



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, Ordinary Time, Sunday 4, 30/31 January 2021

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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		<i>FB - Parish Facebook live-stream</i>	Mass Intentions
Saturday 30 January	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Patricia Attwood</i>
Sunday 31 January	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Peter Hurst</i> <i>For Healing (MOD)</i>
Monday 1 February	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>Mary-Ann Duggan</i>
Tuesday 2 February			<i>Friends & Neighbours (CMD)</i>
Wednesday 3 February	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Steve McNally</i>
Thursday 4 February	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>Josephine Knepshield</i>
Friday 5 February			<i>Ann Lake</i>
Saturday 6 February	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Sunday 7 February	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Vic France</i> <i>Barbara O'Donnell</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.

This week especially, please keep in prayer our sixteen First Reconciliation Children, who are celebrating their First Confession, at this time.

Please also remember our eight Confirmation Candidates, as they begin their Programme of Preparation.

Let us all continue to 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

This Tuesday, we have the Feast of our Lord's Presentation in the Temple, when the prophet Simeon recognised Jesus as Light of the World and our Messiah. Traditionally, it is a day when Catholics attending Mass share in the blessing of and processing with lighted candles. About this Feast, the bishop, St Sophronius, wrote:

In honour of the divine mystery we celebrate, let us all hasten to meet Christ. Everyone should be eager to join the procession and to carry a light.



Our lighted candles are a sign of the divine splendour of the one who comes to expel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brilliance of his eternal light. Our

candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ.

The Mother of God, the most pure Virgin, carried the true light in her arms and brought him to those who lay in darkness. We too should carry a light for all to see and reflect the radiance of the true light, as we hasten to meet him.

The light has come and has shone upon a world enveloped in shadows; the Dayspring from on high has visited us and given light to those who lived in darkness. This, then, is our feast, and we join in procession with lighted candles to reveal the light that has shone upon us and the glory that is yet to come to us through him. So let us hasten all together to meet our God.

The true light has come, a light that enlightens every man who is born into this world. Let all of us be enlightened and made radiant by this light. Let all of us share in its splendour, and be so filled with it that no one remains in the darkness. Let us be shining ourselves as we go together to meet and to receive with the aged Simeon the light whose brilliance is eternal. Rejoicing with Simeon, let us sing a hymn of thanksgiving to God, the Father of the light, who sent the true light to dispel the darkness and to give us all a share in his splendour.

Through Simeon's eyes we too have seen the salvation of God which he prepared for all the nations and revealed as the glory of the new Israel, that is ourselves. As Simeon was released from the bonds of this life when he had seen Christ, so we too were at once freed from our old state of sinfulness.

By faith we too embraced Christ, the salvation of God the Father, as he came to us from Bethlehem. Gentiles before, we have become the people of God. Our eyes have seen God incarnate, and because we have seen him present among us and have mentally received him into our arms, we are called the new Israel. Never shall we forget this presence; every year we keep a feast in his honour.

Things happening in our Parish

Please Be Sure when you leave Church, to take with you all that you brought, but also any papers you have used, **such as Newsletters and Readings' sheets.**

Government National Lockdown Guidance

Using face-coverings, hand sanitisation and social distancing (face - hands - space) remain the most effective ways to enable all to attend Mass safely.

It is also important that we pay attention to the way we come to, and leave the church building and premises.

For this heightened period of the pandemic, and to maintain as healthy an environment as possible, all those attending Mass are encouraged not to gather outside but to leave as promptly as possible. It is, too, very important not to linger with others, in Church or in the Entrance, before or after Mass, In following these simple rules, we not only treat one another with care and respect, but give good witness to others in our community.

& In our Diocese

Diocese of Leeds Annual Review 2020 now available! Online only, this year - highlighting 'good news stories' sent from many parishes, schools and charities, which together comprise our One Diocesan Family. Download a copy from www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/communications.

Online Weeks Of Guided Prayer: 8-19 Mar 2021. Week one, online meetings from 7.30-8.30pm - introductions and different ways of praying. Week two - commitment to daily prayer and individual online meeting with prayer guide (about 30mins each.) Suggested offering £50. Further information - please contact: www.briery.org.uk or tel 01943-607287.

& Nationally

Stress in Your Marriage? This has been a very difficult year. Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in marriage. Some experience coldness, others conflict. Many don't know how to change the situation or communicate with their spouse about it. This programme has helped 6,000 couples, experiencing difficulties in their marriage, in the past year alone. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme, commencing with a virtual weekend on 25-28 Feb, call or text 07887-296983 or 07973-380443, or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

A New Parliamentary Motion (EDM 1340) calls on the Government to introduce new guidance on foetal pain. The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of an unborn child, and provides another important reason to introduce legislation, to protect unborn children from abortion. Right To Life UK have set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to contact your MP - please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion - it only takes 30 seconds.

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 Our next Preparation Meeting will be on **Sat 27 Feb**, in our Sacred Heart Hall (if possible by then), 9.30-11.00am. Families will be notified, by email, as to whether we will be in the Hall or are to meet online, about a week before.

