



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 of Christ, Universal King: 23/24 November 2019

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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Saturday 23 November	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Parish Family
Sunday 24 November	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Edward Czajko Charlie Oakley
Monday 25 November	9.10am Exposition 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition 4.00pm <i>Receive Body</i>	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart St Joseph's	Private Intention May Myatt
Tuesday 26 November	9.30am <i>Funeral Mass</i> 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	May Myatt
Wednesday 27 November	12.00-1.00pm Exposition 5.00pm <i>Exposition</i> 7.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	<i>Also Individual Reconciliation</i>
Thursday 28 November	9.10am Exposition 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	John Lawrence
Friday 29 November	8.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Hilda Bailey
Saturday 30 November	<i>No Exposition today</i> 6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	<i>No Reconciliation today</i> Min Walker
Sunday 1 December	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Parish Family Sarah & William Kelly

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation
There will be a period of Exposition, with Fr Anthony available for individual Confessions, this Wednesday 27 November, 5.00-6.00pm, in our Sacred Heart Church
Families celebrating a First Communion, next weekend, might especially use the opportunity

From next weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, we follow Year A, in our Sunday Readings

Between both of our Masses next Sunday, 1 December, we will be celebrating
The First Communion of twenty one of our Children
Please keep them and their families in prayer.

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

When the scriptures are read to us, at Mass or in other liturgies, the Lord speaks with his people. But the Lord speaks wanting us to hear: not just with our ears, but with our hearts and minds too. He speaks so that we might be drawn into a conversation with him, possibly there and then, or maybe in a while later. Through the readings does he offer us consolation or encouragement? If so, it would be ungracious not to thank him. Have his words challenged or upset us? Then let us open our hearts and express our confusion, doubts, fears. It helps to talk! Such conversation makes demands on us. The Lord is not so much interested in discussing abstract ideas or sorting through theories, but is passionately interested in us, in all the practicalities of our lives. He knows us as we are, and he wants us to meet him - *in how and who we really are* - not as we think we ought to be, nor as we might imagine God thinks we should be.

Our sharing in this sort of conversation, sparked off by listening to the Lord in the scriptures, is also good training for our attempt to listen to the Lord, as he speaks to us through the events of daily life, of our own lives and those around us. It would be a mistake to think the Lord speaks only through the words of scripture, or in the context of our liturgy, or only in prayer. These are places where we know he is speaking, and where it is sometimes easier to listen to him. But he speaks everywhere, in and through all the things that are taking place, and so very often especially in and through other people.



Resulting from this, we who have learnt to know his voice then have a special responsibility in this matter. As well as trying to listen to the Lord for ourselves, we are asked to share in the prophetic vocation of the whole Church. We who listen are asked to speak in love what we have heard. We are called to be witnesses to the truth that will lead all humankind to the fullness of life. Christ, the Word of God, comes to us in the scriptures and the Gospels especially, and he asks that we bring his Gospel, his Good News, to all whom we possibly can.

Lord, keep your Church alert in faith to the signs of the times and eager to accept the challenge of the Gospel. Open our hearts to the needs of all humanity, so that sharing their grief and anguish, their joy and hope, we may faithfully bring them the good news of salvation and advance together on the way to your kingdom.

Many Thanks to all who in any way contributed to our *Christmas Fayre*, this weekend. It required much hard work and time in the setting-up, running of, and clearing-up, as well as the making, gathering and donation of the many items for the stalls, for which we are all grateful.

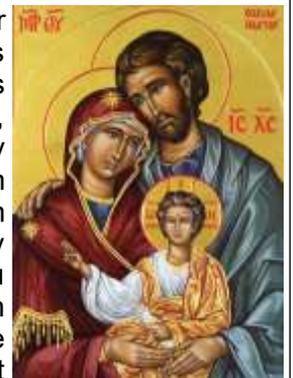
Further details will be included in next week's Bulletin, but meanwhile, Grand Draw winners will be listed on the notice boards at both of our Churches, after the draw following this Sunday's 10.45am Mass. For prizes not then claimed, please contact Fr Anthony, with the winning ticket.



Things happening in our Parish

Christmas Scenes If any of our Children have drawn a picture, for our Parish Christmas Card, but not given it in, please note that it must be given in by **this Sun 23 Nov**. Be sure to put on the back your name, age, which of our Churches you mostly come to, and a telephone number or email. Please hand pictures to Janet Ward, Stephanie Knowles, Hazel Duffield or Elizabeth Smith.

