



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 2, 27/28 February 2021

<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>	<i>Mass Intentions</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>
Monday 1 March	St Joseph's	9.30am Mass	<i>Intentions C Davis</i>
Tuesday 2 March			<i>Yorkshire Brethren</i>
Wednesday 3 March	Sacred Heart St Joseph's	9.30am Mass 12.00nn Stations of the Cross	<i>Veronica Harratt</i>
Thursday 4 March	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass 5.00pm Receive Body *	<i>Parish Family</i> Josephine Shaughnessy
Friday 5 March	Sacred Heart	10.00am Funeral Mass * * All places allocated	Josephine Shaughnessy
Saturday 6 March	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Luke Alphonsus Fitzpatrick</i>
Sunday 7 March	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass FB	<i>Vic France Malgorzata Dabrowska</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

A homily of Pseudo-Chrysostom

The highest good is prayer and conversation with God, as it means we are in God's company and in union with him. When light enters our bodily eyes our eyesight is sharpened; when a soul is intent on God, God's inextinguishable light shines into it and makes it bright and clear. I am talking, of course, of prayer that comes from the heart and not from routine: not the prayer that is assigned to particular days or particular moments in time, but the prayer that happens continuously by day and by night.

Indeed we should not only turn to God at times of explicit prayer. Whatever we are engaged in, whether it is care for the poor, some other duty, or some act of generosity, we should remember God and long for God. The love of God will be as salt is to food, making our actions into a perfect dish to set before the Lord of all things. Then it is right that we should receive the fruits of our labours, overflowing onto us through all eternity, if we have been offering them to him throughout our lives.

Prayer is the light of the soul, true knowledge of God, a mediator between God and men. Prayer lifts the soul into the heavens where it hugs God in an indescribable embrace. The soul seeks the milk of God like a baby crying for the breast. It fulfils its own vows and receives in exchange gifts better than anything that can be seen or imagined.

Prayer is a go-between linking us to God. It gives joy to the soul and calms its emotions. I warn you, though: do not imagine that prayer is simply words. Prayer is the desire for God, an indescribable devotion, not of man but brought about by God's grace. St Paul says: *For when we cannot choose words so as to pray properly, the Spirit himself intercedes on our behalf in a way that could never be put into words.*

If God gives to someone the gift of such prayer, it is a gift of imperishable riches, a heavenly food that satisfies the spirit. Whoever tastes that food catches fire and his soul burns for ever with desire for the Lord.

To begin on this path, start by adorning your house with modesty and humility. Make it shine brightly with the light of justice. Decorate it with the gold leaf of good works, with the jewels of faithfulness and greatness of heart. Finally, to make the house perfect, raise a gable above it all, a gable of prayer. So you will have prepared a pure and sparkling house for the Lord. Receive the Lord into this royal and splendid dwelling - in other words: receive, by his grace, his image into the temple of your soul.



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.

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, by the Sunday before.

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, please watch out for notice about the Application Forms, available very soon.

Please Note There appears to be growing evidence that catching Covid-19 is much less likely in open air settings than indoors. There is also some evidence that those who have had one or both of the relevant injections might still be able to carry Covid-19. Do remember that the regulations regarding distancing and socialising have not yet eased. So for the time being, please do not linger in our Churches or their entrance halls, chatting away. Just a little while longer and hopefully we will all be liberated!

Our Parish Prayer Trees are for any to use. If you have an intention you wish us all to pray for, write it on one of the cards provided and hang the card on the Prayer Tree, where it will remain for four weeks. If the need continues, after four weeks simply write another card and again hang it on the Prayer Tree. Whether any identifying names/details are given is up to the one who places the intention.



Our 2021 Lent Project

Mary's Meals presently feed, every school day, more than 1.6 million Children, in several developing countries.

This practical help enables - more parents to be able to afford to send their Children to school - and what would otherwise be hungry and listless Children to learn, so to have a real hope of a better and more secure future.

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, on **Wed 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 20 Mar**, in our Sacred Heart Hall (if possible by then), 9.30-11.00am. Families will be notified, by email, about a week before, as to whether we will be in the Hall or are to meet online.

