



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 11, 12/13 June, 2021

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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			Mass Intentions
Saturday 12 June	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Jennifer Howcroft</i>
Sunday 13 June	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i> <i>Beryl Felstead</i>
Monday 14 June	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 4.00pm Reception Body	<i>Donor's Intention (AG)</i> Stephen Jones
Tuesday 15 June	Sacred Heart	10.30am Funeral Mass *	Stephen Jones
Wednesday 16 June	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass 5-6.00pm Exposition	<i>Debbie Lane</i>
Thursday 17 June	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 11.30am Funeral Mass *	<i>Joseph Finan</i> Sarah Sankey
Friday 18 June			
Saturday 19 June	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Cynthia Potts</i>
Sunday 20 June	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i> <i>Martin Batty</i>

Covid distancing still requires limiting numbers in our Churches. Please pre-book for Weekend Masses. **To book for Mass: see our Parish Website, Parish Facebook Page, or telephone the Presbytery.**

* Any not registered as a mourner with the family, but who wish to attend, should please ask Fr Anthony to know if places are available.

The kingdom of God is
like a mustard seed
- the smallest of
all seeds.



Yet once it is sown
it grows into the
biggest shrub of
them all.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (in silence) -&- Also Sacrament of Reconciliation available
1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5-6.00pm, at our Sacred Heart Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation only

1st & 3rd Thursday of each month, 10.00am, at our St Joseph's Church
or by appointment with Fr Anthony

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

From Fr Anthony

It is true that some who have appeared rather haphazard about being a church-goer or even following Christian ways, divorce, seek a Church nullity, gain an annulment, and are then able to marry another in a Catholic Church. It is also true that there are some who have done their best to live a Catholic life style, have worked to sustain their marriage, and may even have given little or no cause to their marriage breakdown, but who cannot be granted an annulment. This certainly can and not infrequently does result in members of our Church Family feeling hurt, or even let down by our Church, and it can seem unfair or unjust. Such feelings are understandable and should be met always with care and concern.

Because our Church is human as well as divine, we can take it for granted that sometimes there have been unjust decisions for or against nullity, because individual judges involved in our Church nullity process have been persuaded by power, fame, or fortune (another's or their own).

Not so much now, but for many years I was involved with our Diocesan Tribunal (or Marriage Court). I can honestly say that all with whom I was involved, in making what are life changing decisions, never found any joy in having to return a negative decision (nullity not proven), and more so where a person had done their best to live out a good Catholic life and marriage. I can truly say that virtually all of the many cases I was involved with were regarding people who had no notable power, fame or fortune. Still, if there was any chance at all of their marriage being found null, it would be investigated, and a significant majority of those investigated were found to be null. Any with a bit of power, fame or fortune were treated with equal fairness and justice.

Through long times until recently, a charge was generally made for the undertaking of the nullity process. In our Diocese, this was notably less than the real cost. The work of the Judicial Vicar (the priest in charge of the Tribunal) is a pretty full-time job, so he is paid from Diocesan central funds, along with a couple of secretaries cum administrators. Most, such as the advocates and additional judges, work with the Tribunal part time, and neither did, nor do now receive any payment for this work. The Code of Canon Law (Church Law), clearly states that none should be unable to have their case for nullity investigated, for want of not being able to pay, so any or all of the charge can be waived, if there is a need. On being elected, Pope Francis was quick to decide that *generally there should not be any charge!*

As it was so it is, especially within a society that is quite 'celebrity obsessed'. Certain nullity cases become news, but the greatest majority happen quietly and to people who would not (and would not wish to) stand out in a congregation. Within very many Parish Families there are a handful of such individuals.

To be continued.

Things happening in our Parish

With Urgency We always have a need for, and always are pleased to welcome more of our Parish Family, to help clean our Churches or/and assist with the flowers, and just now we have a particular urgency.

Cleaning can be done with others or particular jobs can be allotted for volunteers to work at their convenience. An eye for detail and willing hands are the best qualifications for a clean Church; and any with other qualifications can also apply!

More people than should down-play an ability to display cut flowers and/or potted plants. We're not seeking first prize at Harrogate Flower Festival. Half a dozen lilies or bloomers can be as effective as a large, fanned display. Many professionals use potted plants when effective or more suited than cut flowers.

