



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, Season of Lent, Sunday 1, 20/21 February 2021

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

		<i>FB - Parish Facebook live-stream</i>	<i>Mass Intentions</i>
Saturday 20 February	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Betty & John Anthony Byrne</i>
Sunday 21 February	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Josephine Knepshield Intentions Kath & Paul Stuart</i>
Monday 22 February	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>For Healing (MOD)</i>
Tuesday 23 February			<i>Yorkshire Brethren</i>
Wednesday 24 February	Sacred Heart St Joseph's	9.30am Mass 12.00nn Stations of the Cross	<i>Barbara O'Donnell</i>
Thursday 25 February	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Friday 26 February			<i>Elsie & James Davis</i>
Saturday 27 February	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Bronislaw (Bruno) Andruszko</i>
Sunday 28 February	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Hilda May Allsop Janina Marczak</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.

All are invited to join our Lent Activities each Wednesday of Lent: and to join in as many as you can, whether with all or just one or two.

Stations of the Cross, 12.00nn, at St Joseph's

On-line Parish Sycamore Course, 7-8.00pm, (see pg 2 for details)

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

Taken from a Sermon of Pope St Leo the Great.

Dear friends, at every moment *the earth is full of the mercy of God*, and nature itself is a lesson for all the faithful, in the worship of God. The heavens, the sea, and all that is in them bear witness to the goodness and omnipotence of the Creator. The marvellous beauty of the elements, as they obey him, demands from the intelligent creation a fitting expression of its gratitude.

But with the return of that season marked out in a special way by the mystery of redemption, and of the days that lead up to the paschal feast, we are summoned more urgently to prepare by a purification of spirit.

The special note of the paschal feast is this: the whole Church rejoices in the forgiveness of sins. It rejoices in the forgiveness not only of those who are then reborn in holy baptism, but also of those who are already numbered among God's adopted children.



Initially, we are made new by rebirth in baptism. Yet there still is required a daily renewal to repair the shortcomings of our mortal nature. Whatever degree of progress has been made, there is no one who should not be more advanced. All must therefore strive to ensure that on the day of redemption, no one may be found in the sins of his former life.

What the Christian should be doing at all times should be done now with greater devotion and care, so that the Lenten fast may be fulfilled, not simply by abstinence from food, but above all by the renunciation of sin.

Then there is no more profitable practice, as a companion to holy and spiritual fasting, than that of almsgiving. This embraces under one name of mercy many excellent works of devotion, so that the good intentions of all the faithful may be of equal value, even where their means are not. The love that we owe both God and man is always free from any obstacle that would prevent us from having a good intention. The angels sang: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will*. The person who shows love and compassion to those in any kind of affliction is blessed, not only with the virtue of good will, but also with the gift of peace.

The works of mercy are innumerable. Their variety brings this advantage to those who are true Christians, that in the matter of almsgiving not only the rich and affluent, but also those of average means and the poor are able to play their part. Those who are unequal in their capacity to give can be equal in the love within their hearts.



Looking for a way to connect with God this Lent? Are you bored of lockdown and wanting an opportunity to meet with someone new? Pour yourself a cuppa and do join our online

Parish Sycamore course

running Lent Wednesdays, 7-8.00pm, from 24 February.

Each session involves watching a video, with time for chatting (joining in or listening). You don't have to commit to coming to all the sessions.

Email catechist.sacredheartstjoseph@dioceseofleeds.org.uk for an invitation.

Things happening in our Parish

First Reconciliation Our next Preparation Programme, for Children in School Year 3 or older, is expected to happen next term. Parents watch out for notice about the Application Forms, which should be available very soon.

& In our Diocese

God with us Exploring the Old Testament together, in a course for Lent, with Fr Tim Swinglehurst, on-line via zoom, each Monday of Lent, 7-8.00 pm. To receive an invitation, email gregory.stacey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

& Nationally

Act now to help stop DIY abortions. The Government's consultation on whether to make permanent the current temporary arrangement, allowing 'DIY' home abortions, ends on 26 Feb. Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to make your submission. Please go to www.righttolife.org.uk/ukconsultation. It only takes 2 minutes.

Our 2021 Lent Project

Founded in Scotland, they now raise money throughout Britain, to help feed Children in many Developing Countries - but in school. This *practical help*, enables more parents to be able to afford to send their Children to school. Also, what would otherwise be hungry and listless Children can learn, to have a real hope of a better and more secure future. They presently feed, every school day, over 1.6 million Children. They are also proud to have as their Patron, **Mary, Mother of Jesus** - so the name, **Mary's Meals**.

Do, please, support them via our 2021 Lent Project. You can put money in the named collection basket, at either of our Churches, post donations at our Sacred Heart Presbytery (make sure to name the cause on or in the envelope), or donate electronically to a dedicated site for our Parish, using the link on our Parish Website (see link below *Register for Mass* buttons), Facebook Page, or at: https://giving.marysmeals.org/en_gb/projects/sfx2-parish-of-the-sacred-heart-hemsworth-and-st-joseph-s--moorthorpe



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, early this coming week, as to whether we will be in the Hall or are to meet online.

First Communion Next Preparation Meeting **Sat 6 Mar**, 10.00-12.00am, in our Sacred Heart Hall (if possible by then). Families will be notified, about a week before, by email, whether we will be in the Hall or are to meet online.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday originally had much to do with Lent being a time for doing penance, which included fasting. Lent was a time to fast from the more luxurious foods such as milk, eggs and butter, all of which could be used up by making pancakes. Such foods would then not be taken until Easter (so, in part, the association of eggs with Easter).

Next Sunday we will hear the story of Jesus being transfigured into his glorious state. With him were seen five other figures. Who were they?

AND SERIOUSLY!

