



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, Christmas, Sunday 2, 2/3 January 2021

Getting in touch

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Parish Website www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

		<i>FB - Parish Facebook live-stream</i>	Mass Intentions
Saturday 2 January	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Mark Keefe</i>
Sunday 3 January	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Paul Chadwick Andrew Tyrrell</i>
Monday 4 January	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>Janice Coyle</i>
Tuesday 5 January			<i>Faithful Departed (November List)</i>
Epiphany 6 January	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Sheila Jordan</i>
Thursday 7 January	St Joseph's	<i>10.00am Funeral Mass *</i>	Vic France
Friday 8 January			<i>Yorkshire Brethren</i>
Saturday 9 January	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>George Andrusko</i>
Sunday 10 January	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Audrey Daley Terry Quinn</i>

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

*** For funerals, any not invited as a Mourner by the Deceased's Family, need to check directly with Fr Anthony, to know if there are any spare places**

We congratulate and pray for Paul Stuart and Kathleen Whinfrey, on their Covenanting **Marriage, on New Year's Day, and wish them many happy and fulfilling years together.**

On the event of his Baptism, this Saturday, we also congratulate and pray for Thomas Bentley, son of Ewelina and Sean



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"

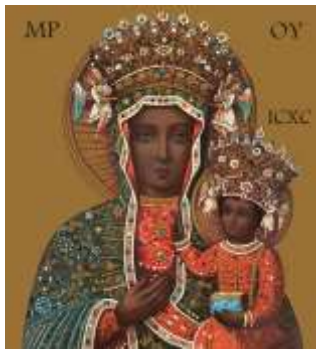
From Fr Anthony

From a Letter of St Athanasius

The Word took to himself the sons of Abraham, says the Apostle, and so had to be like his brothers in all things. He had then to take a body like ours. This explains the fact of Mary's presence: she is to provide him with a body of his own, to be offered for our sake. Scripture records her giving birth, and says: *She wrapped him in swaddling clothes*. Her breasts, which fed him, were called blessed. Sacrifice was offered because the child was her firstborn. Gabriel used careful and prudent language when he announced his birth. He did not speak of "what will be born *in* you" to avoid the impression that a body would be introduced into her womb from outside; he spoke of "what will be born *from* you," so that we might know by faith that her child originated within her and from her.

By taking our nature and offering it in sacrifice, the Word was to destroy it completely and then invest it with his own nature, and so prompt the Apostle to say: *This corruptible body must put on incorruption; this mortal body must put on immortality*.

This was not done in outward show only, as some have imagined. This is not so. Our Saviour truly became man, and from this has followed the salvation of man as a whole. Our salvation is in no way fictitious, nor does it apply only to the body. The salvation of the whole man, that is, of soul and body, has really been achieved in the Word himself.



What was born of Mary was therefore human by nature, in accord with the inspired Scriptures, and the body of the Lord was a true body: It was a true body because it was the same as ours. Mary, you see, is our sister, for we are all born from Adam.

The words of St John, *the Word was made flesh*, bear the same meaning, as we may see from a similar turn of phrase in St Paul: *Christ was made a curse for our sake*. Man's body has acquired something great through its communion and union with the Word. From being mortal it has been made immortal; though it was a living body it has become a spiritual one; though it was made from the earth it has passed through the gates of heaven.

Yet even when the Word takes a body from Mary, the Trinity remains a Trinity, with neither increase nor decrease. It is for ever perfect. In the Trinity we acknowledge one Godhead, and thus one God, the Father of the Word, is proclaimed in the Church.

Things happening in our Parish



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 now available from Fr Anthony, and should be returned to him by this Sunday, at latest.

Mass Bookings via Eventbrite Many now book for our Masses via the Eventbrite website. Bookings may be made as a 'Guest'. However, those who have an account (no cost) can extend their use of the site. To create an account, click on 'Sign in' at the top right of the home page. Then follow a usual type of procedure for creating an account. Once you have an account and sign in, you can click on your account name and find the pop-down menu. If you click on 'tickets' you will be able to see what Masses you have already booked for, and add, change or cancel your bookings.

Diocesan Directories (Year Book). A couple of copies are now available for purchase, at both of our Churches, at £4 per copy.

Any Questions? A cradle Catholic, who had attended Catholic Schools, asked a question that a priest might expect any such Catholic to know the answer to. The one asking also thought they should have known. Asking a few other people, the priest learned that some other cradle Catholics did not know the answer. They certainly didn't recall their Primary School telling them. Thus began 'Do You Know' in our Newsletter.

While our Parish Newsletter isn't a book and so can't address complicated or long questions of religion, if any have little questions about our Bible, Church, Liturgy . . . other Catholic stuff, you can be sure others would like to know the answers, too. If you would like such questions put in our Newsletter, let Fr Anthony know, and he will do his best to find/give answers (but no guarantees given). If you can, please write the question/s down - it's up to you whether you give your name. If you have answers to such questions, but think others would benefit, again let Fr Anthony know.

Remember: asking a question is never silly - only not asking might prove silly.

Our Lent/Advent Project, for 'Maidie's Minibus', has now closed. This money has been raised to help towards the provision of a minibus, to transport residents at the Burntwood Care Home, on trips or to take part in local events. We extended the Project into Advent, on account of the March lockdown effectively cutting short our Lent Project, for this cause. We can all be delighted that we have now raised towards 'Maidie's Minibus' -

Lent	£ 541.84
Advent	£ 333.50
Christmas Card	£ 268.50
	= total £1143.84



A cheque will soon be given over to the Home's registered Charity for the minibus.

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, **Weds 3 & 10 Mar**. 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. Application forms are due for return by this Sun 3 Jan, at latest.

First Reconciliation Next preparation meeting is due to occur **on-line, Sat 9 Jan**. Parents are being informed, via email, of their family's time; but until they have an allotted time, they should please be available 10.00-11.30am.

Later in January, Fr Anthony will be contacting families about arranging the times for the Children to celebrate their First Reconciliation, set to occur soon after the 23 Jan meeting.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

St Matthew provides the ancestry of Joseph, husband of Mary, and indicates that Joseph was of the royal line of King David and, therefore, also of the line of Abraham: so it was via Joseph that Jesus came to be of the line of King David.

The Jews also believed that the Messiah would be born of the priestly line: but how do we know Jesus was of the Jewish priestly line?

AND SERIOUSLY!

What do you get when you mix a Christmas tree and an iPad?
A pineapple



How do the elves clean Santa's sleigh on the day after Christmas?
They use Santa-tizer.

Parish Monies

Offertory Monies	Many Thanks
14-20 Dec.	
Loose	£ 107.47
Envelopes	£1452.50
Donation	£1000.00
Advent Project	£ 239.00

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 imagination is a wonderful and much neglected faculty. It enables us to enter the scenes of the Gospel with our senses and our feelings as well as with our minds, but it also projects into our conscious minds, thoughts, memories and feelings which, although hidden from us in our subconscious, are, in fact, influencing our perception, thinking and acting. In Fred's case this image of Christ

revealed much to him about his basic image of God and of Christ which had been hidden from him earlier. Before praying, this Cana scene, if he had been asked, 'What is your basic notion of God and of Christ?', he would probably have answered, 'God is the God of love,



mercy and compassion.' Deep down in his subconscious another image of God was effectively operating and influencing his life. As he reflected on this image of the disapproving Christ, he began to understand many things in his own life. He saw a Christ who disapproved of merriment, who demanded an unceasing application to 'good works', a tyrannical Christ who did not permit the simple pleasures of life. He began to realise that he had never allowed himself to admit the truth that he really experienced no joy in his multiple commitments to do good works. He felt constantly guilty and driven by an inexorable God. The more he was advised, and advised himself, to turn to God and pray, the worse he felt, but the 'oughts' in his life were so strong that he could not refuse to pray. He was suffering from what the late Dr Frank Lake, author of *Clinical Theology*, used to call 'a hardening of the oughteries'.

This discovery was very painful for Fred at first, but it was the beginning of his release from a tyrannical image of God. Fred's past life had not been a waste. He had sincerely followed God as he knew him, and this sincere following brought him to a new road. God was teaching him through his imagination and through his feelings.

I often shudder when I hear or read the advice, 'pray and all will be well', for I have met too many people who have been broken by this kind of advice to be able to give it glibly. If a false and tyrannical God is operating in the person, then what I am saying is 'return to your tyrant'.

Fred invented the term 'Super ego'. Briefly, it refers to that part of our mind, conscious and subconscious, which has so assimilated the 'oughts' of childhood, given to us by parents and others that the 'oughts' have become a permanent part of our thinking and are accepted as our own decision.....

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**
Victor France, Terence Michael Cawthorne,
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, Christmas, Sunday 2, Commentary

Gospel: John 1:1-18

The Gospel reading for this Second Sunday after Christmas is the same as that for Christmas Day itself. Perhaps, after all the celebrations of Christmas, there is room for a more sober thought. The climax is not at the end of the reading, but is in the centre: 'to those who believe he gave power to become sons of God'. On either side of this verse are rejection by his own people, and acceptance by those who see his Glory. This theme of acceptance and rejection runs right through the gospel of John, some accepting (the disciples, Nicodemus, the Man Born Blind), some rejecting (the Pharisees, the leaders of the Jews). The disciples accept at the Marriage Feast at Cana; the leaders of the Jews immediately afterwards reject at the Cleansing of the Temple. You cannot remain neutral; you must either accept or reject. It is a great trial-scene, and we judge ourselves by our reaction to Jesus. The Father has given all judgment to the Son, but the Son judges no one. The last dread scene is when the Jewish leaders pass sentence on themselves before Pilate and before Jesus crowned as king and seated as judge; they reject God's kingship by saying, 'We have no king but Caesar'. There is no need for sentence to be passed, for we pass our own sentence on ourselves.