First Communion Next Preparation Meeting, *on-line*, **Sat 6 Feb**.

As before, parents will receive an electronic invitation to join the allotted 45min time slot, for parents and their children, for 10.00am or 10.45am. All involved please note carefully the time allocated for your family.

Our Children are expected to have their First Confession during this week.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

St Paul's conversion to being a devout follower began when he saw a vision of Christ, while on the road to Damascus. His original intention was to there hunt out Christians, in order to seek their imprisonment or even execution, just for being Christians.

We don't hear of many prophetesses in the Bible, but St Luke tells us of one being there, as Jesus was presented in the Temple. What was her name, her father's name, and what age was she when she met the infant Jesus?

AND SERIOUSLY!

Englishman, Irishman and Scotsman discussing their sons.

Englishman's son, born St. George's Day, so called him George.

Scotsman's son born St. Andrew's Day, so called him Andrew.

'Incredible,' said the Irishman, 'what a coincidence, exactly the same happened with my son Pancake.'



Parish Monies

Offertory Monies **Many Thanks**
11-17 Jan

Loose £ 32.40
Envelopes £179.76

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

Tools for digging – Some Methods of Prayer

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 40:10)

God really is our teacher and he alone can teach us to pray, or rather, he alone prays in us. 'The spirit you received', St. Paul tells the Romans, 'is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba Father' (Rom. 8:14-15). If, in prayer, you find yourself constantly asking yourself, 'Am I praying the right way', that is an indication that you are allowing yourself to be controlled and dominated by other people's suggestions. God wants to share with you in the unique being he has given you: he does not want you to approach him as though he can only respond to set formulae prescribed for us by those who know. We have to learn to trust our own experience, our richest source of knowledge. We must listen to others who can help us read and interpret our own experience, but we must not allow them so to dominate our thinking that we ignore our own inner promptings, for to do so is to renounce our freedom and 'to lose our very selves'

Many people cannot get started on prayer because they are doubtful about their own faith in God or because they feel their lives are in such a mess that they cannot possibly approach God until they have reformed. If you are so affected it is good to ask, 'What are the basic assumptions underlying my disinclination to pray?' Am I assuming that my objective state of uncertain belief is all important, or that my failures are greater than God's goodness? To begin prayer it is sufficient to acknowledge that I am not self-sufficient, that I am not the creator of myself and of creation. If I can do this, then I acknowledge that there is some power – I may not know whether it is personal or not and may be in complete ignorance of its nature – greater than I.

Prayer is a listening.

The psalmist says: 'Be still and know that I am God.' It is difficulty to be still, even physically still, but even more difficult to be still in our minds. The more we try to quieten our minds, the more our thoughts and memories

begin to buzz around like a swarm of angry bees. One of the greatest obstacles in prayer is the activity of our minds which send up such a barrage of thoughts, memories and ideas that God whose ways are not our ways and whose thoughts are not our thoughts is not allowed entry. We are like cocooned creatures, the hard outer covering representing our narrow vision of ourselves and of the world. When we pray with busy minds it is though we rattle the cocoon while remaining within it: when we are still the cocoon can begin to open.



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**



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, Ordinary Time, Sunday 4: Commentary

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

The growing authority of Jesus is the theme of the early part of Mark's gospel and today's story is an excellent illustration of this. Jesus has already called the disciples. He calls and they simply follow: it seems that he is a total stranger to them, yet has such authority that they drop everything to follow him. Now in the synagogue he teaches on his own authority. He does not quote the interpretations of others, as rabbinic teachers did, saying, "Rabbi X says this," "Rabbi Y says that". No, Jesus teaches, "I say to you...". He seems to be master even of the Law. But it is God's Law. Only God has authority over it, so who does Jesus think he is? On one level he is a teacher to be compared with Moses, one who is to come into the world, the teacher prophesied in today's first reading. But he is more than this. To confirm the power of his teaching, he shows what authority he has by overcoming an unclean spirit, wringing from it the snivelling protest, "Have you come to destroy us?" and the acknowledgement that he has a special link with God.



First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses was the messenger who gave the Law to the people of Israel on Mount Sinai (also called Mount Horeb). In their difficult and lonely journey of forty years through the desert, he was their leader. It was his legal decisions on cases presented to him which helped to form Israel. His prayers gave them manna in the desert, water from the rock and protection from their enemies. Israel remembered him ever afterwards as the founder of their people. In the Book of Deuteronomy, the last of the five books of the Law, God had promised that he would raise up another leader, a Second Moses. By the time of Jesus, God's final messenger was thought of in these terms: he would come to put everything to rights. This is why Matthew especially represents Jesus in this way: just

