



# 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, Ordinary Time, Sunday 15

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### Second Edition: Friday 10 July, 2020

ReOpening our Churches for Mass starts next weekend, 18/19 July.

Information for Servers and Readers added below. Very Important information for all: pg 2

		<b>Services Facebook live-streamed marked FB</b>	<b>Mass Intentions</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 11 July	Sacred Heart St Joseph's	9.30-11.00am Churches open for 12.00-1.30pm Private Prayer	
<b>Sunday</b> 12 July	<i>Note - NO Congregation</i>	10.30am Parish Mass <b>FB stream only</b> Hymns and Readings pgs 5-6	Parish Family
Monday 13 July			
Tuesday 14 July	Sacred Heart	11.30am-1.00pm Church open for Private Prayer	
Wednesday 15 July	<i>Note - NO Congregation</i>	11.00am 'Bible Stories Retold' - Child-friendly <b>FB</b> 11.30am Scripture Reflection & Benediction <b>FB</b>	
Thursday 16 July			
Friday 17 July		12.00nn Angelus and Friday Devotion <b>FB only</b>	
<b>Saturday</b> 18 July	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	12.00nn Mass 4.00pm Mass	Parish Family
<b>Sunday</b> 19 July	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am 10.45am Mass ( <b>FB live-stream also - note time</b> )	

**Please note: regrettably numbers have to be limited at all Masses, to enable physical distancing, so places must be pre-booked (see pg 2). All Masses on Saturdays and Sundays will be of the Sunday.**

#### Altar Servers

Those who normally serve at **St Joseph's** are invited to please serve.

Those who normally serve at **The Sacred Heart**, please contact Paul Stuart (tel 07519-120741), as at some Masses we may need a check on numbers (maximum of 5).

At both Churches *please come dressed in smart casuals*, as for just now Servers will not be wearing their robes. *Please arrive early the first time serving*, as there will be some important differences. Those who know they are serving (as agreed with Paul, at Sacred Heart) *should not be pre-booked for Mass*, but others of their family do need to pre-book, to share in the same Mass.

#### Readers

Just for now, Fr Anthony will invite Readers from among those Readers he finds to have pre-booked.

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

## From Fr Anthony

God seeks each of us with a personal love. The place for meeting is our heart. He awaits us there. He invites us to be still, to become aware of his presence and to respond. 'Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.' (*John: 15:4*)

God asks us to 'be still.' In prayer, we don't have to make anything happen. Indeed, we are asked to stop trying to make something happen, so we can enter into awareness of the miracle of what is happening every second of every day. What is happening? God is within us. Doing what? He is sharing his breath of life with us, because he considers us very special. Right now he offers us his peace, healing power and love. He asks us to slow down, to be still, to enter into the awareness of this reality, to let self be touched and nourished by his loving presence.

The peace, love and healing power which God offers right now in prayer is more real than all the hassle, anxiety, fear, doubt, that torment us. But the excitement, pace, glamour and noise of our world bombards our person and obscures this deeper reality that gives true meaning and value to our lives. If we are to get in touch with this reality and experience this active healing love, we need must seek God. This need not involve any journey or pilgrimage. Just become still and become aware of God, who makes his home in our hearts. Is this experience for every



-one? Yes, for everybody. What if you find it hard to believe in God, or are angry with him, or in a state of sin and have pushed him out of your life? Then he respects your freedom. He will not force himself into your house. But he will go out and sit on the doorstep of your heart, ready to come in, if you only glance out of the window towards him. If you pull the curtain to peep out and see if he is still there, he will knock again at the door.

The two persons involved in the love encounter we call prayer are God and self. Writing about our search for God, Meister Eckhard offers an insight. He writes, 'The me beyond me seeks the God beyond God.' Eckhard is saying there is more to you and me than meets the eye and more to God than our picture or image of him. He draws our attention to the wonder and mystery of our deep, true self and the wonder and mystery of the true God. But the encounter can be real and meaningful if both involved come as they are and allow their real, true and deep selves to meet and interact. When this happens you have a meaningful encounter and you can have love.

*Abbreviated from 'Be Still and Know', Introduction, Robert Kelly SJ.*

*Notices for our Parish Newsletter need to be received by Wednesday 12.00noon, at the latest.*

## Things happening in our Parish

**Coming to Mass** Our Diocese is continuing the 6ft (2m) physical distancing rule in our Churches. We therefore do not have to wear face coverings in church (though you may if you wish).

To keep the distancing, we can take bookings of up to 40 places at St Joseph's and 50 at Sacred Heart. **Please do pre-book as once the set numbers are reached, we cannot allow anymore into the Church, for the safety of all.** If you can book via our Parish Website, please do so (red and blue buttons on the left of the Home Page). A few places are held in reserve for those who do not use the internet and these can be booked with Fr Anthony. **But please do not just turn up, hoping to get in.**

Please try to arrive for Mass early and be patient if you need to queue outside, for a short while. Stewards will guide you to a seat, which may not be where you would first choose to sit. They will have to arrange for those of the same household to be able to be together, without the distancing with others failing.

Both as you enter and when you leave the Church, you are asked to sanitize your hands. If you go to light a candle, be totally sure that your hands have dried of any sanitizer, **(it is highly flammable)** - and remember the distancing rule. You will need to light your candle from one already lit: tapers and lighters will not be available.

Newsletters and copies of the Mass Readings will be available as you enter, **but please take these away with you: they should not be left for others to have to handle.** As there will not be an offertory collection or procession, baskets will be near to the entrances and exits of our Churches, for offertory envelopes and loose monies.

You will notice other differences, at Mass. Particularly, as he takes Communion himself, Fr Anthony will hold up the Host and say, 'The Body of Christ,' and similarly with the Chalice say, 'The Blood of Christ'; to each of which all will reply, 'Amen.' Communion will be given in silence. Please move only when and as the Stewards indicate, in a circular, one way system, and maintain the distancing. You must receive Communion in your hand, extending your arms as far as you are able, with palms flat. Any not receiving Communion may certainly come for a Blessing, in the usual way, but Fr Anthony will make the sign of the cross without speaking, or touching the recipient.

At both Churches there is a one way entry/exit system. At **The Sacred Heart**, please **enter** by the **main door** but **leave** by the **Sanctuary fire exit**. At **St Joseph's**, please **enter** by the ramp and **white door** to the left of the main door and only **exit** by the **main door**.

At either Church, *if you have difficulties with steps*, do please speak with a Steward, or wait until most have left, to enable a clear way through the way you entered. Just now, **it is not possible to give open access to toilets**, so if you have an emergency, you will need to speak with a Steward or Fr Anthony.

Some further guidance can be found on pgs 7-8 of this Newsletter. **Thank you to each for your understanding and patience, in these present circumstances.**

**And please: can you volunteer to be a Steward and/or help clean at either of our Churches? The more Stewards/Cleaners we have, the more we can add to our Masses and services. Please offer your help to Fr Anthony.**

## Sacraments

**Baptism** A Preparation Programme, for Parents of Children to be baptised, is now expected to occur in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Weds 16 & 23 Sep**, 7.30-9.00pm. To join a Programme, Parents need to talk with Fr Anthony, to have an initial meeting with him.

The Programme is for any expecting, as well as Parents with baby born.

**Confirmations** will hopefully next be celebrated, for Baptised Catholics now in *school year 5 or older*, before the summer of 2021. Watch for application details, during the coming Autumn.

**First Reconciliation/Communion** Our programme of preparation is presently on hold. Parents should be informed soon of the details to resume.

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

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** is now available but presently by appointment: please contact with Fr Anthony.

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

St John Fisher was the first reformation period, canonised Catholic martyr, from Yorkshire. While most of his adult life was lived outside Yorkshire, he was born (1469) and brought up in Beverley. He was ordained a priest in 1491, From 1504 he was Bishop of Rochester for 31 years, and he was among the first Catholic martyrs, being executed in 1535.

*The very first English Reformation Martyrs belonged to a Religious Order of Monks, that now has just one monastery in Britain, and which was founded by St Bruno - which Order?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!

On going to bed I noticed people in my shed, stealing things. I phoned the police. I was told there were none in the area but they would send someone as soon as possible. A minute later, I rang again and said, "Don't worry

because I've shot them". Within minutes 6 police cars plus helicopters and an armed response unit arrived. They caught the burglars red-handed. The officer said, 'I thought you'd shot them'. I replied, 'I thought you said there were no police in the area.'



## Parish Monies

**Thank you** very much for your donations:

29 June - 5 July:  
Loose £140.00  
Envelopes £560.00  
Donate/Text £ 49.00

## Electronic Donations

Can be made to our Parish by texting - **CHURCH SHSJ to 70500** to contribute £5 to our Parish Offertory - weekly - fortnightly - other; - or use the **Donate Button** on our Parish Website Home Page.

## GOD OF SURPRISES

### Clearing the Approaches

.....Later, out of these sense impressions the child will make its most important educational leap when it begins to make signs and utter its first words. To deprive a child of sense impressions would be to cripple it for life. There is no stage of human development when we do not need sense impressions, but in adolescence and adulthood we should no longer need to spend hours crawling along the floor!

Once the child has begun to speak, it will repeat what it hears without, at first, understanding the meaning. Most children love the sound of rhyming words and their imagination is often so vivid that they have difficulty in distinguishing the imaginary from the real. I knew one child who would have a tantrum if a place were not laid at table for her non-existent friend, Frances. When a younger sister really did appear, she was also introduced to the non-existent Frances by her older sister, became equally attached and insisted on sitting on the other side of the invisible Frances at meal times, and this continued for about a year.



A child's memory must be stored with stories, with family and local history. Infants will normally accept as true whatever they are told by parents or anyone else. Without this initial credulity the learning process cannot begin.

They must also be told what they may and what they may not do. To deprive a child of clear instruction and consistently to leave it to make up its own unformed and uninformed mind is cruelty. A very disturbed person, who had suffered a traumatic childhood, told me that one of her saddest memories was of playing with other children every evening and hearing them being called home one by one by their parents, but for her there was no call.

The greatest emotional needs in childhood are for protection and affection, for without these the child cannot learn to trust either itself or anyone else. The ability to grow humanly is proportionate to the ability to trust.

There are, of course, many other needs and activities in childhood. The child will begin to see patterns in sense perception and to interpret them, to ask questions and construct theories, but these activities are not dominant.



*To be continued . . .*

Abridged from: The God of Surprises – Gerard W. Hughes

Please Keep  
in Prayer

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time  
All who have **died recently**  
especially Bill Torpey, and his 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 our housebound

## The Word: Year A, Ordinary Time, Sunday 15, Commentary

### Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9

Like any good teacher, Jesus uses pictures – or parables. Ever heard the one about the elephant and the wasp? Or electricity like a toy train going round a room? Anyway, for the next three weeks we have some of these pictures, to show us what Jesus is trying to do. This first one is rather sad. Whatever the sower does seems to fail: seed pecked up by birds, scorched by the sun, choked by thistles. What are my pecking birds, my scorching sun, my choking thistles which annihilate the seed Jesus sows in me? It's probably different for every one of us. But some, just a little, of the seed bears a fantastic harvest. There must be something I can show to the Lord with pride and gratitude: 'Look, this is the seed you gave me; it has grown, developed, and here is your harvest.' Jesus, too, reflected on his mission to establish his Father's sovereignty on earth. Jesus, too, may well have wondered if he was getting anywhere. It was only when he had failed utterly, alone, deserted and tortured, that his perseverance won the successful. Jesus doesn't want the successful. He wants the failures as his followers – and that is where the harvest lies.



### First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

This poetic passage from Isaiah about the word of God may be understood on two levels. On one level it prepares for Jesus' parable in the Gospel reading about the sower and the seed. But while Isaiah stresses the effectiveness of the word of God, Jesus reflects on the failure of his word with many sections of his hearers, as well as on the brilliant success of his word in those who bear fruit 'thirtyfold, sixtyfold, a hundredfold'. On another level this passage prepares us for the meditation on the Word of God in the prologue to the Gospel of John: 'In the beginning was the Word; the Word was with God and the Word was God.' This helps to explain just how God, the awesome and inexpressible, can be manifested and active in

creation. In Genesis God created by his Word ('Let there be light!' 'Let there be a vault! etc.), so the Word is seen not as something separate from and independent of God, but as the concrete expression of God's will, the manifestation of divine power. The Word which comes forth from God's mouth and does not return unfulfilled is, on this level, the creative power of God, unstoppably fulfilling the will of God in the world.

### Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23

In our reading of Romans 8 on life in the Spirit of the Risen Christ we have missed out a few crucial verses (they are used on a separate occasion) on our adoption as sons, enabling us – both men and women – to call God 'Abba', 'Father'. This intimate Aramaic family name, used by Jesus to his Father in his agonized prayer in the Garden (Mark 14:36), can be used by all his followers who share his life. With Jesus we are heirs of God, sharing his inheritance. Not only ourselves, however, but the whole of creation is renewed and re-created by the Spirit. It all takes on a new dimension and a new life, groaning in the Spirit to be released

from frustration. This is a new reason for human beings (now renewed in Christ) to care for God's creation. In the first place we were created in the image of God to further and to complete his creation. Now, re-created as adopted sons and heirs of God, our responsibility is increased and intensified. As yet, we have only the first-fruits of the Spirit, but first-fruits make sense and have their value only in view of the fullness and completion of the harvest.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

### The Word: Year A, Ordinary Time, Sunday 16

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

## Prayer of the Church

### Psalter Week 3

**Sun** Seasonal Proper

**Mon** Seasonal Proper (or + Proper Saints)

**Tues** Seasonal Proper (or + Proper Saints)

**Wed** Seasonal Proper or + Proper Saints

**Thu** Seasonal Proper (or + Proper Saints)

**Fri** Seasonal Proper

**Sat** Common Dedication of a Church

## This Week's Feasts & Saints

**Mon** St Henry, Holy Man

**Tue** St Camillus de Lellis, Priest

**Wed** St Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of Church

**Thu** Our Lady of Mount Carmel

**Fri** Ordinary Week 15

**Sat** Dedication Leeds Cathedral

**Gathering Hymn**

I, the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save  
I, who made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart*

I, the Lord of snow and rain  
I have borne my people's pain  
I have wept for love of them  
They turn away  
I will break their hearts of stone  
Give them hearts for love alone  
Who will speak my word to them  
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame  
I will tend the poor and lame  
I will set a feast for them  
My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide  
'Til their hearts be satisfied  
I will give my life to them  
Whom shall I send?

*Daniel L Schutte*

**First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

**Responsorial Psalm (64)**

R Some seeds fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

You care for the earth, give it water,  
you, fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over  
to provide its grain.

And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows,  
you level it, soften it with showers,  
you bless its growth.

You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

R Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop

**Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not

only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the Word of God, Christ the sower;  
whoever finds this seed will remain for ever.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23**

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

*You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.*

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus, you have taught us to know and trust that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

We love you above all things and passionately desire to receive you into our hearts and minds, for you to be one with and within each of us.

Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we trust you to come spiritually to be among us and within us, and to enable us, each and every one, to unite ourselves wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

**Communion Hymn on next page . . .**

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Year A, Ordinary Time, Sunday 15

**Communion Hymn**

God is love; His the care,  
Tending each, ev'rywhere.  
God is love, all is there!  
Jesus came to show Him,  
That we all might know Him:

*Sing aloud, loud, loud!  
Sing aloud, loud, loud!  
God is good! Good is truth!  
God is beauty! Praise Him!*

None can see God above;  
Humankind we can love;  
Thus may we Godward move,  
Finding God in others,  
Sisters all, and brothers:

Jesus shared all our pain:  
Strove and died, rose again,  
Rules our hearts, now as then;  
For he came to save us  
By the truth he gave us:

To our Lord praise we sing,  
Light and life, friend and king,  
Coming down love to bring,  
Pattern for our duty,  
Showing God in beauty:

*Peter Dearmer (1867-1936)*



Especially for our Children



In today's Gospel -

1) The crowd was big, so what did Jesus get into - a lorry, a boat, a cart?

2) Where did the crowd stand: on - the hill, a big field, on the beach?

3) Some plants were scorched because they didn't have any - water, sunshine, roots?

4) What other plants did some seeds fall among - thorns, grass, thistles?

Answers to 1 - 4

- 1) A boat 2) The beach  
3) Roots 4) Thorns

All the words below can be found in the Gospel for this Sunday - but only 12 can be found in the Word Search - which 2 are missing from the Word Search?

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| LAKESIDE | BIRDS    |
| CROWDS   | SCORCHED |
| GATHERED | CHOKED   |
| PARABLES | RICH     |
| IMAGINE  | SOIL     |
| SOWER    | CROP     |
| PATH     | LISTEN   |

Two Missing Words

Rich Crop

N	E	G	E	N	I	G	A	M	I
E	N	P	A	T	H	A	D	S	S
M	D	A	D	T	O	E	S	O	D
S	E	I	P	A	H	R	W	I	R
G	K	C	S	C	C	E	E	L	I
A	O	S	R	E	R	N	R	O	B
S	H	O	W	R	K	O	M	E	N
O	C	R	R	A	R	A	W	L	D
S	I	N	E	T	S	I	L	D	W
A	R	P	A	R	A	B	L	E	S

## Opening our Churches for Mass and other Liturgies

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RE-OPENING OF CHURCHES FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MASS DURING THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC FROM 4 TH JULY 2020 DIOCESE OF LEEDS (Issued by Bishop Marcus on 30 June)

**Q 1. Will all churches be open for Masses on 4th July and beyond?**

No. Only some churches will be ready to re-open for the celebration of Mass on 4th July; others will re-open for public worship either shortly after or at a much later date. There may be different but very good reasons for this. One of these, is that some parishes may have difficulty recruiting sufficient volunteers to help with the stewarding and cleaning arrangements that need to be in place before a church can re-open safely.

**Q 2. How will I know when I can start going to Mass in my local parish?**

You will need to read the information that is published on either your parish's own website or in its weekly newsletter. Alternatively, you can telephone your local clergy or parish office to speak to someone or listen to a recorded message with details of the scheduled Mass times which will be offered. Please note that some parishes may offer additional celebrations of Mass or have a changed Mass schedule to the one which operated before the closure of churches on 20 March. It is important to understand that not every parish may yet be able to offer a scheduled Mass for public attendance on or after 4th July (see Q1. above)

**Q 3. Will the numbers of people able to go to Mass be restricted?**

Yes. Each church building will have a maximum capacity that is determined by its size, seating arrangements and the requirements for social distancing.

**Q 4. Now that churches can re-open for public worship, is the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation restored?**

No. This Obligation has been suspended by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales; it is unlikely to be restored until the pandemic has ended in this country and people are able to freely attend Mass once again without any restrictions. Consequently, those wishing to attend Mass should consider the possibility of doing so on a weekday. For example, someone who is retired or not in full-time employment during weekdays may be able to attend Mass easily during the week; this would enable the Masses which are celebrated at the weekend to have more room available for those who are only free to attend on a Saturday evening or on a Sunday. Such a willingness to be flexible would ease the pressure on numbers attending Sunday celebrations and allow a gradual return to attendance at Mass for more people.

**Q 5. Will I need to wear a face mask to attend Mass?**

No, not if you attend a Mass in the Diocese of Leeds. All churches in the Diocese of Leeds that are able to re-open for the celebration of Mass will keep the 2m social distance requirement. Under the Government's current instructions, this will mean that wearing a face covering will not be compulsory for those attending Mass. However, if the Government's advice should change, then you will be advised accordingly. Those who choose to wear a face mask are of course at liberty to do so and should bring one with them.

**Q 6. Can I just turn up for a scheduled Mass in any church?**

No. You will need to register your intention to attend a scheduled Mass. You can register either on-line, via a link on your parish's website or by telephoning your parish's usual contact telephone number. The online booking service is totally free to those wishing to register and will require only your name and email address. For telephone registration, only your name and contact telephone number will be required. This will enable us to observe the government regulations which ask that we keep a record for 21 days of the names and contact details of all those who visit our churches; it will assist NHS Test and Trace with requests for that data if needed for contact tracing and the investigation of local outbreaks.

**Q 7. Why do I need to register to attend a scheduled Mass?**

We wish to ensure, as far as possible, that no one comes to one of our churches and is unable to be admitted due to the social distancing requirements which limit the number of people who can be accommodated safely in the church. The registration will enable the parish priest to know that the safe capacity of the church will not be exceeded.

**Q 8. Can I register to attend with members of my family?**

Yes. Parishioners will be able to register for their own attendance and, where applicable, include the number of people who will attend with them from their household if sufficient capacity remains available at the time of registration. When the church capacity for a scheduled Mass is reached, it will not be possible to make any further registrations for that specific scheduled Mass.

**Q 9. Do I need to register for weekday Masses as well as Sunday Masses?**

It may not be necessary to register for attendance at weekday Masses in every church. However, a parish priest may decide to require this should there be a concern that the capacity of the church and the numbers which may attend could result in the ability of parishioners to be socially distanced being placed at risk. You will therefore need to check the information supplied by your local parish.

**Q 10. Are there restrictions on who can go to Mass?**

Any individual with symptoms of COVID-19 coronavirus (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell), or Diocese of Leeds - FAQs... Page 3 anyone from a household with possible or confirmed COVID-19 coronavirus infection should act in accordance with the Government guidance. This means that they should stay at home and not come to Mass. For anyone in this situation they should wait until after they

*Continued next page . . .*

## Opening our Churches for Mass and other Liturgies

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RE-OPENING OF CHURCHES (Continued)

#### Q 10. Continued

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#### Q 11. Will there be anything different about what I have to do in church when I go to the scheduled Mass I have registered for?

Yes. Please come a little early before the time that Mass is due to start; this is to give time for the stewards to safely admit everyone into church. You may have to queue outside, briefly, especially if you arrive at the last minute! Please be patient and understanding of the responsibilities and work that the stewards have to do, particularly as they and all of us get used to the arrangements we need to follow. Please also note that:

a. The Holy Water stoups will be empty to avoid passing on any infection from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Normally we would make the sign of the cross with the Holy Water on entering the church to remind ourselves of our baptism. Please continue to make the sign of the cross though (without the Holy Water), either as you enter the church or when you genuflect before the Presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle of the church.

b. There will be no Hymn Books or Missals distributed. Paper missalettes and parish newsletters, etc., may be available but are for your individual use only and you should take them away when the celebration of the Mass is concluded; you should not leave any of these in the church at the end of Mass.

c. There will be no congregational singing at Mass. However, there may be organ music and/or a cantor to sing some of the parts during the celebration of the Mass.

d. There will be no children's liturgy of the word.

e. There will be no procession of the offertory gifts and no collection of offerings will be taken during the Mass. You are encouraged to make your donation to the church online or via standing order. However, in some churches there may be collecting plates or boxes for cash offerings placed at the entrances and exits, and these will be overseen by stewards.

f. The Sign of Peace will not be exchanged at Mass.

g. After the priest has said, "Behold the Lamb of God ... Lord I am not worthy", he will hold up the Host to the Congregation and say audibly "The Body of Christ" to which the people should respond "Amen". In the same way, he will elevate the chalice and say, "The Blood of Christ" and again the people should respond "Amen". The reason he will do this is because when you come to receive Holy Communion, this personal affirmation of your faith in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist which you receive will already have taken place. Doing so at this point will avoid the risk of the transmission of any COVID-19 coronavirus infection from the exhaled spoken breath of either the priest or the communicant during the distribution of Holy Communion (see note 'j.' below).

h. Holy Communion will be distributed under one kind only. Holy Communion from the chalice will not be given. It is our ancient Catholic belief that the Sacred Body and Precious Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ is really and fully present in both the consecrated Host and the Chalice. Therefore, we receive the Real Presence of the Lord wholly and entirely in Holy Communion under one kind.

i. The arrangements for the distribution of Holy Communion may differ according to the seating and layout in different churches. You should listen carefully therefore to any instructions that are given before or during the Mass about how Holy Communion will be distributed. The priest or the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion may bring Holy Communion to you in the place where you are present in the church. Alternatively, you may be required to form a procession (similar to what previously has taken place) to receive Holy Communion; or, you may be asked to receive Holy Communion after the Blessing and dismissal at the end of Mass. The precise arrangements will be determined by your parish priest according to the safest manner suitable for the church where you are attending Mass.

j. Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand only. When receiving Holy Communion, you should do so standing, with arms at 'full stretch' so that there is a good distance between the priest (or the Extraordinary Minister) and yourself. Your hands, palms upwards, one on top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible. Holy Communion will be given to you silently. As the priest (or Extraordinary Minister) will be facing you directly at this point, they will NOT say "The Body of Christ" and you should consume the Host immediately and NOT say "Amen" at this point. This will avoid the risk of the transmission of any COVID-19 coronavirus infection from the exhaled breath of either the priest or the communicant when speaking (see note 'g.' above). The priest or deacon will remind the congregation about these arrangements before Holy Communion is distributed.

k. If you or a member of your family normally come for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion rather than receiving Communion, you/they should still fold your arms diagonally across your chest. The priest will make the sign of the cross over you but without saying any words of blessing.

l. There will be no tea/coffee offered after the celebration of Mass. At this time, church halls and other church premises must remain closed for this purpose. Please be aware that due to the current requirements for a thorough sanitisation after usage and the need for enhanced ventilation within them, it may not be possible for the toilet facilities to be open in the majority of churches.