



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 A, Feast of Baptism of The Lord, 11/12 January 2020

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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Saturday 11 January	6.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart	Kathleen Walsh
Sunday 12 January	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Parish Family David McAndrew & Family
Monday 13 January	<i>No Morning Prayer today</i> 9.30am Mass 11.00am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	<i>With SJ School Parish Family</i> <i>With SH School</i>
Tuesday 14 January	7.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Donor's Intention (CB)
Wednesday 15 January	12.00-1.00pm Exposition 7.00pm Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Barry Diamond & Friends
Thursday 16 January	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 12.00-1.00pm Exposition	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	Yorkshire Brethren
Friday 17 January	8.30am Mass <i>No Exposition today</i>	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Eileen O'Reilly
Saturday 18 January	<i>No Exposition today</i> 11.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	<i>No set Reconciliation time today</i> Hilda Bailey
Sunday 19 January	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm Baptism	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Kath & George Mott Teresa McAndrew & Family Albie Graham Mills

Masses with our Schools' Staff and Pupils

This Monday 13 January, as noted above. All are warmly invited.



First Eucharist Thanksgiving Mass. All warmly invited next Saturday 18 January, 11.00am, in our Sacred Heart Church. Come to celebrate with our 2019 First Communicants. Shared Lunch after.



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

Follow us at "Parish of The Sacred Heart, Hemsworth and St Joseph's Moorthorpe"

From Fr Anthony

Adapted from an article in the Website of the Bishops of England and Wales.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might.

It's said in the Bible of the most saintly of Israel's kings, the noble King Josiah: *Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.* (2 Kings 23:25)

Remember, too, how the Gospels quote Jesus on this point. Jesus stated: *The Lord your God is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.* (Mk 12:30, Mtt 22:3). In Luke's Gospel are added words (10:25-28): *Do this, and you shall live!*

But it's not just a question of our being called upon to love God. This is the way because already God our Father and Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, are already loving us to perfection.

On the mountain, Moses was told what the first important commandment is. Moses then had to teach the people all the commandments. He started by giving the people of Israel the very first commandment, the commandment that must be obeyed before others. It is so critical that it forms the first words of the most prominent prayer in Jewish liturgy, in the synagogue: as important to devout Jewish people as the 'Our Father' is to Christians. The Hebrew *Shema, Israel*, in English means, *Listen, Israel*. The first thing we have to do is *Listen to The God Who Speaks*.

We hear the Word of God in the Bible. When the Word is proclaimed at Mass, all joyfully call out, *The Word of the Lord!* And so it is. But God has also pointed us to his Son and told us that Jesus is the Word of God. *The Word was made flesh and dwells amongst us.* Jesus is the personal face of God.



So, on another mountain, the mountain of the Transfiguration, speaking from the cloud, God identified Jesus: *This is my Beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.* Then, God repeated the first commandment, the one without which no other commandment can make sense:

Listen to him!

If we don't listen, we won't hear. If we don't hear the Word, we won't know what God is offering. If we don't know what God is offering us, *his perfection of love for us*, then our lives can't be transformed.

Things happening in our Parish

Applications for Reception Class 2020 The application process for children starting Reception Class in 2020 is reaching its deadline. If you would like your child to attend one of our Parish Schools, you need to act quick!

Children born between 1 Sep 2015 and 31 Aug 2016 inclusive, will be admitted full time to the Reception Class in the Autumn term, 2020. You will need to apply online to Wakefield Council (closing date **15 Jan 2020**) - <http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-children/schools/admissions/reception>.

Also, please complete a school's Information Form (SIF), available from either school office, and return it to the school with a copy of your child's birth and baptism certificates: see -

<http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/Documents/schools-children/school-admissions/primary-guide-parents.pdf>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the schools: St Joseph's, 01977 651755 - Sacred Heart, 01977 625354.

