



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



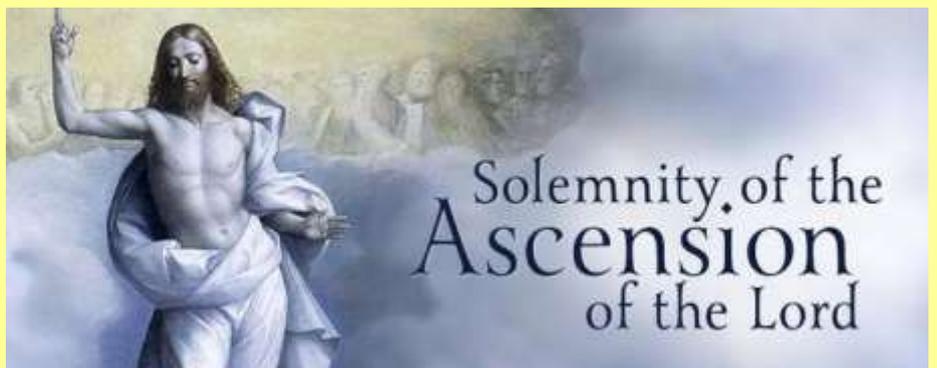
Year C, Eastertide, Sunday 6, 25/26 May 2019

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
The Sacred Heart Presbytery
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Saturday 25 May	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Brian Nolan
Sunday 26 May	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Celia King Parish Family
Monday 27 May	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass <i>No Exposition today</i>	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Jean Nolan
Tuesday 28 May	7.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Private Intention
Wednesday 29 May	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Parish Family
Ascension Thursday 30 May	9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Michael Murtagh Eileen Tighe
Friday 31 May	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Anne Fellows
Saturday 1 June	9.30-10.30am Exposition 6.00pm Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Stanley Wilson
Sunday 2 June	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Bridie Walsh Joe Sankey

This Thursday, being the
Feast of the
Ascension of
Our Lord, Jesus Christ
to Heaven
is a
Holyday of Obligation
Please note Mass times above



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

Who is at the centre of your life - is it God or yourself - Is it some other person or some thing? Picture your life as a great circle full of a wide variety of persons, concerns, joys, occupations, sorrows, dreams. If you picture your life as such a great circle, who or what is at the centre? If you are at the centre, you may give God an important place, but he has to take his turn among all the other people and things around you. Then, when you have need of him, can you find him among the confusion of all that's spinning about you?



A basic, most profound and simple teaching of faith is that God is at the centre of all things. He is there because he is the source of all life, beauty, love. If he were not there, all would fall apart and there would be nothing. It is a great blessing to be aware of

this, that God is at the centre of the circle of every life, and that it is he who has given us a place in his life and not the other way round. The proper faith attitude, which sees God at the centre of everything, enables us to trust. We live, move and have our being in the circle of God's love. If we really believe this, we should want to cry out in praise and thanksgiving.

How often might others, or ourselves, cry out in times of distress, *Why me, Lord?* A true spirit of gratitude leads us, instead, to turn to God with prayers of wonder and trust. What a pity not to count our blessings: we might be so quick to notice our sorrows and cry out in complaint. But our lives are full of signs of God's love. We might take those for granted and fail to give thanks: but we have a thousand reasons to call in wonder, praise and thanksgiving, *Why me, Lord?*

Why me, Lord? You might ask. Why should you have set your heart on me and called me into being? Why give me a mind to know, a body to feel and a heart to love? Why scatter so much beauty in my path to delight my being: stars and rivers and sea, the colour and perfume of flowers - laughter, friendship and love - an endless litany inviting *Alleluia*. Why for me the gift of faith which gives rich meaning to my life? Why should I be brought into the inner mystery of your being by Jesus, be given your own Holy Spirit to sense the mysteries that Kings and Prophets longed to see and hear but did not? Why should I be invited to the banquet of the Eucharist, to sit at table with God and receive the divine life of the Lord? Why should I be on the invitation list for the eternal, heavenly banquet? In prayer, let us walk often in the garden of praise, thanksgiving and trust.

From 'Give God a Chance' (Ch.23) (abbreviated) -
by Robert Kelly, SJ

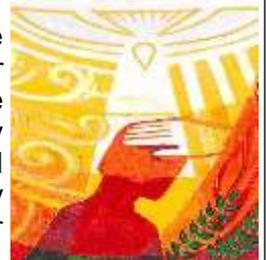
Things happening in our Parish

Please Do Offer If your first language is not English or you are reasonably fluent in a non-English language, Fr Anthony would be pleased to receive from you an offer to read a reading or an intercession, **Sat 22 June**, at our **International Mass, 5.00pm**, in our Sacred Heart Church. Intercessions can be provided in an English text for translation or as otherwise agreed with Fr Anthony. The readings will be those for the *Feast of the Body and Blood of the Lord*.



Confirmations Please note that our baptised children who are *now in school year 5 (or above)*, are eligible to soon begin to prepare for Confirmation, so as to be Confirmed early in 2020. This includes any who have not yet received First Reconciliation and Eucharist, for which they can prepare after Confirmation.

Parents/Carers of Children who are eligible and who are at one of our Parish Schools should, by now, have received a letter, via their child. If any have not received copy, they should please obtain one from Fr Anthony during the next week or two, after any of our weekend Masses.



Parents/Carers of eligible Children who are not at one of our Parish Schools, should please ask Fr Anthony for a copy of this letter, in the next week or two, after any of our weekend Masses..

An information meeting will be held **Sat 15 Jun**, in our Sacred Heart Church, 9.30-10.30am. Eligible Children are also asked to attend with their Parents/Carers.

& In our Diocese

Vacancy Personal Assistant to Chief Operating Officer required, at the Diocesan Curial Offices, Hinsley Hall, Leeds. An excellent opportunity for an experienced PA or Executive Assistant to work with the Team providing administrative support across our Diocese. Find a job description at www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/vacancies - or email Rebecca.phillips@dioceseofleeds.org.uk for more details. A CV with a covering letter may be submitted to vacancies@dioceseofleeds.org.uk by the closing date of Fri 31 May.



*Annual Novena
To our Lady of Unfailing Help
Principal Patron of the Diocese
19 to 27 June
Leeds Cathedral
Mon-Fri at 6.15pm
Sat-Sun at 5.15pm*

*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 Church, **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?

In Jewish tradition, the number *forty* is not necessarily given as an accurate number, but it is highly significant. It denotes a time of great transition, or even transformation, usually, from a poorer state to a truly blessed state. Among numerous uses of *forty* through the Bible, Noah's flood lasted forty days and nights, and the Jews spent forty years wandering in the desert, between escaping slavery in Egypt and reaching the promised land.

Luke tells that Jesus Ascended on the fortieth day and that the Holy Spirit Descended on the Apostles on the fiftieth. Is the number fifty also significant in Judaism?

OR MAYBE NOT SO!

When Bishop Sheen was speaking, a drunk in the gallery began heckling in an unintelligible manner. Finally the



Bishop quietened him by saying, "The only person who likes to be interrupted in the middle of a sentence is a prisoner."

Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose £278.82
Envelopes £464.90

Collections, etc

Door Collection after each Mass, this weekend, to help towards the cost of training priests for our own Diocese.

Confession: Getting Our Stories Straight

Forest Clump

"Get your coat, Scottie, let's go for a walk."

The woods were about three hundred yards from our house, and the mall was about a half-mile walk through the woods. The foliage was thick, so I was sure I'd see lots of tree stumps. All I'd have to do was choose one.

Sure enough as we walked, I saw plenty of trees, plenty of leaves, plenty of twigs, even some fallen branches—but a conspicuous absence of stumps. My dad had let me lead, so he couldn't see my eyes scanning from side to side, with increasing desperation. I felt a certain panic when I saw the clearing ahead. The woods were ending, and I hadn't seen a stump.

At the very edge of the woods, with the mall straight in front of us, I said, "Over there. That's where the boys were sniffing glue,"

"OK" Dad replied, "Where's the stump?"

"It's that big mound of dirt over there. That clump.

He looked right back at me. "You said tree stump."

I squirmed. "Well, clump, stump..."

"Clump...stump, he repeated, pausing painfully between the words. I was expecting his temper to explode, for him to turn around in a rage and call me a liar—but all he said was, "Let's go home."

In the eternity it took us to walk through the woods, my father never said a word. I found myself no longer dreading the explosion, but almost longing for it. His silence was killing me.

We got home. He closed the door. He took off his jacket, took off his shoes, went upstairs.