Parish Christmas Card Remember that if you wish to join in with this year's Card, to send your Christmas greetings to all of our Parish Family, your details must be returned by next **Sun 1 Dec** at the latest. To join in - write *Christmas Card* on an envelope and add your Family name (and Christian name/s if you wish) - include a minimum donation of £2 - return the envelope via the offertory collection basket this/next week, or through our Sacred Heart Presbytery letter box.



The money raised will be added to our Advent Project.

First Reconciliation If Parents of any Children who are eligible to prepare for their First Confession (Baptised Catholics now in school year 3 or above), have not yet applied, they need to return an application form within the next week or two. Application forms can be got this and next weekend, from Fr Anthony, after our Masses, and should be returned direct to him.

Parish Council is to next meet **Thu 5 Dec**, 7.00pm, in our St Joseph's Rooms. Please give any items for the Agenda to Janet Ward, Elizabeth Smith, or Fr Anthony by **Sun 1 Dec**, at the latest.

Our Advent Project will this year be to help raise money for our Catholic Developing World charity, *Cafod*, which works with some of the most hard-to-reach communities across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, helping the poorest and most marginalised people. As a Parish, we last supported Cafod in Advent 2018.



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 4 & 11 Dec**, 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 Church and Hall:

Sat 14 Dec, 9.30-11.30am

First Sacraments Our *Children*, who are now preparing for **First Eucharist**, will meet for the First Communion Day Rehearsals on **Sat 30 Nov**,

at St Joseph's, 9.30-10.30am
at Sacred Heart, 11.00-12.00am

First Sacraments 2020 Any parents who wish baptised children, in school year 3 or above, to prepare for their First Reconciliation in 2020, and who have not returned an application form, should obtain a form from Fr Anthony, after a weekend Mass, and return the completed form direct to him, *by early December, at the latest*.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

John Wycliffe was the first to translate (or probably bring about with other translators) the first full English Bible, translated from the Latin version, during the late 1300s. William Tyndale, a century or so later, translated the New Testament into English and parts of the Old Testament. Where possible, he translated from original Hebrew and Greek texts.

What were the reactions of the Church to the actions of these two men?

AND SERIOUSLY!

One Sunday a young boy was "acting up" during a church service. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew but were losing the battle.

Finally the father picked the boy up and walked sternly down the aisle on his way out. Just before reaching the safety of the foyer the boy called loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray For me!"

Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose £190.41
Envelopes £430.17

Collections, etc

This Weekend Retiring Collection after each of our Masses, to help fund our Leeds Diocese Mission in Lima, Peru.

TRUE CONFESSIONS: SEALED WITH A SACRAMENT

The other side of the screen



All of this implies that there is someone on the receiving end of our confession. There is, of course, and He is Jesus Christ. Indeed, only God can forgive sins. But Jesus has delegates His power to forgive to His Church, personified by His priests. He breathed the Holy Spirit upon those first clergymen, the apostles, and Jesus said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." And, in doing so, the Gospel here uses the same Greek verb used elsewhere to describe Jesus' unique power to forgive (see Lk 7:48; Mt 9:2). In a sense nothing had changed. The power of forgiveness still rested with God alone. Only now, God was empowering others to forgive in His name, as a sure and sacramental sign.

Through the priest, Christ forgives sinners and finds some way the sinner can make it up to God. The priest assigns the penance. The Church also prays for the sinner and does penance with him. In addition, the priest may give the penitent some advice on overcoming sin and growing in virtue.

The most important thing the priest does, however, is to pronounce the words of absolution. If we have done our part—contrition, confession, and satisfaction—then these words work a tremendous, divine power in us. For the formula of absolution is not God's promise to look the other way, or ignore our sins, or put the past behind Him. Such notions are absurd and indeed incompatible with a God who is omniscient and eternal.

The words of absolution are not the mere babbling of a clergyman. They are the word of God, which He pronounces with power

over us—just as He pronounced with power over the waters at the dawn of creation—just as He pronounced with power over the bread which He declared to be His body. God's word is creative and efficacious. That's the kind of power He wields in the sac-



rament of confession as well. To create is to fashion something out of nothing. With the words of absolution, God renews us as if we were a new creation. When King David prayed: "Create in me a clean heart, O God!" (Ps51:10), he meant it. God for His part, has promised that He will answer such prayers: "A new heart I will give you...I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezek 36:26).