What do you do if you lose a vicar?
Contact missing parsons!



What do you call a vicar on a motor bike?

Rev!

Parish Monies

Offertory Monies **Many Thanks**
1-7 February

Loose	£	71.70
Envelopes	£	230.00
Jan Bank Orders	£	1554.00

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

Tools for digging – Some Methods of Prayer

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

Another simple form of prayer following on a stillness exercise is to pray through our own body, offering each limb and each sense to God and asking him to channel his goodness through every particle of our being. In a poem 'The Blessed Virgin compared to the Air we Breathe', Gerard Manley Hopkins says of Mary that she:

*This one work has to do
Let all God's glory through.*

We speak of a 'glorious dawn' when the rising sun dispels the night, and what was dark and formless is revealed in all its beauty. We cannot see the glory of God in itself, but only in its effects upon creation, so we pray that his glory may be manifested through his action on creation and, in particular, that the glory of his goodness may be channelled through the work of our hands, his tenderness and compassion through our eyes, his life and peace-giving power through our lips etc.



Christian tradition recognises that it is difficult for busy and active people to be still, and that is why many traditional methods of prayer are very repetitive, the repetition being designed to still the mind. If the repetition is also rhythmic either in time with our step if we are walking, or with our breathing if we are physically still, it can be even more effective. The repetition may be of a single word, or of a simple phrase, like the famous pilgrim prayer, 'Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me', or of a longer prayer, for example, the Our Father, each syllable being repeated in time with our step if we are walking, or with our breath if physically still. Many traditional forms of prayer began as pilgrim prayers. When walking it is more difficult to concentrate the mind than when we are still, but the constant repetition of a word or phrase in time with our step can induce an inner stillness of mind. In such a stillness the rhythmic repetition may cease. If this happens, let it happen and do not continue with the rhythmic repetition. In general, follow your own inner promptings in prayer rather than be slavishly obedient to some prescribed method.

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 Josephine Shaughnessy and her 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, 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, Season of Lent, Sunday 1: Commentary

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Mark's emphasis is distinctly different from that of Matthew and Luke. No details of the testing are given. Rather Jesus' sojourn in the desert seems almost a return to the peace of the Garden of Eden. The desert of Judea, between Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, is a noble and dignified solitude of smooth, sandstone hills. Nothing grows, of course, but wild camels and the occasional leopard prowl around. There Jesus was 'with the wild animals' as, led by the Spirit, he made his preparation for his mission. In what way was he tested? We may presume that in solitude and prayer he was working out the implications of the Voice from Heaven at his Baptism. How was he to run his course as the beloved Servant of the Lord? Precisely how was he to bring the presence of the Kingship of God into people's lives? The 'forty' is often used in biblical accounts for a period of preparation, as Israel's forty years in the desert, or the forty days between Easter and Ascension which prepared the Apostles for Jesus' leaving them and for the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. We may use our forty days of Lent to reflect on how we may bring God's presence to bear in and through our lives.



heaven). Each of the covenants God makes with his people emerges from the evil we humans do. There is no pretence in the scriptures; we are fallible, sinful human beings. Time after time it is the human partners of the covenant who fail, and break the relationship with God. Time after time God forgives and offers a covenant again, until he offers the new covenant in the blood of Christ. A good way to start Lent is acknowledging our sin and welcoming God's invitation to start again.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Lent reaches its climax with the renewal of our baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. This reading begins to prepare for this moment. Noah's emergence to new life from the waters of the Flood (amid devastation and destruction) is compared to, and becomes a symbol of, emergence to new life from the waters of baptism. Water is the source of all life. Just look at the way people so often carry a little water-bottle around with them! However, you don't really appreciate water as the source of life until you have been lost in the desert without any water, getting more and more desperately thirsty and weaker. See a drooping flower revive when it is given a few drops of water! The waters of baptism are a symbol not only of washing away sin, but more importantly of new life in Christ. To 'baptise' means to 'dip' in water. By baptism we are 'dipped' into Christ's death. We emerge from the water soaked through with the risen life of Christ, so that henceforth Christ is our life. This reading encourages us to prepare for the renewal of life at Easter by getting our conscience in good order. This needs thought, commitment and prayer, so that we are ready with 'the pledge of a good conscience'.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Season of Lent, Sunday 2

1st Reading: Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18
2nd Reading: Romans 8:31b-34
Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Of Week 1

Sun + Seasonal Proper
Mon Proper of Saints
Tue + Seasonal Proper
Wed + Seasonal Proper
Thu + Seasonal Proper
Fri + Seasonal Proper
Sat + Seasonal Proper

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon The Chair of St Peter, Apostle
Tue Weekday of Lent / St Polycarp, Martyr
Wed Weekday of Lent
Thu Weekday of Lent
Fri Weekday of Lent
Sat Weekday of Lent



Gathering Verse: Psalm 102(103)

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion,
who fills your life with good things,
renewing your youth like an eagle's.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him;
for he knows of what we are made,
he remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass;
he flowers like the flower of the field;
the wind blows and he is gone
and his place never sees him again.

But the love of the Lord is everlasting
upon those who hold him in fear;
his justice reaches out to children's children
when they keep his covenant in truth,
when they keep his will in their mind.

The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word,
who heed the voice of his word.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his hosts,
his servants who do his will.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his works,
in every place where he rules.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord!

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Responsorial Psalm: 24(25)

R Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are my God and my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

R. Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.





Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

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

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee,
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

J.G Whittier (1807-92)

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*Grant, Father God,
that we may begin with holy fasting
this campaign
of Christian service,
so that,
as we take up battle
against spiritual evils,
we may be armed
with weapons of self-restraint.
This we ask,
through Christ, our Lord,
in unity with the Holy Spirit,
one God,
for ever and ever.
Amen.*

