



# 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 B, Advent, Sunday 1, 28/29 November

<i>Getting in touch</i>	Father Anthony G Fenton	<i>Email</i>	anthony.fenton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk
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		<i>Parish Website</i>	www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

		<i>FB - Parish Facebook live-stream</i>	<b>Mass Intentions</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 28 November	Sacred Heart	10.30-11.30am Open Church	<i>Parish Family</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 29 November	St Joseph's	9.00-9.45am Open Church 10.45am Mass <b>FB</b>	<i>Albert Allan</i>
Monday 30 November			<i>Min Walker</i>
Tuesday 1 December	St Joseph's St Joseph's	10.00am <i>Funeral Mass*</i> 5.00pm <i>Reception of Body*</i>	Christopher Duffield Janice Coyle
Wednesday 2 December	St Joseph's	10.00am <i>Funeral Mass*</i>	Janice Coyle
Thursday 3 December	St Joseph's	<b>9.30am Mass</b> 4.00pm <i>Reception of Body*</i>	<i>Marie Mannion</i>
Friday 4 December	Sacred Heart	10.00am <i>Funeral Mass*</i>	Samuel Towson
<b>Saturday</b> 5 December	Sacred Heart	<b>5.00pm Mass</b>	<i>Parish Family</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 5 December	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>10.45am Mass <b>FB</b></b>	<i>Michelle Proctor</i> <i>Debbie Lane</i>

**\* For funerals, any not already invited as a Mourner need to check directly with Fr Anthony to know if there are any spare places**

### Our regular Parish Masses are due to resume this Thursday, 3 December

As numbers have to be limited at all Masses, to enable physical distancing, all are requested to pre-book.  
**To book for a regular Mass: see our Parish Website, Parish Facebook Page, or phone the Presbytery**

### Christmas Masses

It is hoped notice of our Christmas Mass arrangements can be given next weekend. It has to be noted, however, that we can expect any Masses still to be subject to distancing and be able to occur **only if we have sufficient people to both steward at and then sanitise after any Masses.**  
**We really need more Stewards, and not just for Christmas. Fr Anthony is waiting to hear from you.**



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

### *From the Instructions to Catechumens by St Cyril of Jerusalem*

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the divine kingdom.

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming he was in a manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes. At his second coming he will be clothed in light. In the first coming he endured the cross; in the second he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels.

We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.* At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

The Saviour will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgement he was silent; then he will address those who committed the outrages against him, when they crucified him, reminding them: *You did these things, and I was silent.*

His first coming was to fulfil his plan of love, to teach by gentle persuasion. This time, whether people like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity.

The prophet Malachi tells of the two comings. *And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple:* that is one coming. He says of another coming: *Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing.*

These two comings are referred to by Paul, writing to Titus: *The grace of God the Saviour has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.* Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: *He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.* Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.

## Things happening in our Parish

**The Celebration of Mass, open to congregations, can resume - as from this Thursday, 3 December.**

**Remember that we still have to limit numbers and still have to register all comers - so please do book on-line, if at all possible, or telephone the Presbytery.**

**As the benches are set for 1 metre+ distancing, please remain seated, at prayer, and do not kneel.**

Within all three tiers, funerals are still limited to no more than 30 mourners and weddings to up to 15 guests.

**Send your Christmas Greeting** to all our Parish Family and also help raise funds towards our Advent Project. Write on an envelope *Christmas Card* and add your Family name (Christian name/s, too, if you wish) - add at least £2 as a donation - put the envelope in the collection basket during our 'Open Church' times or deliver it to our Sacred Heart Presbytery, by this **Sun 29 Nov** at latest. Your name/s will then be listed on a Parish Card, to be distributed to all our Parish Families, at our Masses, on 3rd/4th weekends of Advent.

**Parish Council** is to next meet **Thu 3 Dec**, 7.00pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall. Please give any items for the Agenda to Janet Ward, Elizabeth Smith, or Fr Anthony by this **Sun 29 Nov**, at the latest.

**First Reconciliation** Parents of our Children who have begun their preparation for First Confession should have recently received a letter, about meetings from January on. It is important that those who did not receive a letter via email should please contact Fr Anthony, by **6 Dec** at latest, either with their email address or to let him know that they do not use email.

