



# 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, Eastertide, Sunday 6, 8/9 May 2021

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			<b>Mass Intentions</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 8 May	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Kazia Andruszko</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 9 May	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Michael Murtagh Parish Family</i>
Monday 10 May	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.30am Mass 11.00am Funeral Service <i>(No spare places available in Church)</i>	Richard Gee <i>Yorkshire Brethren</i>
Tuesday 11 May			
Wednesday 12 May	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Andrew Tyrrell</i>
<b>Ascension Day</b> 13 May	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass 7.00pm Mass	<i>Thomas Kenneth Withers</i>
Friday 14 May			
<b>Saturday</b> 15 May	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Pat Cochran</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 16 May	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Trevor Stones Parish Family</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 Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord to Heaven. Please note Mass times

A man can have No greater love Than to lay down his life for his friends.



You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I love one another, as I have loved you.

Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr Anthony, presently by appointment. It is expected that set times will resume around the end of May.

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

## From Fr Anthony

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself declared what he was, what he had been, how he was carrying out his Father's will, what obligations he demanded of men. This he did during his earthly life, either publicly to the crowds or privately to his disciples. Twelve of these he picked out to be his special companions, appointed to teach the nations.

One of them fell from his place. The remaining eleven were commanded by Christ, as he was leaving the earth after his resurrection, to go and teach the nations and to baptize them into the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The apostles added Matthias to their number, in place of Judas, as the twelfth apostle. After receiving the power of the Holy Spirit which had been promised to them, so that they could work miracles and proclaim the truth, they witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ and established churches throughout Judaea. They then went out to the whole world and proclaimed to the nations the same doctrinal faith.

They worked to set up churches in every city. Other churches received from them a living transplant of faith and the seed of doctrine, and through this daily process of transplanting there became still more churches.

Every family can be traced back to its origins. So we can say that all these great churches are of that one original Church of the apostles; for it is from them that they all come. They are all primitive, all apostolic, because they are all one. They bear witness to this unity by the peace in which they all live, the family of God which is their name, the fellowship to which they are pledged. The principle of association on which these are based is the communal tradition by which they share the same sacramental bond.

The way in which we prove what the apostles taught – that is to say, what Christ revealed to them – is through those same churches. They were founded by the apostles themselves, who first preached to them by what is called the living voice and later by means of letters.



The Lord had said clearly in former times: *I have many more things to tell you, but you cannot endure them now.* But he went on to say: *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you into the whole truth.*

Thus Christ shows us that the apostles had full knowledge of the truth, for he had promised that they would receive the *whole truth* through the Spirit of truth. His promise was certainly fulfilled, since the Acts of the Apostles prove that the Holy Spirit came down on them. Through our Church, we too inherit the same Spirit, as the promise the guide our Bishops and the members of our Church in the ways of Christ.

*From the treatise 'On the Prescription against Heretics' by Tertullian*

This weekend, on their receiving their  
First Holy Communion,  
we especially pray for and congratulate  
Hubert Kolodziej, Maja Antonowicz,  
Filip Wisniewski -  
Carmen Osmanska - Nikodem Zurkowski,  
Logan Duker, Annabelle Little, Harriet Womack

## First Communion Celebrations

Between this and next weekend (8/9 & 15/16 May), at all our Masses (except 15 May), we are celebrating with sixteen of our Children, as they receive Our Lord for the first time in Holy Communion. While Covid-19 regulations bring some limitations to how we celebrate these great events, we will do all that we can, as a Parish Family, to help our Children have a special day.

*Please keep our First Communion Children in prayer.*

It is hoped that the easing of Covid-19 regulations will allow a fully celebratory *Thanksgiving Mass*, at 11.00am on **Sat 3 Jul**, with all those who are to receive their First Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation, during May. All will be welcome at that event, so do note the date now - and hopefully we'll be allowed a shared lunch.

## Things happening in our Parish

**Please Note** While our First Communions are happening over several Masses, this and next weekend, to ease a problem of numbers on account of Covid-19 regulations, there is a possibility that some of those Masses will be over subscribed. All are urged to book in advance, to know at which Masses places are available.

