



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 18, 31 July/1 August, 2021

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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		<i>** Facebook live-stream</i>	Mass Intentions
Saturday 31 July	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Stephen Jones</i>
Sunday 1 August	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass **	<i>George & Evelyn Palmer Parish Family</i>
Monday 2 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Tuesday 3 August			
Wednesday 4 August	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass 4.00pm <i>Reception of Body</i> 5-6.00pm Exposition/Reconciliation	Dennis Fricker <i>Mick Moran</i>
Thursday 5 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass <i>NB No Reconciliation today</i> 11.00am <i>Funeral Mass</i>	<i>Yorkshire Brethren</i> Dennis Fricker
Friday 6 August	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Faithful Departed (November List)</i>
Saturday 7 August	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Mary Brown</i>
Sunday 8 August	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Richard Walsh Connor McDevitt</i>

To assist with Covid Track & Trace, all are asked to use the QR Code in the Church entrance hall, or to pre-book for weekend Masses (see our Parish Website, Facebook Page, or telephone the Presbytery).

To help keep all as safe as we can, please continue to wear a face-covering at weekend Masses unless exempted on health or under-age grounds

And remember: numbers at Funerals (and Vigil Receptions) are no longer restricted, so any may attend.

This weekend, on their Covenanting Marriage, we congratulate and pray for
Jessica Rachel Mulligan and Thomas Dillip Alesbury Ellis

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

Last weekend, in our Parish Newsletter, we had a thank-you letter from Bishop Marcus. When he sent that, he also asked that the letter below be widely made known. As it is not especially time sensitive, its publication here has been delayed a little, for administrative reasons. Otherwise, it is as it was received.

Statement of the Catholic Bishops of England Sunday - it is our Day

On 19th July, the current legislative powers which assist the mitigations against the covid-19 virus transmission will be rescinded by HM Government. Nevertheless, there will be an encouragement to personal and corporate responsibility in this area; as the Prime Minister said in his most recent statement "The pandemic is not over." Even without this legislation in place, the Church in England and Wales will be adopting a cautious approach to capacity and activity within our buildings, especially at corporate acts of worship.

We are mindful of the certain fact that the Covid-19 virus is still circulating in society. Vaccines provide genuine protection against the worst effects of the virus, yet we recognise the legitimate fear on the part of some who otherwise desire to gather for Holy Mass. It is our continuing judgement, therefore, that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God.

It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.

In April, following our Plenary Assembly, we offered a reflection on the experience of the extraordinary long months of the pandemic. It was titled The Day of the Lord. We also began to look at the way forward. We spoke about the important invitation to restore the Sunday Mass to its rightful centrality in our lives. We asked for a rekindling in our hearts of a yearning for the Real Presence of the Lord in the Eucharist, as our response to the total, sacrificial love that Jesus has for us. We said: "The Eucharist should be the cause of our deepest joy, our highest manner of offering thanks to God and for seeking his mercy and love. We need to make it the foundation stone of our lives."

May this continue to be our striving during these coming months as we journey back to the full celebration of our Sunday Mass and our renewed observance of The Day of the Lord.

Things happening in our Parish

Confirmations 2022 Baptised Catholics who have not been Confirmed - if now coming into School Year 6 or above - or if teenagers or adults - are eligible to prepare. Preparation meetings are to begin in September. For Application Forms please see Fr Anthony, at one of our Parish weekend Masses, as soon as possible, and return the same to him, **before September**.



Please Be Sure to leave our Churches in a tidy manner.

At our Sacred Heart Church, please leave hymn books and Mass Parts booklets neatly in the benches - and be sure to take home your copies of the Mass Readings and Parish Newsletter.

At our St Joseph's Church, please return Mass Parts booklets to the basket in the entrance hall - and be sure to take home your copies of the Mass Readings and Parish Newsletter.

At both of our Churches, please be sure not to leave any debris (eg paper tissues, children's toys).

Our Little Shop at our St Joseph's Church continues to be available, but any wishing to browse are advised to do so when the entrance hall is not busy with people arriving or departing. Our Shop at the Sacred Heart (in the hall) also continues to be open. Cards for many occasions and devotional items are all at reasonable prices - and likely cheaper than at commercial outlets.