**Confirmation** Plans are progressing to begin our next Preparation Programme during January. Those who are Baptised Catholics, in school year 6 or older, and not yet Confirmed, should be eligible. Application forms are due to be available from Fr Anthony, from next weekend, and will need to be returned to him before January.

**Christmas Cards** are available at both our Churches, also some calendars and diaries. Any wishing to buy:

*at our Sacred Heart Church*, may enter the Hall, and view the packs well spaced out on tables;

*at our St Joseph's Church*, the packs may be found near the confessional and in the main exit hall.

*At both Churches*, please leave the appropriate money in the pot provided - **ensure physical distancing of at least 1 metre+** - and please remember that others also need time to look and buy.



**Advent Project** As our Lent Project for 'Maidie's Minibus' was cut short, by the first 'Lockdown', our Advent Project is taking up the same cause, to help towards the buying of a Minibus for use by the Burntwood Nursing Home Residents. On Sundays 2-4 of Advent, please note carefully the labels on the collection baskets, at Church. Suitably labelled donations may also be delivered to our Sacred Heart Presbytery.

*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 continue in our Sacred Heart Hall, 7.00-8.30pm, **Wed 9 Dec**. To join a Programme, Parents need to talk with Fr Anthony, after one of our Parish Masses, 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 6 or older*, before the summer of 2021. Watch for application details, coming next weekend.

**First Reconciliation** Our *Children* are next due to meet in our Sacred Heart Parish Hall, **Sat 9 Jan**, 10-11.15am, and their parents in our Sacred Heart Church, 10-10.15am.

On arrival, Parents should please not enter the Hall with the Children, but go immediately into the Church.

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

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

Advent is first and foremost about Jesus's 'Second Coming'. He first came here on earth, as one of us, principally to call us to, and help us to prepare for the time of our death, when he will come to (we hope and pray) raise us up to live with him, in the glorious heavenly homeland.

*While the primary Advent focus is on preparing for Jesus's Second Coming, there is a clear move, later in Advent, to increasingly focus on the approaching commemoration of Christmas. On what date does this re-focusing begin?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!

Heavily pregnant with twins, a woman involved in a car accident went into a coma. When she came round she was told that her brother was looking after the twins, who had been delivered. 'Not my brother', she said 'he's an imbecile'. I

did wonder, said the nurse, as he's named the girl Denise and the boy De Nephew.



## Parish Monies

**Offertory Monies** 2-29 Nov will be noted next Weekend.

**From the Will** of Brenda Hannan: £4787.83 - please keep Brenda in prayer - May she rest in peace.

## 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

### Inner Chaos and False Images of God

*Every single time I want to do good, it is something evil that comes to hand. (Rom 7:21)*

The truth about God, that he is mystery, is of fundamental importance. Being fundamental, any religion which ignores this truth will certainly lead us astray. We may construct a most elaborate and ingenious religious system, but if it is not grounded in this basic truth that God is mystery, then our elaborate system becomes an elaborate form of idolatry. We are constantly tempted to make God in our own image and likeness. We want to control and domesticate him, giving him perhaps a position of great honour in our hearts, home and country, but we remain in control. God is uncontrollable, beyond anything we can think or imagine. 'God', I once heard someone say, 'is a BECKONING WORD.' He Calls us out of ourselves and beyond ourselves. He is the God of surprises, always creating anew. That is why a Church which is static and immutable in its ways cannot be a sign, an effective sign, of his presence in the world. Because we want to control God, there will always be a following for any Church which presents God in very clear terms and offers an access card to him, procurable by following the clear prescriptions of that Church. Any deviation from these prescriptions will be presented as deviation from God himself;

When the Second Vatican Council began in 1962, the first draft document considered was 'The Constitution on the Church'. The draft so emphasised the institutional element that its opening chapter was on the hierarchical structure of the Church. The bishops rejected this draft. The first chapter of the final version is



entitled 'The Mystery of the Church'. This was a most important beginning, which set the tone for the remainder of the Council and accounts for the great changes which have taken place in the Catholic Church since the Council and will continue to take place.

The Church is 'the sacrament of God's presence' in the world. Some Christian denominations might object to the word 'sacrament', but most would agree that the Church is a sign, and an effective sign, of God's presence among us. God is not static. The Church, if she is to be true to her meaning, cannot be static. We can never adequately describe God: therefore, we can never adequately describe the meaning of nature of the Church. As an organisation of human beings, the Church must have structures, laws, discipline, a body of teaching and ways of communicating, but its structures are provisional and it must constantly be developing. God is always greater, greater than his Church. He is at work in all his creation and dwells within each one.