Younger, older, male or female, if you can move under your own steam and have one hand that you can wave with, we need your help, so please volunteer - contact Margaret Whitehouse at St Joseph's, or Mary Day at The Sacred Heart, or Fr Anthony for either.

Advice: Don't leave the volunteering to others - they're expecting you to volunteer!

Parish Pastoral Council is due to meet this **Thu 17 Jun**, In our Sacred Heart Hall, 7.00pm. Any members of our Parish Family are welcome to attend Council Meetings.

Please Note *It is a great help* and lessens the possibility of errors when Intentions for Masses are put in writing. Please write clearly. If you wish a Mass to be celebrated at a particular one of our Churches, please note which. It is not always possible to keep Intentions on a particular date, but if you would like a particular date, note that also. Where there are clashes of dates, preference is usually given to such as the first anniversary of death, or other major anniversaries (eg 25 years married), then on a first come first served basis. If a particular date is wanted, it is advisable to put in your Intention at least 3-4 weeks before. Intentions may be handed to Fr Anthony, or put in the Offertory basket.

If you forget to bring an intention in writing, do still ask Fr Anthony, but make sure he writes a note of it!

& In our Diocese

Counselling Service Catholic Care offer a confidential and free counselling service to members of our Catholic community. If you feel that you, a family member or friend might benefit from counselling support, please contact them - by email, at counselling@catholic-care.org.uk - or by telephone, on 0113-388-5400 or 07739-975008.

The Twelve The Diocesan Youth Leadership Team is looking to recruit Catholic young people, aged 11-18, to continue collaborating with Bishop Marcus, giving a voice to young people in our Diocese. Applications deadline, Sun 20 June. For more information and recruitment pack, email Ryan Wilkinson at youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

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 Programme of Preparation is presently expected to begin following the summer holidays. The Application Forms should become available very soon.

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?

The mustard shrub, as referred to in today's Gospel, can grow anywhere between 6 and 20 feet tall, with a spread of 20 feet; but in ideal conditions can even reach up to 30 feet tall. Because of its size and appearance, it is sometimes also referred to as a tree, but technically it is a herb, not a tree.

When Jesus was asleep in the stern of a boat, and a gale arose that caused the disciples to fear the boat would be capsized and sink, were they on the Dead Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, the Sea of Galilee, or the Sea of Gennesaret?

AND SERIOUSLY!

The pastor's wife found her husband stalking the kitchen with a fly swatter. 'I've killed 3 males and 2 females' he said.



'How can you tell them apart?' she asked. He replied '3 were on the beer can and 2 were on the phone!'

Parish Monies

Offertory Monies

30 May

Loose £ 87.52
Envelopes £311.60

Many
Thanks

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.

.....The indifference and detachment which Ignatius and Christian tradition teaches is concerned with the direction in which our attachments are leading us. The indifferent person can let go those attachments which are leading him or her away from God and change to those which lead more directly to him. That is why Ignatius ends 'The First Principle and Foundation' with: *Our one desire and choice should be what is more conducive to the end for which we are created.*

The last sentence of the Preface brings us to the core of the matter which we are considering. The treasure is hidden within the field of our own inner life. Our inner life, which affects the way we



perceive the world, act in it and react to it, is complex, chaotic, a threatening mixture of thoughts, memories, emotions, desires and fears. The answer to our chaos is in our desires the poet Virgil wrote 'Each is drawn by their own desire'; or expressed more prosaically, 'We all do what we want'.

The problem is the multiplicity and variety of conflicting desires within us. Our surface desires are always the most noisy and demanding. When answered, they can leave us feeling empty and sad because in satisfying them we have frustrated deeper desires within us. In the Book of Revelations (3:17), the writer tells the unfortunate Church of Laodicea, 'You say to yourself, "I am rich, I have made a fortune, and have everything I want", never realising that you are wretchedly and pitifully poor and blind and naked too.' This is a realisation which often hits men and women in what is called 'the mid-life crisis' and can throw them into depression. In fact this realisation can be the beginning of a new life.

If we were able to discover what we really want, become conscious of the deepest desire within us, then we should have discovered God's will. This is not an impersonal blue-print for living forced on us by a capricious God and contrary to almost every inclination in us. God's will is our freedom. He wants us to discover what we want and who we really are. The struggle is not our will against God's will, but our will struggling with its divided self, the will which wants all creation to praise, reverence and serve God, the will which wants to take over from God against the will which wants to let God be God.