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

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.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

When Jesus was transfigured on the mountain, Peter, James and John, were with him. The three apostles also saw a vision of Moses and Elijah, while Jesus was in his transfigured state.



None of the Gospel writers indicate just on which mountain the transfiguration happened. Which mountain does tradition favour?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A divinity student, in answer to one of the questions in the examination paper, drew a tombstone. It bore the words, 'Sacred to the memory which leaves me on occasions like this.'



Parish Monies

Offertory Monies **Many Thanks**
8-14 February

Loose	£ 94.50
Envelopes	£548.00
Harratt Funeral	£207.00

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)

Psalm 131 describes a basic disposition which should permeate all our prayer, a childlike trust in God:

Yahweh, my heart has no lofty ambitions,
my eyes do not look too high.
I am not concerned with great affairs
or marvels beyond my scope.
Enough for me to keep my soul
tranquil and quiet
like a child in its mother's arms,
as content as a child that has been weaned.
Israel, rely on Yahweh,
now and for always!

God is in all things, God is within my own being, constantly creating it. The object of all prayer method is to help us to meet God 'closer to me than I am to myself. For Christians, the primary source for prayer is in the Bible, a collection of very diverse writings accepted by the Church as "inspired". Volumes have been written on the meaning of "inspiration". Briefly, we can accept it as meaning that by reading, pondering and praying from these writings we are listening to God speaking to us now. The word of God in Scripture is a special sacrament of his presence, just as real, although different in form, as his presence in the Eucharist. The words of scripture, if we read them with faith, act like a light falling on the darkness of our inner selves so that we can find and recognise that God – the Father of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and Father of Our Lord, Jesus Christ – is also our God. I read and ponder God's action in past ages in order to recognise that same action continuing now in me. I will now suggest some ways of praying with the Scriptures.



In praying from the Scriptures, choose a passage which in some way appeals to you. If you are a beginner at this kind of prayer, have a brief look at some of the psalms, or at a few passages from the prophets, or at some of the New Testament epistles until you find some passage, or phrase which attracts you.



To illustrate, I shall take a passage from Isaiah, originally spoken by the prophet to the captive Israelites, exiled, hopeless, without any prospects of returning to their own land.....

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, Kazimiera Andruszko,
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, Season of Lent, Sunday 2: Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

As the time of the Passion approaches, the foreboding of the disciples grows. Jesus sustains them with this vivid manifestation of himself in glory. On the holy mountain of revelation they see him transformed. It was a real visual experience, though described in symbols familiar from the Bible - brilliant white clothes, and so on. Moses and Elijah are seen there because they also had experienced the vision of God on the holy mountain: Moses when he had received the Law from God on Mount Sinai; Elijah when he encountered God in the cave on Mount Horeb. The disciples were frightened, confused and overcome at the awesome experience, and yet, at the same time, comforted in such a way that Peter wanted to prolong it. Their reaction to the presence of the Lord will later be reflected by that of Christian mystics – both a reassuring terror and a frightening homeliness, the awareness of a presence which is awesome yet comforting - an experience which cannot fully be put into words. The Voice from Heaven is an echo of the Voice heard at Jesus' Baptism. There, however, the Voice was addressed to Jesus, whereas here it is spoken to the disciples, proclaiming Jesus as authorized teacher, the one who speaks with the authority of the Beloved Son.



First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18

Every parent must be moved by this terrible and touching story. How could a parent do such a thing? And the boy was Abraham's last hope for the survival of his family, granted to him to fulfil God's promise. The narrative pace slows down as they approach the point of sacrifice. In the full version of the story in Genesis we read how Isaac is allowed to carry the wood, but Abraham carefully carries anything on which the child might hurt himself, the fire and the knife. One can imagine the jaunty boy trotting along

beside dad, bouncing questions at him, and dad's monosyllabic answers as he nears the moment he dreads. Yet Abraham trusted in God right up to the brink of disaster, somehow confident that God would rescue him from this terrible deed. As Paul stresses, it was not anything Abraham did that justified him, not his obedient action, but his total trust in God. The tradition of the Church sees in this tragic story a 'prequel' of God's offering his only, beloved Son for the salvation of the human race; it is a mysterious preparation for that supreme offering which we celebrate at Easter. With this interpretation of the text we keep the goal before our eyes, as we advance along the way during the season of Lent.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Paul reflects on God's love: if God loved us sufficiently to deliver up his son for us, there is no limit to his love. Paul begins his letter to the Romans by exposing the human race as mired in sin. The disobedience of Adam (and 'Adam' means 'man' in Hebrew) is the symbol of this sin. But Paul shows that the perfect, loving obedience of Christ (the Second Adam) to his Father unravels our disobedience, and sets us right again in God's love. The Cross is the supreme act of love: Jesus loves his Father even to death. God accepts this death out of love for the human race. Nothing, continues Paul, can separate us from this love, neither life nor death nor human nor superhuman powers. As an example of this love, Paul then shows how even the Jews who rejected Jesus remain God's beloved people. In the end they too will be saved by that love.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Season of Lent, Sunday 3

1st Reading: Exodus 20:1-17
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
Gospel: John 2:13-25

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Of Week 2

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

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St David, Bishop & Patron of Wales
Tue Weekday of Lent
Wed Weekday of Lent
Thu Weekday of Lent / St Casimir, Holy Man
Fri Weekday of Lent
Sat Weekday of Lent



Gathering Verse: Psalm 36(37)

Commit your life to the Lord,
and he will act on your behalf.

Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not envy those who do evil,
for they wither quickly like grass
and fade like the green of the fields.

If you trust in the Lord and do good,
then you will live in the land and be secure.
If you find your delight in the Lord,
he will grant your heart's desire.

Commit your life to the Lord,
trust in him and he will act,
so that your justice breaks forth like the light,
your cause like the noon-day sun.

Be still before the Lord and wait in patience;
do not fret at the man who prospers;
a man who makes evil plots
to bring down the needy and the poor.

The just man's few possessions
are better than the wicked man's wealth;
for the power of the wicked shall be broken
and the Lord will support the just.

He protects the lives of the upright,
their heritage will last for ever.
They shall not be put to shame in evil days,
in time of famine their food shall not fail.

The Lord guides the steps of a man
and makes safe the path of one he loves.
Though he stumble he shall never fall
for the Lord holds him by the hand.

I was young and now I am old,
but I have never seen the just man forsaken
nor his children begging for bread.
All the day he is generous and lends
and his children become a blessing.

Then turn away from evil and do good
and you shall have a home for ever;
for the Lord loves justice
and will never forsake his friends.

The just man's mouth utters wisdom
and his lips speak what is right;
the law of his God is in his heart,
his steps shall be saved from stumbling.

The salvation of the just comes from the Lord,
their stronghold in time of distress.

The Lord helps them and delivers them
and saves them: for their refuge is in him.

Commit your life to the Lord,
and he will act on your behalf.

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm: 115(116)

R I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

R I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.



Year B, Season of Lent, Mass for Sunday 2 (continued)

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!



Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

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

Hail Redeemer, King divine!
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine;
King, whose reign shall never cease,
Prince of everlasting peace.

*Angels, saints and nations sing:
"Praised be Jesus Christ our King;
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,
King of love on Calvary!"*

King, whose name creation thrills,
Rule our hearts, our minds, our wills;
Till in peace, each nation rings
With Thy praises, King of kings.

King most holy, King of truth,
Guide the lowly, guide the youth;
Christ the King of glory bright,
be to us eternal light.

Shepherd-king, o'er mountains steep
homeward bring the wandering sheep;
shelter in one royal fold
states and kingdoms, new and old.

*Angels, saints and nations sing:
"Praised be Jesus Christ our King;
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,
King of love on Calvary!"*

Patrick Brennan CSsR (1877-1952)

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*O God,
who have commanded us
to listen to your beloved Son,
be pleased, we pray,
to nourish us inwardly by your word,
that, with spiritual sight made pure,
we may rejoice to behold your glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.*