Pre-booking for the weekend of 22/23 May is also very much recommended, when between the three Masses, our eight Candidates are to be Confirmed.

### ?Remember this little story?

*This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.*

### How can you help our Parish Family?

**As We Get Going** along the way to restoring more of the good things from before Covid-19, it's time to encourage as many as can to continue, or to take on newly, various tasks about our Churches. In the near future, we will highlight other things too, but for now - how about **you** joining our lists of Readers for our Masses? Please have a word with Mary Day, at our Sacred Heart Church, with Margaret Whitehouse at St Joseph's, or with Fr Anthony.

*General maintenance - helping with our church music - church cleaning - SVP membership - social activities - are but some other things - **no need to wait to offer.***

*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 16 & 30 Jun**. 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 15 May**, and will be in our -

Sacred Heart Hall, **9.30-11.30am**.

It is important all arrive in good time, so as to start on time.

**First Reconciliation** Our Children who are registered to join our up-coming Programme of Preparation, will meet on **Sat 19 Jun**, in our -

Sacred Heart Hall, **10.00-11.30am**.

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

## But seriously

### DO YOU KNOW?

Glossolalia refers to people speaking in strange languages or tongues - using words not recognised in any known language. It is usually linked to individuals or small groups, when in a religious fervour, and has always been controversial (eg Is it temporarily gifted by God to someone, or merely illusory words resulting from hysteria?) .

*Especially as there were twelve tribes making up the people of Israel, the number twelve featured much in the history in Israel. As Judas Iscariot ceased to be an apostle, the eleven sought to replace him. Who were the two agreed candidates and how was the one then chosen from the two?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!

Jesus looked across the table, 'So where have you been for the last few months? Father God replied, 'I've been all around Yorkshire.

Jesus was shocked. 'There's been a pandemic for a year and you've been to Yorkshire?

What were you doing there?  
Father God smiled and quietly replied "Working from home, Son, working from home."



## Parish Monies

### Offertory Monies

19-25 April

Many  
Thanks

Loose £123.98

Envelopes £209.50

## 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

### General Directions for Digging.

When I was visiting a Centre of Spirituality in the US.A a few years ago, I was met at the station by a Jesuit novice. He led me to a car, turned on the ignition, and when the engine fired he said in a very solemn voice, 'Praise the Lord, thank you, Jesus, thank you ,'and off we roared having added our bit to the angelic choirs! When Ignatius says that we are created to praise God it can hardly mean that we should pepper our prayer, conversation, activity and thinking with the phrase, 'Praise the Lord.'



If you have prepared a meal, do you prefer the guest who keeps exclaiming what a wonderful meal it is, but nibbles and refuses any more, or the guest who demolishes the first plateful like a hungry dog then looks up appealingly for more? Verbal praise is empty flattery if it does not express a genuine appreciation of the object or person praised. This opening sentence is saying, 'You will find the general direction for your journey through life, you will find your treasure hidden in the field, through your appreciation of the world around you.'

We need to ponder and to wonder at this opening sentence. It does not say that we must shun creation, rise above it, despise it, try to separate ourselves from it, but that we should appreciate, value and cherish it. We cannot know God in himself. We can only come to know him through our human experience, through his creation. That is why the early Christian theologians spoke of creation itself as a sacrament, that is, a sign and an effective sign of God's presence.

If I appreciate what is around me, I will wonder at it, be amazed and astonished by it, feel a kind of reverence for it, especially reverence for the mystery of every human being. Out of appreciation comes praise, and true praise includes reverence and wonder, and the desire to be somehow absorbed and at one with the object of my wonder. This is the root of the desire to serve, the desire to be at one with the harmony of creation, to be taken up in it rather than to try and control it for my own purposes. Gerard Manley Hopkins describes this fundamental movement of our being which sets us free from our tyrannical self in one of his black sonnets

.....Soul self; come, poor Jackself, I do advise  
You, jaded, let be; call off thoughts awhile  
Elsewhere; leave comfort root-room; let joy size  
At God-knows when to God knows what; whose smile's  
not wrung, see you; unforeseen times rather - as skies  
Betweenpie mountains - lights a lovely smile.