*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 Christopher Duffield,  
Janice Coyle, Samuel Towson, Andrew Christopher Tyrrell,  
Peter Townend, Barbara O'Donnell, and their families.



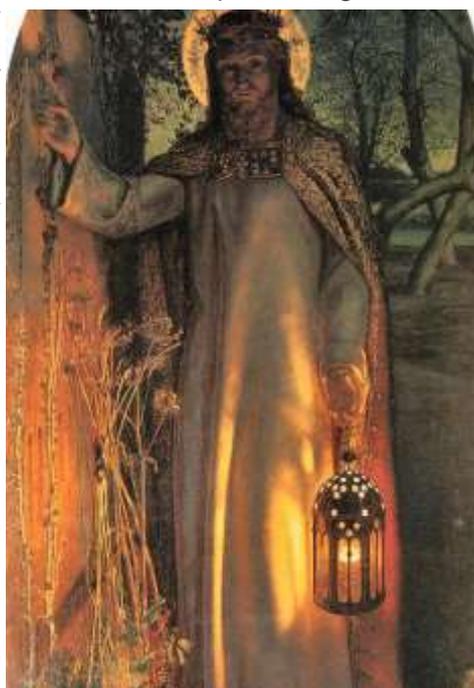
*Also:* All those **sick** or **infirm**, especially:

Br Hilarion Durkin, Margaret Hinchliffe, Isabelle Blake, Elizabeth Olbison, Catherine Brown, Karen Dearing  
George Potts, Cynthia Potts, Peggy Heneghan, Kazia Andruszko, Liz Allen, Dennis Fricker John O'Brien  
Monica Lowe, Nicola Glew, Elizabeth Taylor, and all our housebound

**The Word: Year B, Advent, Sunday 1, Commentary**

**Gospel: Mark 13:33-37**

This brief parable of the master returning unexpectedly is typical of Jesus' vivid way of speaking. The message is typical, too, because Jesus was constantly stressing that there is no time to lose. When he came in his earthly ministry he again and again challenged his hearers to make up their minds NOW, to change their ways NOW. He challenges us to do the same. We can hear the rattle of the returning Master's key in the lock. There is no time to hide the contraband, to pull our uniforms straight before greeting the Master at his entry. Even if we do not think that the world's end is imminent, even if death is not threatening, every moment counts, every decision is for or against Jesus. Saints are rumoured to have said that, if they received the news that they were to die that night, they would carry on doing what they were doing anyway. Saints can do this, because they are ready for the coming of the Lord. But what about us? If we need to put things a bit more in order to prepare for the Lord's coming, is there any valid reason to delay? The four weeks of Advent are a good time to clean things up for the Lord's coming.



**First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64: 1, 3-8**

Each Advent Sunday begins with a reading from Isaiah, for Isaiah is the great prophet of the Messiah. This reading is taken from the latest part of the Book of Isaiah. After the return to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, the Jews were passionately awaiting the coming of the Messiah. They were conscious that they had sinned and deserved their punishment, but still longed for the liberation from foreign interference

which the Messiah would bring. After the coming of Christ we too are waiting - waiting for the fulfilment of the sovereignty or kingship of God. Jesus brought the pledge of this kingship by his miracles of healing, his welcome to sinners, his teaching about the Kingdom, and above all by his Resurrection from the dead. We no longer have any reason to fear death, but we are conscious of our own failings, of our co-operation with evil and long for the strength and fidelity which wholehearted membership of God's Kingdom would bring us.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9**

This reading from the opening of Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians is full of the excitement of the Spirit. The young community of Christians at Corinth flourished in the activity of the Holy Spirit, not just by extraordinary things like speaking in tongues, but by healing and teaching and guidance. Even being a good member of a family (husband, wife, parent, child) is an activity guided by the Spirit. All this is preparing for the final coming of Christ, for all Christian activity, no matter how humdrum, is given life and vitality by the Spirit of Christ. In Paul's day there was a freshness and enthusiasm which is sometimes lacking in our Church today. Let us ask at Christmas for a new infusion of the Spirit which will help us to burst the bonds which keep us back from full service to the Lord.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