First Sacraments 2020 All those who have returned an application form to join our Preparation Programme for First Reconciliation, this year, are reminded that the first meeting for the *Children with their Parents* will be in our Sacred Heart Hall., **Sat 25 Jan**, 10.00-12.00am, and that the Children are to be enrolled the same weekend, at our Sunday Masses.

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 **26 Jan**. If you gave a donation but cannot find your intended names listed, again, please inform Fr Anthony.

It has been suggested that we compile a pamphlet of favourite prayers old and new. If any have suggestions of prayers for inclusion, please let Fr Anthony have a copy (but please appreciate that this does not guarantee it being included, owing to space and/or copyright matters). Please note the *author's name* or state *author unknown*. Copies may be sent electronically, or returned on paper via the offertory basket or direct to Fr Anthony.

& In our Diocese

Youth 2000: Leeds Retreat: 21-23 Feb 2020, at Leeds Trinity University: a weekend of friendship, prayer and fun, as we come together as young people to grow in our relationship with God, with the support of the Church. Whether you've wandered far or just need a weekend at 'home' with the Father, the Leeds retreat is for you! For any aged 16-35 (any under 18 must accompanied by an over 18 year old). Families also welcome. Details/tickets at <https://youth2000.churchsuite.co.uk/events/zaqce8na>. Some subsidised places may be available.

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 11 & 18 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 by Bishop Marcus, at Mass, at the Church of St John the Baptist, Normanton:

Wed 5 Feb, 7.00pm

First Reconciliation Our *Children and their Parents* are to meet at our Sacred Heart Hall:

Sat 25 Jan, 10.00-12.00am

The Rite of Enrolment to Prepare will be celebrated at both of our Churches;

Sun 26 Jan, 9.00/10.45am

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Of our Church's seven Sacraments, Baptism and Confirmation can be given to a person only once. While commonly given to younger children at two different ages, older children and adults should normally receive both at one ceremony (along with their First Eucharist), and these normally at the Easter Vigil.

A Sacrament of Ordination can be given only once to a man, but a man can be ordained three times? How can this be?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A minister was telling the story of the Prodigal Son and wishing to emphasise the disagreeable attitude of the elder brother on that occasion.

After describing the rejoicing of the household over the return of the prodigal son, he spoke of one who, in the midst of the festivities, failed to share in the joy of the occasion.

"Can anybody," he asked, "tell me who this was?"

A small boy who had been listening intently to the story, put up his hand.

"I know," he beamed. "It was the fatted calf."



Parish Monies

Thank You very much for your offerings last weekend:

Loose £319.74

Envelopes £405.00

Collections, etc

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

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD: A SYNTHESIS

Hardened, Not Pardoned



The Pharisees of whom Jesus spoke in the "unforgivable" passage, did not simply refuse to repent of their errors, but they went on to accuse the Son of God of the most heinous sins. Not only did they refuse to recognise His power as divine, they accused Him of acting by "power of the prince of demons" (Mt 12:24). Thus,

they inflicted upon themselves a spiritual blindness that was permanent and final. Their example should inspire a holy fear in all of us. Yet we must never despair.

Is such sin rare or common? Pope John Paul II said: "It is certainly to be hoped that very few persist to the end in this attitude of rebellion or even defiance of God." He goes on to quote Saint Thomas Aquinas: "Considering the omnipotence and mercy of God, no one should despair of the salvation of anyone in this life."

No Small Matter

"All wrongdoing is sin," says Saint John, "but there is sin which is not mortal" (1 Jn 5:17). Venial sin is the name we give to faults of lesser gravity. There's no such thing as a sinless lie; but not all lies weigh as heavily as perjury under oath or false accusation. Thus, perjury is a mortal sin; but lying about your age, for vanity's sake, might be venial.

Venial sin weakens our will. It wounds us in the spirit, though it does not kill us. Pope John Paul II wrote: "Venial sin does not deprive the sinner of sanctifying grace, friendship with God, charity, and consequently eternal happiness." We can get to heaven if we die with venial sins unconfessed, but they must first be cleansed from our soul; for "nothing unclean shall enter" God's eternal life (Rev 21:27).