The saint is the person who has discovered his/her deepest desire. They then do their own thing, also is God's thing, they are both in harmony and characterised by a continuous peace, tranquillity, freedom and joy even in crisis and suffering. If God is not attractive to us then we cannot desire him. The first step must be to turn towards him and see that he is good beyond all our imagining, that he is 'the joy of man's desiring'. 'Repent and believe the good news'.

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 Stephen Jones, Sarah Sankey, Cynthia Potts,
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, Peggy Heneghan, Liz Allen, Dennis Fricker, Elizabeth Taylor, Monica Lowe, Michael Moran
John O'Brien, Nicola Glew, Tim Byrne, and all our housebound

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 11, Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Jesus was a countryman, from the rich agricultural plains of Galilee, where wheat and fruit-trees abounded. It was natural for him to use such imagery to describe the Kingship of God which he was proclaiming. Today's gospel reading offers us two of the many images in Mark's chapter of parables. What did Jesus want to teach by them? Images can carry many layers of meaning. First, the seed growing secretly all the time: perhaps Jesus meant that God's purposes are accomplished in spite of our feeble and fumbling efforts; perhaps it was a warning that after long waiting the time for decision, the time of harvest had come with Jesus' own mission. Second, the mustard seed: was this a reply to the discouraged disciples – or perhaps Jesus' critical opponents – that his motley little group of undistinguished peasants, fishermen and tax-collectors would grow into God's own mighty tree? Perhaps this is a first hint that Jesus' mission is for all nations, not just for Israel. All nations would come, nest and find a home in the branches of his mission, just as in the first reading they nest in the branches of the great cedar tree. At any rate, both images show that God is in charge, and has great plans which will be fulfilled despite our own inadequacies.



First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

The task of the prophet Ezekiel was to keep up the spirits of the Jews exiled to Babylon. For them it seemed that the sack of Jerusalem was the end of all hope: they had lost their homes, their king, their Temple and even their covenant with God. Ezekiel was a person of fantastic imagination, not afraid to indulge in wild and daring mimes to force through his message that God was still in charge and still caring for Israel. He mimed the siege of Jerusalem by building a mud-brick model and escaping through the wall. His visions are also extraordinary and inspiring. Perhaps the best-known is the Valley of the Dead Bones,

prophesying that Israel will come to life again. The passage we read today is an imaginative allegory about a great cedar tree despoiled by two eagles, that is, Israel despoiled by Babylon and Egypt. In our reading God promises that Israel will again become a great cedar tree, in whose shade the nations will come to take shelter. The Gospel parable uses the same figure of a great tree in which all peoples will shelter. The great cedars on the mountains of Lebanon are an awesome and unforgettable sight, stretching far into the sky and wide across the hills, a suitable refuge for great birds and so for all peoples.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Paul uses several different sets of imagery to convey the goal of the Christian life for which he is longing. We know that all imagery is inadequate, but especially such pictures as heaven 'up there', in the clouds, where we all play on harps. In 1 Corinthians 15 Paul used images of participating in God's power, incorruptibility and glory, of being transformed into a new mode of being by the Spirit. In today's reading Paul speaks of 'being at home' with the Lord in contrast to being in exile. Now that we are adopted children of God, to be with the Lord is our natural family home. In the final sentence he envisages also the final judgment when we are laid bare and exposed for what we truly are, the frightening but comforting moment when we see ourselves as God sees us, and can cease putting on an act, keeping up appearances. Before God there is neither need nor possibility of pretence. All masks are stripped off. This too is an aspect of being at home, for there is no pretending before the family.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 12

1st Reading: Job 38:1,8-11

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 3

- Sun** Of the Day
- Mon** Of the Weekday
- Tue** Of the Weekday
- Wed** or + Common Pastors
- Thu** Of the Weekday
- Fri** Of the Weekday
- Sat** or + Proper of Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

- Mon** Of the Weekday
- Tue** Of the Weekday
- Wed** St Richard of Chichester, Bishop
- Thu** Of the Weekday
- Fri** Of the Weekday
- Sat** St Romuald, Abbot