to your brother, and close behind you three more will fall down, preys to the poverty that your own love has failed to satisfy.

"You will dedicate yourself to a thousand good works, and you will feel incapable of getting your son to obey you or making peace with your wife.

"You will feel generous enough to save all men, and you will not succeed in freeing your heart from a love which is poisoning and debasing you.

"You will be applauded as a man of worth and given the vote to govern, and when you have barely come into power you will feel incapable of solving daily problems and grieve at not being able to do anything for someone who is waiting.

"This is poverty. "Suffering is its price.

"But when the ability to suffer, to have patience, gushes from the vein of love like a fire, but forges in man, little by little, a soldering between the visible and the invisible, between his weakness and God's omnipotence, between non-being and Being, between earth and Heaven.

"This soldering made with the fire of sorrow on the cleft of man's poverty, becomes the meeting place, the bridge of passage, the terrain of the invisible kingdom of God.

"I would say more: it is the new heaven and the new earth promised in scripture and proclaimed by the hope of man.

"And it is beatitude, because it is affirmation of God's victory over the poverty and the weakness of His creature, and it is announcement of the resurrection over the tragedy of death.

"God meets man at the crossroads of his poverty, in the bowl of his hunger, in the thirst of his need, in the realisation of his limits as a creature, in the agony of his death.

"And He meets him to give him what he is searching for. And He gives it to him, but no longer in its created, but its uncreated form.

"No longer in images, but in reality.

"No longer in time, but in eternity.

"Thus the earthly home becomes the heavenly home.

"The bread of the earth becomes the bread of God.

"The health of the body, eternal salvation.

"The life of man, the eternal life of God."



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, John O'Brien, Joan Aston, Denis Fricker  
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

## The Word: Year C, Eastertide, Low Sunday (2)

### Gospel: John 20:19-31

Two aspects of this meeting with the risen Jesus are especially striking. This is the last scene of the Gospel of John, for chapter 21 is an appendix. At the end, before the concluding reflection, Thomas gives the only direct acclamation in the New Testament of Jesus as God: nowhere else is Jesus hailed as 'God', though there are other ways in which his divinity has been indicated. So in a way Thomas' greeting of the risen Christ is the climax of the New Testament. Secondly, it is striking that Jesus' final blessing is one of peace and forgiveness. The mission of all Christians is to bring these gifts to a troubled world. Throughout the Bible God is a God of forgiveness. The Old Testament consists of a series of covenants, each in turn broken by God's chosen people, but then re-created by a forgiving God. There was the covenant with Noah after the Flood, the covenant with Abraham, the covenant with Moses after the worship of the Golden Calf, and finally the new covenant is promised by Jeremiah after unfaithful Israel has been exiled to Babylon. Christianity is not for the perfect but for the sinner, who is surrounded by other sinners. As forgiven sinners we are exhorted to bring forgiveness to all those around us.



### First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

Before he tells us of the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth, St. Luke (author of 'Acts'), describes the ideal community in Jerusalem. He stresses the unity of this community, their prayer together, the common ownership of all their possessions, their generosity to those in need, and their steadfastness under persecution by the authorities who refuse to accept their message. It is the model for any Christian community, which all our Christian communities need to strive to imitate and become real centres of the love and confidence of Christ. In today's reading, Luke

tells how in the early community the same signs and wonders of healing which Jesus himself had worked are now worked by the apostles too, and especially by Peter. It is a theme throughout the Acts that the followers of Jesus, filled with his Spirit, continue his work and are alive with his life, expressing the power of the risen Christ, who remains with them always. St. Luke also wants to underline that Jerusalem is being given a second chance the people there had rejected Jesus, but now they have another opportunity to welcome him, this time at the hands of his apostles, the witnesses to his resurrection. This is why St. Luke underlines that the numbers of believers increased steadily. But the martyrdom of Stephen will mark the end and the failure of this second chance.

### Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-13. 17-19

The first reading during the season of Eastertide is about the beginnings of the Church; in Year C the second reading (Taken from the Book of Revelation), is about the end and the completion of the Church. This book, the last book of the Bible, was written to assure Christians, struggling under persecution from the Roman Empire, that the risen Christ would eventually bring his Church to triumph and release her people from all sorrow and sadness. It uses extravagant, cosmic imagery to emphasize God's total control of the universe, heaven and earth, and all that is in them. It is imaginative, drawing heavily upon the imagery of the Old Testament and on the symbolism of numbers. The narrator is the Apostle John, exiled to the Greek island of Patmos, and it begins with a vision of the risen Christ in all his glory. The phrase 'Son of Man' (used in this reading), was Jesus' favourite way of referring to himself. Here the 'Son of Man' is also reminiscent of the Son of Man in the prophet Daniel's vision; to him God gives all power over the universe. The seven lamp-stands (seven is the perfect number), represent the seven local Churches of Asia to whom the Book was primarily addressed.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

### The Word: Year C, Eastertide, Sunday 3

1st Reading Acts 5:27-32. 40-41  
2nd Reading Apocalypse 5: 11-14  
Gospel: John 21:1-14

## Prayer of the Church

### Psalter Week 2

**Sun** Seasonal Proper

**Mon** + Proper of Saints

**Tue** Proper of Saints + Cm'n of Mts + Fmr Nat Prop

**Wed** + Seasonal Proper (or + Proper of Saints)

**Thu** + Seasonal Proper + Proper of Saints

**Fri** Proper of Saints

**Sat** Common of Martyrs + Former National Proper

## This Week's Feasts & Saints

**Mon** St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doc of Church  
Patron of Europe

**Tue** St. George, Martyr & Patron of England

**Wed** St. Joseph the Worker

**Thu** St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doc. of the Church

**Fri** SS PHILIP & JAMES, APOSTLES

**Sat** THE ENGLISH MARTYRS