Do you know someone who is
thinking of becoming a Catholic
but is unsure what to do about it?

Fr Anthony would be pleased to meet with them
(they might also bring a friend, if they wish)
to discuss what might be involved.

God Never Stops thinking of and caring for us; and being away from home, on holiday or otherwise, is no reason to stop thinking of him. The location of many Churches, at home and abroad, and Mass times, can now so easily be found via the internet, especially if the name of the local Diocese is known. If you are to travel and need help to find such information, or you do not have access to the internet, Fr Anthony can try to help, if you ask him a week or two before you go. Local tourist information offices, and also hotel and holiday complex receptions, usually have information of this sort to hand.

Fr Anthony is also pleased to receive Newsletters from all such places, as they sometimes offer helpful ideas. So if you can, do bring him a copy.

Do Remember

Understandably, quite a number of people are still hesitant about being in places where others are together in numbers. Our weekday Masses generally have less than twenty attending, and Saturday evening Masses presently allow for any attending to have fair space about them. So, if you are hesitant,
come, find a gentle return at any of these Masses.

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 22 & 29 Sep**. To join a Programme, Parents need to talk with Fr Anthony, after one of our weekend Parish Masses, to arrange an initial meeting with him.

The Programme is for any expecting, as well as Parents with baby born.

Confirmations Any eligible (see pg 2) who have not yet applied, need to get an application form from Fr Anthony, and return it to him **before September**.

The first meeting, when Parents are to attend to assist the Children, will be in our Sacred Heart Hall,

Sat 11 Sep, 9.30-11.30am

First Communion Our Children, who are to prepare for their First Eucharist, will next meet, along with their Parents, in our Sacred Heart Hall,

Sat 18 Sep, 10-12.00am

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

The 'Bread from Heaven' that God sent for the Israelites to eat, during their Exodus through the desert, after escaping slavery in Egypt, was and still is commonly also called 'Manna'.

Is Manna a natural or a supernatural substance?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A burglar breaks into a house. He shines his torch and finds valuables. As he reaches them, he hears, 'Jesus is watching you.' The burglar can see no one so carries on stealing - again he hears, 'Jesus is watching you.' He sees a parrot called Moses. 'Who the heck would name a parrot Moses?' The parrot answered, 'The same one who called a Rottweiler, Jesus!'



Parish Monies

Offertory Monies

18 July

Loose £ 68.50

Envelopes £403.03

**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

CHANGING DIRECTION

Repent and believe the good news (Mark 1:15)



The greatest sin of which we are capable lies not in the body, but in our spirit, the sin of pride, a deep seated tendency to live as though all creation should praise, reverence and serve us and our interests. Because the tendency is so deep-seated, the Church teaches that our lives must be a continual penance, a constant struggle to change the

direction of our lives from preoccupation with our own security to letting God be our only security. There is a good illustration of this human tendency to imprison ourselves in our own tomb of pride in Tolstoy's novel *Resurrection* in which he describes the attitude of the prostitute Katusha:

It is usually imagined that a thief, a murderer, a spy, a prostitute, acknowledging his or her profession to be evil, is ashamed of it. But the contrary is true. People whom fate or their own sin-mistakes, have placed in a certain position, however false that position may be, form a view of life in general which makes their position seem good and admissible. In order to keep their view of life, these people keep instinctively to the circle of those who share their views of life and their own place in it. This surprises us where the persons are thieves bragging about their dexterity, prostitutes vaunting their depravity, or murderers boasting of their cruelty. But it surprises us only because the circle, the atmosphere, in which these people live, is limited, and chiefly because we are outside it. Can we not observe the same phenomenon when the rich boast of their wealth – robbery; when the commanders of armies pride themselves in their victories – murder; when those in high places vaunt their power – violence? That we do not see the perversion in the views of life held by these people is only because the circle formed by them is larger and we ourselves belong to it.....

