



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 23, 5/6 September

<i>Getting in touch</i>	Father Anthony G Fenton	<i>Email</i>	anthony.fenton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk
	The Sacred Heart Presbytery Market Street, Hemsworth, Pontefract, WF9 4LB	<i>Tel</i>	01977-610733
		<i>Parish Website</i>	www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

		<i>FB - Parish Facebook live-stream</i>	Mass Intentions
Saturday 5 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	12.00nn Mass 4.00pm Mass	<i>Parish Family Special Intention (BE)</i>
Sunday 6 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Cath-. Chris-, & Lawrence Timmons Jerzy Gorecki</i>
Monday 7 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 11.00am Funeral Mass - <i>check with Fr Anthony if any places available</i>	<i>Yorkshire Brethren Geoffrey Marston</i>
Tuesday 8 September			
Wednesday 9 September	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Paul Woodgate</i>
Thursday 10 September	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Friday 11 September			
Saturday 12 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	12.00nn Mass 4.00pm Mass	<i>Bill Torpey Geoff Marston</i>
Sunday 13 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Dominic Stones Martha Kirwan</i>

As numbers have to be limited at all Masses, to enable physical distancing, all are requested to pre-book.
All Saturday and Sunday Masses are of the Sunday.

To book: see our Parish Website, our Parish Facebook Page, or contact Fr Anthony.

Please remember: the Government has stated that face coverings must now be worn in Churches, as well as in many other indoor spaces, unless a person is exempted by age or for medical reasons.

On the event of her being Baptised, this Sunday, we pray for and congratulate Allie Margaret Sheila Ramsden-Oszko, daughter of Rabbecca and Christian

Let us all pray for a speedy end to Covid-19 and the well-being of each and all.

Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith, we pray, look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together, we may give glory to your holy name.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: presently can be celebrated by appointment with Fr Anthony.

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

From Fr Anthony

In humour life is returned to us.

This is a profound reflection. Let us ask, 'Why are we able to laugh?' The answer surely must be, 'Because God laughs and we are made in his image.' Often, tense situations can be broken or seem more survivable when laughter breaks out.

God must be a comedian. We are told a new baby will not smile until the mother smiles at it. The Psalmist (34:5) invites us to smile at God and says:



'We shall not be ashamed', which, presumably, means that God will smile back at us.

What makes us laugh? It is often a deep current of joy caused by looking at others playing and enjoying themselves, especially children. When God looks at his children enjoying his beautiful world, surely he must be smiling. We often laugh at the unexpected, the incongruities of life. It's hard to keep a straight face when we hear a good joke, and as some comedians deliberately play dumb and do not laugh at the obviously funny, we laugh at their straight faces. Many jokes poke fun at our inflated sense of our own dignity. This laughter is healthy and prevents us taking our lives too seriously. Jesus had a very serious mission in life, but I find it easier to imagine Jesus laughing, than to imagine the over-serious Pharisees doubling up in laughter.

We could also profitably ask ourselves, 'Why are we able to cry?' Again, I believe the answer must be, 'Because God cries and we are made in his image.' Why would God cry? Because he is a Lover and love is always vulnerable. When his friend Lazarus died, Jesus wept. We could say God has so much to give us and we don't seem too interested. Jesus wept over Jerusalem for that reason. We could say that God desires our happiness and fulfilment, but we keep on hurting and wounding ourselves and others, and seeking our happiness away from him. We can laugh and



cry because God first laughs and cries. Above all we can love because God first loves us. Let us come to this God in prayer and just be with him.

There will be days when we shall laugh together. On other days we shall have cause to weep together. But through all days, whether there be laughter or tears, we can know that our God is with us, sharing his love and life with us. Let us put no limit to that love. It is as great as God himself.

Abbreviated from 'Be Still and Know', Ch 2, Robert Kelly SJ

Things happening in our Parish

For Our Children All our children are invited, each week, to make sure to take home from Church a copy of 'Look' - interesting puzzles, pictures and learning, just for them.

Toilets We can now more freely open our church toilets, but following a strict cleaning regime, after each Mass or Liturgy, when a toilet has been used. For the present, we will generally leave open for use, at both our Churches, just the disabled toilet (to hopefully reduce cleaning time). Please observe the following:

if someone is in the toilet, there should be no more than one person (unless a parent/carer is with their child, or an assistant with someone disabled), waiting for the toilet, in the corridor at The Sacred Heart, or the side entrance at St Joseph's;

if someone is already waiting in the corridor/entrance, please wait at the back of the Church until the one in the toilet comes out;

if waiting presents a problem, please speak with the nearby steward, who can give access to another toilet;

please, if seeking to use a toilet, *remember physical distancing guidelines* - and after use - *be sure to wash your hands for at least twenty seconds*.

Apologies if some of this is teaching grandma to suck eggs, but the management is required to cover all!