In a moment, I, too, went upstairs, into my room alone, and closed my door. You'd think that I'd be celebrating a victory. I had managed to keep my crooked story straight enough to fool two store detectives, a town policeman, and my mother! But I was celebrating nothing. I was experiencing a whole new thing. It was at that moment that I began to realise what it meant to have a human heart. I felt such an overwhelming sense of shame because my dad didn't believe my story, because he knew the boy he loved had lied and stolen.

What happened to me was not merely the awakening of a conscience. It was the discovery of a relationship. I had always seen this man in my life as judge, jury, and executioner. Whenever I had done something wrong, I feared getting caught, standing trial, and being punished. But that day. I discovered there was something worse than inciting Dad's wrath, and it was breaking Dad's heart. I had done this and I hated it.....

From: Lord, Have Mercy—Scott Hahn



Please Keep
in Prayer

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently** especially



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, Monica Lowe
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

The Word: Year C, Eastertide, Sunday 6

Gospel: John 14:23-29

In these final discourses of Jesus at the Last Supper (as he sketches the outlines of his future Church) there are four passages which promise the coming of a Paraclete or Advocate, the Holy Spirit. 'Paraclete' and 'advocate' mean the same: someone who is called to your side as a supporter, often in a legal situation. The Father will send this Paraclete, in the name and power of Jesus, so that the Paraclete will make Christ present in the Church in a new way. The Paraclete will strengthen Jesus' disciples with Christ's own strength. The Paraclete will lead the disciples into all truth, so that they gradually come to a fuller understanding of all the implications of the teaching of Jesus. Like any legal advocate, the Paraclete will provide the followers of Jesus with the power in teaching and argument to withstand opposition. This is the power which will guide the Church in ages to come, not only the official teachers of the Church, the successors of the apostles, but all the faithful who preserve and enrich the tradition of the Church by their prophetic office. The decree of Vatican II on the Church leaves no doubt that not only the call to sanctity but also participation in the prophetic office of Christ extends to all the members of the Church; this is an inspiring and awesome responsibility for us all.



First Reading: Acts 15:1-2. 22-29

This was the crucial meeting of the whole Church at Jerusalem where the decision was made that Christianity was not only for the Jews but was open to the gentiles too. Paul's activity in receiving gentiles into the Church had created a crisis: was not God's promise to Abraham limited only to Jews? Was it not limited only to those who observed the prescriptions of the Law? Could the Spirit of

the risen Christ really dwell in and activate the uncircumcised? The staggering breakthrough achieved here at Jerusalem totally altered the course of history. Today's reading jumps to the concluding instructions and omits the details of the debate which, in fact, provides a model for a community discussion: in the awareness of the presence of the Spirit the apostles and elders heard the facts of the case, listened to the opinions of both sides of the question put forward by experienced leaders, and then made their decision in the Spirit. The letter of instructions which follows is also a model of its kind, firm in its decisions, but firm also in its appreciation of individual consciences. The restrictions imposed on gentile Christians were designed to make fellowship with Jewish Christians possible without outraging their sensibilities.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10-14. 22-23

The description of the New Jerusalem, the bride of Christ, begun in last week's reading, continues to be highly symbolic. The twelve gates of the city (drawn from a prophecy in Ezekiel) face the four quarters of the compass, to show that the city embraces the whole universe and is four-square solid. They symbolise the twelve tribes of Israel and so also the twelve apostles. The richness of the city is hinted at in the sparkle of precious stones, not only of diamonds but of many others too. The dimensions of the city are vast: a cube of 1,500 miles in each direction. No need of the light and warmth of the sun, for the Lord God and the Lamb provide a single source for the city's nourishment and illumination. No need for a sacred area, for the presence of the Lord God and the Lamb make the city a sacred area. This vision is the ultimate goal of creation, when we share in the very life of God, the ultimate fulfilment of 'thy Kingdom come'. The Letter to the Ephesians expresses it in this way: the whole universe is 'headed up' into Christ, thus making sense of creation and bringing creation to its completion.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Eastertide, Sunday 7

1st Reading Acts 7:55-60

2nd Reading Apocalypse 22:12-14. 16-17. 20

Gospel: John 17: 20-26

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 2

Sun + Seasonal Proper

Mon Proper of Saints + Former National Proper

Tue Week 2

Wed + Seasonal Proper

Thu Of the Feast

Fri Proper of Saints

Sat + Seasonal Proper + Proper of Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

Tue

Wed

Thu THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Fri The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sat St. Justin, Martyr