like Moses, Jesus was persecuted at birth by the king, and later had to flee into exile until his persecutor was dead. Jesus taught his Sermon on the Mount just as Moses gave the Law on the mountain. Jesus gave bread in the desert just as Moses had done. So when Jesus taught 'with authority' in the synagogue at Capernaum, he was seen as acting like Moses, the teacher.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Paul's reasons for celibacy can be read on two levels. The first, superficial, level is that in marriage both husband and wife may be divided in mind, may have loyalties divided between the Lord and their spouse. They have to be preoccupied with pleasing the other partner in the marriage. In the Church today we see that in itself this is a very important part of the marriage, a vital part of being 'one flesh', of being one thinking, living person. At this level such concern for one another is very much part of 'the Lord's affairs', and cannot stand in opposition to them. At another level, however, there may be tension, for each marriage partner is concerned to provide a firm material basis for family life, and so is bound for the sake of the family to get involved in the 'world', providing a good standard of living for the family. By choosing celibacy, the celibate witnesses more openly to the eternal values of the Lord's service. Celibates have no dependents and are called to dedicate their lives totally to the Lord. The celibate by his or her vocation is given the chance to be manifestly overwhelmed by the values of the Kingdom of God and so become outstanding witnesses to those values.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 5

1st Reading: Job 7:1-4,6-7

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Prayer of the Church

Psalter Of Week 4

Sun Proper of Season

Mon Of the week

Tue Of the Feast

Wed Of the week (or + Proper Saints)

Thu Of the week

Fri Of the week + Proper Saints

Sat Of the week + Proper Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Of Weekday

Tue Presentation of our Lord

Wed St Blaise, Bishop & Martyr / St Ansgar, Bishop

Thu Of Weekday

Fri St Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

Sat St Paul Miki & Companion Martyrs

Gathering Verse: Psalm

Blessed are they who put their trust in God.

Why this tumult among nations,
among peoples this useless murmuring?
They arise, the kings of the earth,
princes plot against the Lord and his Anointed.
'Come, let us break their fetters,
come, let us cast off their yoke.'

He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord is laughing them to scorn.
Then he will speak in his anger,
his rage will strike them with terror.
'It is I who have set up my king
on Sion, my holy mountain.'

I will announce the decree of the Lord:
The Lord said to me: 'You are my Son.
It is I who have begotten you this day.
Ask and I shall bequeath you the nations,
put the ends of the earth in your possession.
With a rod of iron you will break them,
shatter them like a potter's jar.'

Now, O kings, understand,
take warning, rulers of the earth;
serve the Lord with awe
and trembling, pay him your homage
lest he be angry and you perish;
for suddenly his anger will blaze.

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.

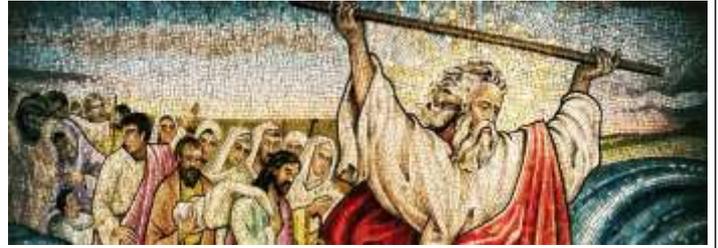
Blessed are they who put their trust in God.

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: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among



yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

Responsorial Psalm: 94(95)

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

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

Come in; let us kneel 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: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

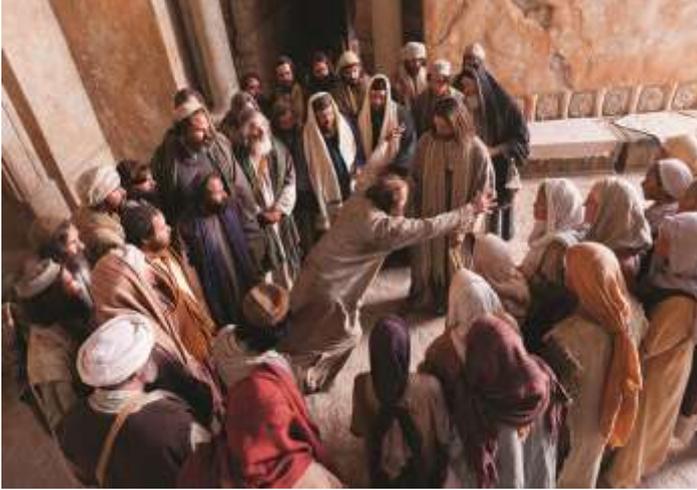
I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.

Alleluia!



Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

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.

Communion Verse

O bread of heaven beneath this veil
Thou dost my very God conceal;
my Jesus, dearest treasure, hail;
I love Thee and adoring kneel;
each loving soul by Thee is fed
with Thine own self in form of bread.

O food of life, Thou Who dost give
the pledge of immortality;
I live; no, 'tis not I that live;
God gives me life, God lives in me:
He feeds my soul, He guides my ways,
and every grief with joy repays.

O bond of love, that dost unite
the servant to His living Lord;
could I dare live, and not requite
such love then death were meet reward:
I cannot live unless to prove
some love for such unmeasured love.

Beloved Lord in heaven above,
there, Jesus, Thou awaitest me;
to gaze on Thee with changeless love,
yes, thus I hope, thus shall it be:
for how can He deny me heaven
Who here on earth Himself hath given?

*St Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787)
Tr Edmund Vaughan (1827-1908)*

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