Booking for Mass Those booking on-line, for either of our Churches, should now find required details fully as should be. Any booking for more than one need to add the first and sur-names of each individual for whom they are booking. A contact person (usually the one booking) *needs* to provide their email address, but, *if they wish*, may add their telephone number. Email addresses and/or telephone numbers for any others being booked for are optional. Where all are of the same household, the one email contact should suffice. If someone being booked for is not of the same household, the one booking may prefer to add that person's telephone number or email address, so that if a track and trace event should occur, that person can be contacted directly. Please remember: we are required to register all who attend a Mass or other Liturgy, but the records are destroyed after three weeks.

Parish Pastoral Council is due to meet on **Thu 10 Sep**, 7.00pm, and note, in our Parish Hall.

If any have items for the agenda, they should please give them to Elizabeth Smith, Janet Ward, or Fr Anthony, by this **Sun 6 Sep**, at latest.

Parish Finance Committee is due to meet **Wed 9 Sep**, 2.00pm: members please note, in our Parish Hall.

First Reconciliation Preparations are now progressing to re-start our First Reconciliation Programme, from **Sat 17 Oct**, with a view to our Children celebrating their First Confession during Advent, and then preparing for First Communion around Easter. Parents should receive a letter about this during the coming week.

Please, if you can, volunteer to be a Steward, and/or after Mass cleaner/sanitizer: much help needed.
Fr Anthony can provide details of what is required.

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

Sacraments

Baptism Our Preparation Programme, for Parents of Children to be baptised, will next take place 7.00-8.30pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall, over **Weds 16 & 23 Sep**. To join a run of the Programme, Parents need to talk with Fr Anthony, after one of our Parish Masses, so as to arrange 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 Preparations are progressing to re-start our Programme from **Sat 17 Oct**, to ready our Children to celebrate their First Confession in Advent, and then to prepare for First Communion around Easter. Parents should receive a letter about this during the coming week.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Carmelite Nuns can be found at Wood Hall, near Wetherby, Thicket Priory, south of York, and High Bradfield, near Sheffield. There are Poor Clare Nuns at Askham Bryam, near York.

Benedictine Nuns can be found at Wass, near to Ampleforth, where can be found Benedictine Monks.

Benedictines find their origin in the rule of St Benedict and the Poor Clares in St Clare (who gained encouragement from St Francis of Assisi). But how did the Carmelites come about?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A teenager is:

A whizz kid who can operate the latest computer without a lesson but can't make a bed.



An enthusiast who has the energy to ride a bike for miles, but is usually too tired to dry the dishes.

Parish Monies

Many Thanks for donations, 10-16 August:

Loose £ 86.22
Envelopes £416.50

Donations to our Parish

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

GOD OF SURPRISES

Clearing the Approaches

To use the virtues of loyalty, humility, obedience and faithfulness for the opposite purpose, namely to destroy any belief that God does work within our minds and hearts by assuring people that any disagreement with religious authorities must stem from their own sinfulness, so discouraging them from paying any attention to their own inner experience, the place of their encounter with God, is a sin and a scandal and Christ has harsh words to say of those who scandalise children: 'It were better that a millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea.'

The infantile attitude is not infrequently to be found in people who are not at all infantile in the ways of the world and who may be very prominent in public life. Their religion is sealed off so that it does not interfere with their career and the way they pursue it, and they are often the loudest in opposing any change in the Church. They want religion to be exactly as it was when they were children.



In adolescence, if we do not search for some kind of unity and meaning in our lives, we cannot begin to find any direction. We may be content to find enough unity to enable us to avoid immediate pain, and we may refuse to question any further through fear of what we may find. If we do continue to

question and search for meaning, the danger is that this activity may threaten the security, protection and affection which we enjoyed in the infancy stage. Our searching may lead us to reject the views of our parents and friends, which previously we accepted without question. The temptation to stop questioning is strong, because we need not only meaning in our lives, but also affection, support and protection from our family and friends. It is hard to keep on terms of close filial love when you believe, and let Mam and Dad know that you believe, that they are not essentially different from a coal scuttle!



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 Geoff Marston, 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, Dennis Fricker
John O'Brien, Monica Lowe, Janice Coyle, Nicola Glew, and all our housebound

The Word: Year A, Ordinary Time, Sunday 23, Commentary

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

The Church has had to be selective as we work through the Gospel of Matthew for this year's readings. In this eighteenth chapter of Matthew on relationships within the community it is striking that the Church has chosen this passage to put before us. The first part is all about sorting out disputes and about forgiveness. Despite the presence of Christ in the Christian community there are going to be disagreements and misunderstandings in every church and every family. The vital thing is to sort them out and not to let them fester. So here we are given a safe process to do this. Just after today's passage, Jesus underlines his teaching here when he says that we have to forgive not just seven times (the perfect number) but seventy-seven times. That means again and again and again, without limit. Christ also reminds us that he is present always in his community. The same promise is given at the beginning (the name Emmanuel means 'God with us') and at the end of the gospel ('I am with you to the end of time'). Therefore the decisions of the community will be considered binding in the sight of God. It is especially striking that the same pledge (of binding and loosing) is made with the Church here as had earlier been made with Peter himself; Peter on his own exercises the authority of the Church.

First Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Why did the church choose this passage, about the prophet warning sinners, to pair with the gospel-reading about reconciliation? Partly because every person's sin or failure affects the whole Church. If I fail in my duty to my brother or sister or spouse or child or other dependent, this harms the holiness of the whole Church. I can't shrug it off as no concern of mine, saying, 'I can't be bothered', 'too busy', 'nothing to do with me, anyway'. Of course it is all very well for the prophet Ezekiel to point out other people's faults: that is the job of a prophet, to show others how God sees them.



Heaven forbid that I should go round telling people their faults! On the other hand, just occasionally I can learn some home-truths about myself when someone flies off the handle; that is the time to listen and learn! Jesus did not denounce sinners: he dined with them. For myself, there are countless people and occasions where a healing word, a healing touch, can begin the process of growth over the scar-tissue. But it must be a healing in love, and, unless there is real, overflowing love, keep clear!

Second Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Paul has described the process of salvation, won for us by Christ's loving obedience to his Father. Now he gives his instructions about how we should live as Christians and he simply summarises the basic command of Judaism: love your neighbour as yourself. Each of these negative commandments he mentions contains a clutch of positive values. If I really love and bond with my spouse, it will never come to adultery. 'You shall not kill' implies also that we should further life in all the ways we can. 'You shall not steal' involves respect for the property and well-being of others. The only debt I owe to anyone is love. It is easy to kid ourselves that we are practising love, while we are showing self-interest, self-justification. It is easy enough to be loving to our friends (most of the time!), but that is not what Paul means. In his earlier letter to the Corinthians he gave us that searching test for true love, 'Love is always patient, never jealous, not boastful or conceited, never rude, never seeks its own advantage,' and so on. It is hard to read St Paul's teaching about these qualities of love without some embarrassment.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year A, Ordinary Time, Sunday 24

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-45

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Week 2

Sun Seasonal Proper

Mon Seasonal Proper

Tue Proper of Saints

Wed Seasonal Proper (or + Proper Saints)

Thu Seasonal Proper

Fri Seasonal Proper

Sat Seasonal Proper

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Ordinary Time

Tue Nativity of Mary, Mother of God.

Wed St Peter Claver, Priest

Thu Ordinary Time

Fri Ordinary Time

Sat Ordinary Time

Gathering Psalm 88(89) (All say)

Love and truth walk in your presence, Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

The heavens proclaim your wonders, O Lord;
the assembly of your holy ones proclaims your truth.
For who in the skies can compare with the Lord
or who is like the Lord among the sons of God?

A God to be feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and dreadful to all around him.
O Lord God of hosts, who is your equal?
You are mighty, O Lord, and truth is your garment.

The heavens are yours, the world is yours.
It is you who founded the earth and all it holds;
it is you who created the North and the South.
Tabor and Hermon shout with joy at your name.

Yours is a mighty arm, O Lord;
your hand is strong, your right hand ready.
Justice and right are the pillars of your throne,
love and truth walk in your presence.

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Love and truth walk in your presence, Lord.

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
 have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry

to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm 94(95)

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out your joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
As on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: *You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet*, and so on, are summed up in this single command: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.
Alleluia!

Mass continues over page . . .



Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Creed

I believe in one God,
 the Father almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all things visible and invisible.
 I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the Only Begotten Son of God,
 born of the Father before all ages.
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
 through him all things were made.
 For us men and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven,
 and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
 of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
 he suffered death and was buried,
 and rose again on the third day
 in accordance with the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven and is seated
 at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory
 to judge the living and the dead
 and his kingdom will have no end.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is adored
 and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
 I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
 and I look forward to the resurrection of the
 dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 that you be in our hearts and minds, for you to be one with and within each of us.

With all who cannot now receive you sacramentally, but wish to do so, we trust you to spiritually be among them and within them, and to enable us all, each and every one, to unite ourselves wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

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 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?

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?

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

Daniel L Schutte

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This Week's Feast -

Birth of Mary, Mother of God

The festival of the birth of the Mother of God is the prelude. The Virgin is born, tended and formed and prepared for her role as Mother of God, who is the universal King of the ages.

Justly do we celebrate this mystery since it signifies for us a double grace.

We are led towards the truth, and we are led away from our condition of slavery to the letter of the law. How can this be? Darkness yields before the coming of light, grace exchanges legalism for freedom. But midway between the two is today's mystery, at the frontier where types and symbols give way to reality, the old is replaced by the new. So, let all creation sing

and dance and unite to make worthy contribution to the celebration of this day. Let there be one common festival for saints in heaven and men on earth. Today this created world is raised to the dignity of a holy place for him who made all things. The creature is newly prepared to be a divine dwelling place for the Creator.

Abbreviated from a discourse of St Andrew of Crete