Katusha, the prostitute, saw herself as a very important person, and Tolstoy continues:

She prized this view more than anything else; she could not but prize it, for if she lost this view of life, she would lose the importance it accorded her. And in order not to lose the meaning of life, she instinctively clung to the set that looked at life in the same way as she did.....

To be continued . . .

Abridged from: *The God of Surprises* – Gerard W. Hughes

Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored.
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.

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**,
especially Dennis Fricker, and his family



Also: All those **sick** or **infirm**, especially:

Br Hilarion Durkin, Margaret Hinchliffe, Isabelle Blake, Elizabeth Olbison, Catherine Brown, Karen Dearing
Peggy Heneghan, Liz Allen, Elizabeth Taylor, Monica Lowe, John O'Brien, Nicola Glew, Betty O'Donnell
Tim Byrne, John Lovely, Raymond Ward, and all our housebound

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 18, Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: John 6:24-35

After the account of the miraculous feeding of the five thousand, Jesus explains the significance of the event. First he stresses that its importance lies not in the material food that goes bad, but in that of which the food is a sign. The people must understand the sign-value of the food, its ultimate fulfilment in Jesus of the manna in the desert: we do not live by bread alone but by every word which comes from the mouth of God. The whole explanation is built on a contrast between Moses and Jesus, between the food given by Moses and that given by Jesus. Jesus is the bread of life as the eucharistic bread, and also as revelation. We often concentrate exclusively on the eucharistic meaning of this chapter. This introduction to the Bread of Life discourse, however, emphasises that it is belief and understanding which is first required, and only then does Jesus begin to explain the deeper meaning of the bread. Jesus gives the explanation of what he has done in the synagogue at Capernaum, and, after the way of Jewish sermons of the time, each phrase of the scriptural quotation from the Book of Exodus is commented on in turn: Bread from heaven / he gave them / to eat.

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

The journey of the people of Israel through the desert of Sinai is regarded in the Bible from two quite different angles. From one angle it is the time of perfect harmony between God and his people, the honeymoon period when God was with his people Israel and when the people walked with him, trusting him on their journey in the wilderness. From the other angle it is seen as the beginning of a murmuring against the Lord, which will grow into the infidelities which eventually will lead to Israel's punishment by the exile to Babylon. This account of bread from heaven shows both Israel's impatience with the Lord and the Lord's supreme



patience with Israel. The story demonstrates how God cared for his people and provided them with food during a generation's wandering in the savagely inhospitable desert of Sinai - a huge, infertile expanse of rock and sand, where virtually nothing grows. This care is focussed on manna, a sweet substance excreted from bushes on Sinai in a way which Israel found miraculous. The story has grown in the telling: it is linked to keeping the Sabbath, for manna could not be harvested on the Sabbath. Secondly, with typical Hebrew wordplay, this odd substance is linked to the Hebrew word manhu, meaning 'What is it?'

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:17,20-24

In his great classic letter to the Romans Paul teaches that by being baptised into Christ's death we have been joined with Christ in his resurrection and become a new being, fused with Christ or grafted into Christ. He sees us as living with Christ's life-principle, the Spirit, rather than our old corrupt life-principle. In First Corinthians he enlarges on the ways of life which this brings, the varied gifts of the Spirit which together make up the Christian body, the Body of Christ. Now, in Ephesians, we see a consequence of this. The Christian body is repeatedly described as a New Man, a new creation, after the model of Christ, the Second Adam. What does all this talk of 'new creation' amount to in real terms? Firstly, it poses the question whether we have really been renewed. Are my values and attitudes radically new as a Christian? Do they differ from the priorities which I would have without Christianity?

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 19

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Gospel: John 6:41-51

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 2

Sun Of Sunday

Mon Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)

Tue Of Weekday (or + Common Martyrs)

Wed Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

Thu Of Weekday

Fri Proper of Feast

Sat Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop /

St Julian Eymard, Priest

Tue St Oswald, Martyr

Wed St John Vianney, Priest

Thu Of Weekday

Fri Transfiguration of Our Lord

Sat St Sixtus II, Pope & Companion Martyrs /

St Cajetan, Priest