From: Lord Have Mercy—Scott Hahn

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**, especially
William Holmes, May Myatt and their families- and also
those commemorated in our November Book of Remembrance



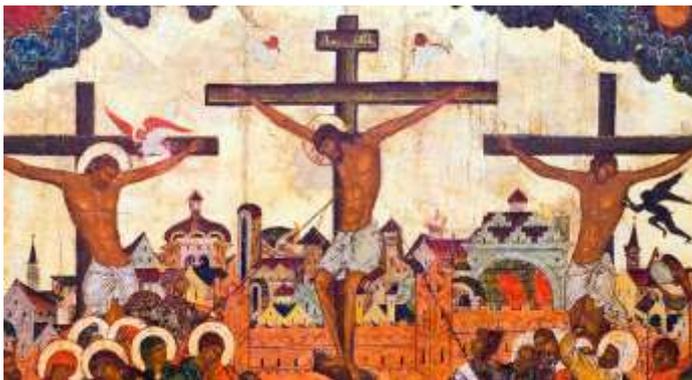
Also: All those **sick** or **infirm**, especially:

Br Hilarion Durkin, Margaret Hinchliffe, Isabelle Blake, Elizabeth Olbison, Catherine Brown, Karen Dearing
George Potts, Sheila Jordan, Peggy Heneghan, Kazia Andruszko, Ann Pearson, Joan Aston, David Olbison
Liz Allen, John O'Brien, Dennis Fricker, Monica Lowe, Cynthia Potts, Janice Coyle, Nicola Glew
and all who receive Holy Communion at home

The Word: Year C, Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

The crucifixion scene in Luke, as in all gospels, is the climax of the story of Jesus. Emphasis is placed on the role of Jesus as King. The soldiers mock him as such, but the gospel's use of irony ensures that we understand that they are saying more than they realise. Jesus is also ridiculed as Saviour ('Save yourself and us as well!'): especially in Luke (from the Infancy Stories onwards) Jesus is presented as the true Saviour—who is God. In Luke the crucifixion scene is primarily a scene of forgiveness, where Jesus carries on to the very end his work of forgiveness, which Luke has underlined throughout his Gospel. The scene begins with the women of Jerusalem mourning for Jesus, and ends with all the spectators departing, beating their breasts, recognizing their universal guilt. Jesus spontaneously forgives his executioners, asking God's forgiveness for them before they even ask it for themselves. He welcomes into his kingdom of Paradise the bandit who spontaneously acknowledges his wrongdoing. Here we see the culmination of all those scenes throughout Luke's Gospel where values are reversed: the King presented as a wretched figure dying by his side.



First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

David is a fascinating character. As a leader he had a charm and charisma which were irresistible. There is no doubt that he was ambitious. When the women sang, 'Saul has killed his thousands and David his tens of thousands,' it was music to his ears. The king's son fell in love with him and gave him his own prince's gear. The king's

daughter fell in love with him and he accepted her as a good dynastic marriage; but he never had children by her, though he was not lacking in sexual drive (Bathsheba was to come later). He set up a protection racket in Judah and so, having won the loyalty of the tribal leaders there, they first anointed him king of Judah at Hebron, the southern tribal capital. Finally, after Saul's death, the elders of the northern tribes (known collectively as Israel) came to anoint him king as well, to reign over the whole country. Nevertheless, David also took the first steps to setting up the Temple cult, and was ever after remembered for that. It was to David that the promises of God's eternal monarchy were given which were to be fulfilled in Jesus. These promises echo down and down the scriptures; they were the basis of all Israel's hope.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Way back in July, on the fourteenth Ordinary Sunday of the Year, we heard all but the first part of this reading which celebrates the unrivalled position of Jesus as first-born not only in the order of creation, but also in the resurrection. In the order of creation, Christ is the image of the unseen God, the model or template on which God created the world, the Wisdom of God, so he is the first-born and yet himself uncreated. In the order of the resurrection also he is the first-born, bringing all things to perfection, and so he is the crown of creation. In today's reading, before we hear about Jesus as the first-born, we have a significant preface. Paul is writing, with a slight air of surprise, to the gentiles: the gentiles too are enabled to enter into the inheritance, to join Christ in the kingdom promised to David and fulfilled in Jesus. As this year's gospel readings have taught us again and again, it is not a kingdom that we can earn. What we need to do is to submit ourselves for forgiveness. Not all that easy, perhaps! Put it the other way round: What we need to do is stop pretending to others and ourselves that we are perfect.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year A, Advent, Sunday 1

1st Reading Isaiah 2:1-5
2nd Reading Romans 13:11-14
Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 2

Sun Seasonal Proper

Mon (or + Common of Martyrs or Virgins)

Tue Week 2

Wed Week 2

Thu Week 2

Fri Week 2

Sat Proper of Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE