



# 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 19, 7/8 August, 2021

*Getting in touch* Father Anthony G Fenton  
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			<b>Mass Intentions</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 7 August	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Mary Brown</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 8 August	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Richard Walsh</i> <i>Connor McDevitt</i>
Monday 9 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Donor's Intention</i>
Tuesday 10 August			
Wednesday 11 August	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Christopher, Mark, Stephen &amp; Derek Jones</i>
Thursday 12 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Donor's Intention (GF)</i>
Friday 13 August	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 14 August	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Eileen O'Reilly</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 15 August	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm <i>Baptism</i>	<i>Josephine Spencer</i> <i>Mick Moran</i> Evelyn Grace Lister

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**



Next weekend, 14/15 August, we are to celebrate  
The Feast of the Assumption of Mary, Mother of God,  
to Heaven  
The Readings and Prayers, at Mass, will be of the Feast.



**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

*The following passage is from the 'Journey of the Mind to God', by St Bonaventure. To be better understood, it is best read slowly or several times over, and reflected upon.*

Christ is both the way and the door. Christ is the staircase and the vehicle, like the *throne of mercy over the Ark of the Covenant*, and the *mystery hidden from the ages*. A man should turn his full attention to this throne of mercy, and should gaze at him hanging on the cross, full of faith, hope and charity, devoted, full of wonder and joy, marked by gratitude, and open to praise and jubilation. Then such a man will make with Christ a *pasch*, that is, a passing-over. Through the branches of the cross he will pass over the Red Sea, leaving Egypt and entering the desert. There he will taste the hidden manna, and rest with Christ in the sepulchre, as if he were dead to things outside. He will experience, as much as is possible for one who is still living, what was promised to the thief who hung beside Christ: *Today you will be with me in paradise.*

For this passover to be perfect, we must suspend all the operations of the mind and we must transform the peak of our affections, directing them to God alone. This is a sacred mystical experience. It cannot be comprehended by anyone unless he surrenders himself to it; nor can he surrender himself to it unless he longs for it; nor can he long for it unless the Holy Spirit, whom Christ sent into the world, should come and inflame his innermost soul. Hence the Apostle says that this mystical wisdom is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

If you ask how such things can occur, seek the answer in God's grace, not in doctrine; in the longing of the will, not in the understanding; in the sighs of prayer, not in research; seek the bridegroom not the teacher; God and not man; darkness not daylight; and look not to the light but rather to the raging fire that carries the soul to God with intense fervour and glowing love. The fire is God, and the furnace is in Jerusalem, fired by Christ in the ardour of his loving passion. Only he understood this who said: *My soul chose hanging and my bones death*. Anyone who cherishes this kind of death can see God, for it is true that: *No man can look upon me and live.*

Let us die, then, and enter into the darkness, silencing our anxieties, our passions and all the fantasies of our imagination. Let us pass over with the crucified Christ *from this world to the Father*, so that, when the Father has shown himself to us, we can say with Philip: *It is enough*. We may hear with Paul: *My grace is sufficient for you*; and we can rejoice with David, saying: *My flesh and my heart fail me, but God is the strength of my heart and my heritage for ever. Blessed be the Lord for ever, and let all the people say: Amen. Amen!*

## Things happening in our Parish

**Can we, can't we?** There are hopes that we can resume the Sunday morning, after Mass, serving of tea/coffee at both of our Churches, from September. *But this can only happen if we have enough helpers*, so that none need to cover week in week out. Please < don't leave it to others > to bring some milk, set out mugs, and wash the crocks after, requires no great expertise, but is a wonderful act of service, to help bring together our Parish Family.



### **NB Male help wanted too!**

Please offer your help to Janet Reagan at St Joseph's, Caroline Donovan or Mary Day at Sacred Heart, or for either to Fr Anthony.

**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).

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.

### **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.**

### **& In our Diocese**

**Fountains Abbey Mass** Feast of St Bernard, Fri 20 Aug, 12:00nn. Principal celebrant: Fr Richard Duffield, Provost York Oratory. Free entry for any attending Mass. See poster in our Church Entrance.

*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 who have not yet applied, need an application form from Fr Anthony (can be got at a Weekend Mass) and to 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?

It is commonly held by academics that the Manna enjoyed by the Israelites, during their exodus through the desert, was a natural substance. The scale insects of the desert produce a honeydew that, as the heat rises, soon turns to a sticky, sweet tasting solid. Through parts of the middle east it is still collected and considered to be a delicacy in itself, or as an ingredient in the baking of bread.

*The Assumption of Mary, Mother of God, is a traditional Catholic belief from the earliest centuries, but was not formally and infallibly declared until less than a century ago. In which year and by which Pope was this formal declaration made?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!



A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem'.

A small child replied: "Because they couldn't get a baby-sitter."