....and by this means to save his soul.

*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 Richard Gee, Jennifer Howcroft,  
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, Liz Allen, Dennis Fricker, Elizabeth Taylor, Monica Lowe  
John O'Brien, Nicola Glew, Ann Stoner, Tim Byrne, and all our housebound

**The Word: Year B, Eastertide, Sunday 6: Commentary on the Readings**

**Gospel: John 15:9-17**

Like so many of the great discourses of Jesus in the gospel of John, today's reading is not a shorthand record of Jesus' words, but will have been written up after the event. Most probably there were several slightly different versions of what Jesus said at the Last Supper. In any case, one can see that the author has in mind two different contexts: Jesus' own historical situation at the Last Supper and the situation of the early Church, where the disciples are being tested hard in their mission. They need encouraging by Jesus' own example of his sacrifice and by his promise of real friendship; they are friends, not servants, specially chosen by Jesus to bear fruit that will last. So we too are welcomed as friends, chosen and commissioned by Jesus to go out and bear fruit, but reminded that we must be prepared to pay the price. There is no fruit without pruning. Jesus had just given the example of service by washing the feet of his disciples. If we are to share the joy of Jesus we must be ready to join him also in laying down our lives for our friends.

**First Reading: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48**

Jesus was the Messiah of Judaism, bringing to completion the promises made to Abraham. It came as a surprise to the first Christians that the salvation brought by Jesus was meant not just for Jews alone but for all the peoples of the earth. This is the scene where it happens. Peter has been prepared for it by a vision which annulled the Jewish food-laws. Then he was summoned to bring the gentile Cornelius to the faith. Now, even while he is speaking to Cornelius and his household, the Spirit takes matters (so to speak) into his own hands and comes down upon Cornelius. This is Pentecost for the gentiles. Today



we may be tempted to think of our own group as the chosen ones, neglecting the breadth of God's love and desire that all people should turn to him and be saved. We can read again and again that Jesus actually went out of his way to welcome lepers, prostitutes, tax-collectors, and we still find it hard to believe that to God they are not 'undesirables'. It is all too easy for us to stay snugly wrapped up in our own neat cocoons. Remember: God has no favourites

**Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10**

When John was writing, the Jews regarded gentiles as 'dogs'. This did not mean beloved pets, for dogs in John's world were either frightening guard-dogs or filthy scavengers. The first reading showed us God actually taking gentiles to himself by sending the Spirit upon them. The second reading now meditates on the nature of that love. The old saying, 'I love him but I can't stand the sight of him,' will not do if God is love itself and love itself is the nature of God. If God is not only the source of love and of life, but simply is love itself, even the distant 'wishing somebody well' from my heart is not enough. Would any of us be satisfied and comfortable with the idea that God doesn't actually like me but wishes me well in a distant sort of way? Love generates affection, respect, trust, a desire to come closer to the other. It is comforting to know that I am a son of God and can call God 'Abba', 'Father', but the consequence of this knowledge is more daunting: you too – whoever you are, whatever faults I see in you – are also the closest member of my family.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

**The Word: Year B, Eastertide, Sunday 7**

1st Reading: Acts 1:15-17,20-26

2nd Reading: 1 John 4:11-16

Gospel: John 17:11-19

**Prayer of the Church**

**Psalter: Week 2**

**Sun** + Seasonal Proper

**Mon** + Seasonal Proper

**Tue** + Seasonal Proper

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

**Thu** Proper of Feast

**Fri** Proper of Saints

**Sat** + Seasonal Proper

**This Week's Feasts & Saints**

**Mon** Of Easter 6

**Tue** Of Easter 6

**Wed** Ss Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs /  
St Pancras, Martyr

**Thu** Ascension of Our Lord, Jesus Christ

**Fri** St Matthias, Apostle

**Sat** Of Easter 6