We are not obligated to confess our venial sins. Indeed. They can be forgiven in other ways. For example, every time we receive Holy Communion, our venial sins are wiped away entirely. We can ask and obtain forgiveness for venial sins by reciting a simple, sincere Act of Contrition. The Bible tells us that venial sins can even be forgiven through the intercession of others: "If anyone sees his brother committing what is not a mortal sin, he will ask, and God will give him life for those whose sin is not mortal" (1 Jn 5:16).

Still, we do best if we discern these smaller sins and begin to conquer them now, by seeking forgiveness in the confessional. The sacrament will give us grace, then, to overcome them in the future; and the priest-confessor can give us very specific, practical advice on how best to correspond to that grace with action.

From: Lord, Have Mercy—Scott Hahn

Please Keep
in Prayer

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**
especially Eileen O'Reilly, and her family



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

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

The Word: Year A, Feast of the Baptism of The Lord

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

The account of the baptism of Jesus in Mark, the earliest gospel, is also the simplest. In Mark the Voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus himself, and there is no sign that others heard it; it is an experience of Jesus: 'You are my Son'. In Matthew the Voice is addressed to the bystanders: 'This is my Son'. This makes the private revelation into a public scene, a declaration that Jesus' work is about to begin. In the same way our baptism is a public scene, a declaration that we are committed to Christ in his Church—even if we don't remember it! Matthew also records the little dialogue of John's unwillingness to baptise Jesus. Why should Jesus enter into the community of repentance which John was forming? He was no sinner! However, it was a gesture that Jesus was entering fully into the condition of all humanity. He shared fully in human nature, the nature of a humanity which had fallen even though he himself was sinless. At the outset of his ministry Jesus must reveal the fullness of his humanity, for only so could he redeem the fallen human race. Jesus is not merely passive, for he himself joins with John in making the positive step: 'We must do all that righteousness demands'.

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

Jesus knew the scripture; it was the only book he would have known. When he heard the Voice from heaven and he experienced the Spirit of God coming upon him, he must have immediately have thought of this passage from Isaiah. He was, then, this mysterious Servant of the Lord about whom the scripture spoke. He was to bring Israel back to the Lord. He must have known that the Servant was to endure pain and to reach his fulfilment only through his bitter suffering and death for others. This realisation of his mission as Servant must have been with him throughout his ministry, a dark shadow and a challenge to

service. At the same time it was a confirmation of the love of the Father who was 'well pleased' in him. This was to be the model for all Christian suffering. We all know someone—we may even have experienced it ourselves—who has to suffer lovingly and generously in caring for others. The awesome privilege of suffering after the model of the Servant who is Jesus must draw respect and bring comfort to those who serve in this way. It is a proof of God's love for them.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

St. Peter was making this speech at the house of the Roman centurion, Cornelius. Peter himself was still reeling from the shock of being told that foods (like pork) which he had, as a faithful Jew, all his life, considered unclean were perfectly acceptable. Now he is about to welcome into the Church a non-Jew, a gentile! Before he could even finish his speech, the Holy Spirit came down on his disciples at Pentecost. All this is the consequence of the coming of the Spirit on Jesus at his baptism. That was when Jesus began his mission, which is so strikingly described here as 'the good news of peace'. Religion, even Christianity, has so often been the cause of strife and quarrelling, rivalry between different Christian churches, rivalry between Christians, Jews and Muslims. We easily forget that the Spirit is the Spirit of peace, openness, welcome. The Spirit does not build but dissolves barriers, does not inflict wounds but heals them, does not push people away but embraces them. Is this the community of Christ which I am trying to build with those around me?



Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year A, Ordinary Time, Sunday 2

1st Reading Isaiah 49:3. 5-6
2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel: John 1:29-34

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week

Sun Of the Feast

Mon (or + Proper of Saints)

Tue Week 1

Wed Week 1

Thu Week 1

Fri + Proper of Saints

Sat Week 1

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri St. Anthony, Abbot

Sat