First Reading: Sirach 24:1-2,8-12

This wonderful poem celebrates the splendour of Jerusalem, where the Wisdom of God, the Law, took root. The author loves the Law, the Temple and Jerusalem with all his heart, as the gift and manifestation of God. God creates by his Wisdom, the master-plan and agent of creation. Wisdom, expressed in the Law, is also the master-plan which guides God's image and representative, which teaches us how to live as the image of God. So our author sees Jerusalem as the visible symbol of all the beauties of God's creation. We Christians, however, see Christ as this Wisdom of God, who took root in

his Chosen People, and in Jerusalem – or at least in Bethlehem, 7km away. For us, then, this hymn is a celebration of God's Wisdom in Christ, taking root in the human race. In Colossians Paul hymns Christ as Wisdom, the first-born in creation and the first-born from the dead. In the great hymn at the beginning of Ephesians Christ is described as the climax in whom all creation is summed up, in whom God 'brings everything together under Christ as head'. The completion of creation is, then, the fullness of the Incarnation which we celebrate at Christmas.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-6,15-18

The sevenfold blessing, with which Ephesians begins, sums up God's plan of salvation for humanity. The climax is in the centre, 'to bring everything under Christ as head'. Christ is the Wisdom of God, the plan according to which and through which all things were created. Christ is also the completion of the creation, and the unity of all things in Christ is a special emphasis of the whole letter. All things are under Christ as head creation, all nourishment for creation and all guidance of creation. In ancient medical science the head was held to be the source of all these: all nourishment comes through the mouth, the brain thinks things out and makes the decisions on which the whole body acts. Christ performs for creation these functions which the head performs for the body. In earlier letters Paul had written that the Body of Christ which is the Church is made up from many limbs and members, which all have different contributions to make to its wellbeing. Now he develops this image and differentiates Christ as the head of the whole Body as its guide, leader, nourishment and focus.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Baptism of Our Lord, Jesus

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

2nd Reading: 1John 5:1-9

Gospel: Mark: 1:7-11

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Of Week 2

Sun Proper of Season

Mon Proper of Season

Tue Proper of Season

Wed Proper of Feast

Thu + Proper of Season (or + Proper of Feast)

Fri Proper of Season

Sat Proper of Season

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Of Christmastide

Tue Of Christmastide

Wed Epiphany of Our Lord

Thu St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

Fri After Epiphany

Sat After Epiphany



Gathering Verse

Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

At His Word the worlds were framèd;
He commanded; it was done:
Heaven and earth and depths of ocean
In their threefold order one;
All that grows beneath the shining
Of the moon and burning sun,
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessèd,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bare the Saviour of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

This is He Whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord;
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word;
Now He shines, the long expected,
Let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him,
And extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert sing,
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honour, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!

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: Sirach 24:1-2,8-12

Wisdom speaks her own praises,
in the midst of her people she glories in herself.
She opens her mouth in the assembly
of the Most High,
she glories in herself in the presence
of the Mighty One;
'Then the creator of all things instructed me,
and he who created me fixed a place for my tent.
He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob,
make Israel your inheritance."
From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,
and for eternity I shall remain.
I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle,
and thus was I established on Zion.
In the beloved city he has given me rest,
and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.
I have taken root in a privileged people,
in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

Responsorial Psalm

R The word was made flesh, and lived among us.

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you.

He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

R The word was made flesh, and lived among us.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-6,15-18

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings
of heaven in Christ.
Before the world was made, he chose us,
chose us in Christ,
to be holy and spotless, and to live through love
in his presence,
determining that we should become his adopted
sons, through Jesus Christ
for his own kind purposes,
to make us praise the glory of his grace,
his free gift to us in the Beloved.

Mass continues over page . . .

That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans.

Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word:

and the Word was with God

and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him

and that life was the light of men,

a light that shines in the dark,

a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light

that enlightens all men;

and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world

that had its being through him,

and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain

and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him

who was born not out of human stock

or urge of the flesh

or will of man

but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,

he lived among us,

and we saw his glory,

the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,

full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

‘This is the one of whom I said:

He who comes after me ranks before me

because he existed before me.’

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us,

received –

yes, grace in return for grace,

since, though the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God;

it is the only Son, who is nearest to the

Father’s heart,

who has made him known.

Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended into hell;

on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of

God the Father almighty;

from there he will come to judge the living

and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting. Amen.

Communion Verse

Unto us is born a son,

King of choirs supernal:

See on earth his life begun,

Of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low,

Comes on earth a stranger;

Ox and ass their Owner know

Now cradled in a manger.

This did Herod sore affray,

And did him bewilder,

So he gave the word to slay,

And slew the little childer.

Of his love and mercy mild

Hear the Christmas story:

O that Mary's gentle Child

Might lead us up to glory!

O and A and A and O,

Cantemus in choro,

Voice and organ, sing we so,

Benedicamus Domino.



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