**The Word: Year B, Advent, Sunday 2**

1st Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5,9-11

2nd Reading: Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

**Prayer of the Church**

**Psalter Week 1**

**Sun** Seasonal Proper  
**Mon** Proper of Saints  
**Tue** Seasonal Proper  
**Wed** Seasonal Proper  
**Thu** Seasonal Proper + Proper of Saints  
**Fri** Seasonal Proper (or + Proper of Saints)  
**Sat** Seasonal Proper

**This Week's Feasts & Saints**

**Mon** St Andrew, Apostle  
**Tue** Of Advent  
**Wed** Of Advent  
**Thu** St Francis Xavier, Priest  
**Fri** St John Damascene, Priest & Dr of Church  
**Sat** Of Advent



### Gathering Song

Like a sea without a shore  
love divine is boundless.  
God is now and evermore  
and his love surrounds us.

*Maranatha! Maranatha!  
Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus, come!*

So that we could all be free  
he appeared among us,  
blest are those who have not seen,  
yet believe His promise.

All our visions, all our dreams,  
are but ghostly shadows  
of the radiant clarity  
waiting at life's close.

Death where is your victory?  
Death where is your sting?  
Closer than the air we breathe  
is our risen King.

*Estelle White (1926-2011)*

### First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 19, 64: 2-7

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,  
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.  
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways  
and harden our hearts against fearing you?  
Return, for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes of your inheritance.  
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come  
down!

– at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,  
no eye has seen  
any god but you act like this  
for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity  
and keep your ways in mind.  
You were angry when we were sinners;  
we had long been rebels against you.  
We were all like men unclean,  
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.  
We have all withered like leaves  
and our sins blew us away like the wind.  
No one invoked your name  
or roused himself to catch hold of you.  
For you hid your face from us  
and gave us up to the power of our sins.  
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;  
we the clay, you the potter,  
we are all the work of your hand.

### Responsorial Psalm 79

R God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name.

R God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send  
you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you  
have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that  
you have been enriched in so many ways, especially  
in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ  
has indeed been strong among you so that you will  
not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you  
are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed;  
and he will keep you steady and without blame until  
the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
because God by calling you has joined you to his  
Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay  
awake, because you never know when the time will  
come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone  
from home, and left his servants in charge, each with  
his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay  
awake. So stay awake, because you do not know  
when the master of the house is coming, evening,  
midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly,  
he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I  
say to all: Stay awake!'

*Mass continues over page . . .*



## Year B, Advent, Sunday 1

### 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  
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 Verse

Lord, Jesus Christ,  
you have come to us  
you are one with us, Mary's Son.  
Cleansing our souls from all their sin  
pouring your love and goodness in  
Jesus our love for you we sing,  
living Lord.

Lord, Jesus Christ,  
now and ev'ry day  
teach us how to pray, Son of God.  
You have commanded us to do  
this in remembrance, Lord, of you.  
Into our lives your pow'r breaks through,  
living Lord.

Lord, Jesus Christ,  
you have come to us,  
born as one with us, Mary's Son.  
Led out to die on Calvary,  
risen from death to set us free,  
living Lord Jesus, help us see  
you are Lord.

Lord, Jesus Christ,  
I would come to you,  
live my life for you, Son of God.  
All your commands I know are true,  
your many gifts will make me new,  
into my life your pow'r breaks through,  
living Lord.

*Patrick Appleford*

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### Saints of the Week

#### St Andrew



was born in Bethsaida, in Galilee, and worked as a fisherman. He may have been a disciple of St John the Baptist. He became one of the first to follow Jesus and introduced his brother, Simon Peter, to him. As one of the twelve Apostles, he was widely venerated in ancient times. He became patron saint of Scotland

because, according to legend, some of his bones were brought there and buried at the place where **the town of St Andrew's now stands.**

#### St Francis Xavier

was born in the Basque country of Spain, in 1506. He met Ignatius Loyola while a student in Paris. He was ordained priest in 1537. In 1541, the Pope sent him as part of a mission to India, and he spent the rest of his life in the East, in Goa and Malacca. He gained many converts and also fought against the Europeans exploiting the indigenous people. He spent two years on a successful mission to Japan. Then, in 1552, he entered China secretly to preach the Gospel there, but died of fever and exhaustion on the Chinese island of Shangchwan.