## Parish Monies

### Offertory Monies

25 July

Loose £126.70  
Envelopes £351.50

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)*

Katusha, the prostitute's fear is the fear of every human being, the fear of our own meaninglessness and nothingness. All of us, in our different ways, struggle to defend ourselves against this fear, building up our individual and corporate defences. This is a healthy instinct, necessary for human growth and development. The danger is that we begin to use the defences not as a means to human growth, but as a protection against it. In Christian understanding all our defences are provisional, and legitimate only in so far as they enable us to grow into an at-one-ness with God. 'The other things on the face of the earth are created for man to help him in the attainment of his end, and he must rid himself of them in as far as they prove a hindrance to him'. Making our defences ends in themselves is to turn them into our defences against God. Our defences have become our idols, our false gods, and this is the root of all sin. That is why the first commandment is 'Thou shalt not have false gods before me', and all the other commandments follow from this.

We misread our fear of meaninglessness. It is not a threat of annihilation, but an invitation to face truth. The facts are kind, and God is in the facts. The fear of our meaninglessness is saying to us: 'Your defences are ultimately useless. You are wrong in judging your worth by the use of your useless defences.



God alone is your rock, your refuge and your strength. Acknowledge that truth and you will come to know your real worth. For you are precious in his eyes and he loves you. He is calling you to share his own life. 'Sin is our refusal to accept this invitation, we prefer our own security. We are like Lazarus in our tombs. God calls us out to life. We reply, 'Thank you, but I prefer to stay where I am.'

From within the ring of our own defences against God, we can look with disapproval at those within other security rings which may threaten us. We do this as individuals, as groups and as nations. If we are religiously inclined, we may bring God within our defence ring, declaring atheist and evil any who may threaten our security. In God's name we threaten to annihilate any who endanger our defences and God becomes the justification of our thefts, our violence and our murder, which we now call preservation of our freedom and sovereignty, the upkeep of law and order, and patriotism.....

*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**,



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 19, Commentary on the Readings

### Gospel: John 6:41-51

We always think of this Bread of Life discourse as centred on the Eucharist, but the first part of it is centred on the bread of life as the revelation of God. In a similar way, the Liturgy of the Word which proclaims the revelation of God through Scripture is the first part of the Mass. As we said last week, in this discourse Jesus is following the pattern of Jewish sermons with a detailed commentary upon the text from Exodus: 'Bread from heaven he gave them to eat'. Then half-way through the sermon comes a quotation from the prophets, a sort of half-time booster quote. This quotation from Isaiah appears in today's gospel reading: 'They will all be taught by God'. In context this quote occurs in a passage exploring the personal relationship of each believer to the Lord. The Lord will sow in our hearts individually the knowledge of himself, so that each of us has a personal bond with God which is cultivated by prayer. If we listen to the Father and learn from him, we come to Jesus, who has seen the Father. So in this reading the emphasis is on listening, seeing, believing the revelation of the Father. Faith is no abstract set of truths but a personal knowing, just as we know those we love on earth. Only at the end of today's reading do we move on to the topic of eating the Bread of Life.

### First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

The wicked Queen Jezebel had slaughtered all the prophets of the Lord except Elijah. Elijah had then mounted a competition with the prophets of Baal, challenging them to bring fire down from heaven to consume the bull they were sacrificing to Baal. Despite Elijah's taunts, they had failed miserably, leaving the field for an easy victory by Elijah, whose God produced a flawless display of



pyrotechnics, climaxing in a splendid holocaust. Nevertheless, Elijah still felt threatened; he fled and announced that he had had enough of life, whereupon he fell asleep in a sulk. God's reaction to this petulant behaviour is touching. First he wakes Elijah up to an excellent breakfast, then he provides a sufficiently substantial lunch to fortify Elijah for a forty-day trek through the Sinai desert. Typical of God's forgiveness and indulgence! His chosen ones complain to him roundly, and he treats them pretty roughly at times. Look at the relationship between Jeremiah or Job and God! As Teresa of Avila put it, 'If you treat your friends like that, no wonder you have so few of them.' At least these examples show us that we are expected to treat God with intimacy and frankness, voicing our complaints to our Father.

### Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2

In the early Church confirmation was known as the sealing in the Spirit, a rather beautiful image, which stems from this passage. In the ancient world, long before general literacy, everyone had a personal seal to mark documents or possessions. This text tells us that we are the soft wax, which sets permanently at confirmation, personally marking us as belonging to God, telling that we are his. The Spirit is ever alert to our needs, supporting us before we realise our need of support, tireless in forgiveness, wise in guidance, unlimited in generosity. Being sealed by the Spirit commits us to this same sort of consideration for others.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

### The Word: Feast Assumption BV Mary to Heaven

1st Reading: Revelations 11:19; 12:1-6,10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

## Prayer of the Church

### Psalter: Week 3

**Sun** Of Sunday

**Mon** Common of Martyrs or Virgins

**Tue** Proper of Saints

**Wed** Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

**Thu** Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)

**Fri** Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)

**Sat** Of Weekday + Common Martyrs

## This Week's Feasts & Saints

**Mon** St Teresa Benedicta, Virgin & Martyr,  
Patron of Europe

**Tue** St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

**Wed** St Clare, Virgin

**Thu** St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

**Fri** Ss Pontian, Pope & Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

**Sat** St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest, Martyr