



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 22, 28/29 August, 2021

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		<i>Parish Website</i>	www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

		<i>** Facebook Live-stream</i>	<i>Mass Intentions</i>
Saturday 28 August	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Dennis Fricker</i>
Sunday 29 August	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Joseph & Kathleen Smith Richard Smythe</i>
Monday 30 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Deceased of Spyрка Family</i>
Tuesday 31 August			<i>Parish Family</i>
Wednesday 1 September	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass 5-6.00pm Exposition/Reconciliation	<i>Mick Moran</i>
Thursday 2 September	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.00am Reconciliation	<i>Decd Spencer . . . Smith Fams</i>
Friday 3 September	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Decd Ventom . . . Ramskil Fams</i>
Saturday 4 September	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Int Betty & Denis O'Donnell</i>
Sunday 5 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass **	<i>Michael Murtagh Jerzy Gorecki</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

This Sunday, on their Baptisms into our Parish and Church Family, we congratulate and pray for Arthur James, son of, David & Katie Kehoe
 Aliyah Temilola Maka & Idris Temitayo Mugove, children of, Allyson & Soliu Omoniyi

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 text below is from a treatise by Baldwin of Canterbury (1125-1190). When a bishop, he had a mixed reputation, as a good theologian, but a controversial Canon lawyer, and a usually rather dour character. Whatever of that, the following is quite inspiring.

Death is strong: it has the power to deprive us of the gift of life. Love is strong: it has the power to restore us to the exercise of a better life.

Death is strong, strong enough to despoil us of this body of ours. Love is strong, strong enough to rob death of its spoils and restore them to us.

Death is strong; for no man can resist it. Love is strong; for it can triumph over death, can blunt its sting, counter its onslaught, overturn its victory. A time will come when death will be trampled underfoot; when it will be said: 'Death, where is your sting? Death, where is your attack?'

'Love is strong as death,' as Christ's love is the death of death. For this reason he says: 'Death, I shall be your death; hell, I shall grip you fast.' The love, too, with which Christ is loved by us is itself strong as death, since it is a kind of death, being the extinction of our old life, the abolition of vice, and the putting aside of dead works.

This love of ours for Christ is a sort of return, though not equal to his love for us; and it is a copy, a likeness of his. For he first loved us, and by the example of love that he sets before us, he has become a seal by which we are moulded to his image - putting off the likeness of the earthly and bearing that of the heavenly, loving him as we are loved. In this he leaves us an example, that we may follow in his footsteps.

That is why he says: 'Set me as a seal on your heart.' As though to say: Love me, as I love you; have me in your mind, your memory, your desire; in your sighing, groaning, weeping. Remember, man, in what state I fashioned you, how far I preferred you before the rest of creatures, the dignity with which I ennobled you; how I crowned you with glory and honour, made you a little less than the angels, and subjected all things under your feet. Remember not only the great things I did for you, but what harsh indignities I bore on your behalf; but see if you are not acting wickedly against me, if you do not love me. For who loves you as I love you? Who created you, if not I? Who redeemed you, if not I?

Lord, take away from me the heart of stone, a heart shrunken and uncircumcised - take it away and give me a new heart, a heart of flesh, a clean heart. You cleanse our heart and love the heart that is clean - possess my heart and dwell in it, both holding it and filling it. You surpass what is highest in me, and yet are within my inmost self! Pattern of beauty and seal of holiness, mould my heart in your likeness: mould my heart under your mercy, God of my heart and God my portion for ever. Amen.

Things happening in our Parish

Our Parish SVP is to meet **Wed 1 Sep**, 7.00pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall. To know more of their work or to join them, please have a word with any present Member.

Parish Pastoral Council Elections for new/on-going members are due on **16/17 Oct**. Nomination Forms for Members, to serve for three years, are now available, in the Entrance Halls of our Churches or from Fr Anthony, for return by **18/19 Sep**. We are seeking **six** who can be considered associated with our *St Joseph's Church* and **six** who can be considered associated with our *Sacred Heart Church*. In both cases, **at least one should be less than twenty five**, but older than thirteen. Some are regular faces at both Churches, so might be nominated for either (but not both).

It is required that Council Members regularly attend our Parish Masses (or they would not be so representative of our Parish Mass Congregations), and are committed to the well-being of our Parish Family and neighbourhood.

Parish Pastoral Council is next due to meet **Thu 9 Sep**, 7.00pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall. Please give Items for the Agenda to Janet Ward, Elizabeth Smith or Fr Anthony by **Sun 5 Sep**, at the latest. Any of our Parish Family are welcome at Parish Council meetings.

At St Joseph's We expect to have tea/coffee and good chat served after our Sunday 9.00am Masses, from next **Sunday 5 Sep**, through September (or beyond, if there is sufficient interest). All are welcome to come along, to enjoy this opportunity to socialise with fellow members of our Parish Family.

At Sacred Heart for operational reasons, refreshments after Sunday Masses will be delayed, but are expected to resume from the beginning of October.

Covid Steps It is now expected that on the first weekend of September, at our Parish Saturday/Sunday Masses, we will resume the regular singing of both a Gathering and a Communion Hymn, in addition to the parts we are already singing. It is hoped that by October, we can have standing/kneeling at Liturgies, and other changes also.

November Faithful Departed Last autumn, as per usual, a number handed in their November Faithful Departed Intentions. Monthly Masses have been celebrated during the past months. However, some like to attend the Mass when their own Family Departed are commemorated. As people are now returning to Mass in greater numbers, the individual Masses will be celebrated in coming weeks.

Readers Please remember that the concluding words, at the end of the First (and Second) Reading are now *The Word of the Lord*, not as in the Lectionary (so omitting the words *This is*). Please also do not add notifications, but, for instance, go from the First Reading straight into the words of the Psalm (so no need to add *The response to the Psalm is*).

Off Chance If you know of anyone who has lost a sleeping angel (composite, about 9"x18") from, quite likely, a Hemsworth grave, please contact Fr Anthony, as he knows where one is now fast asleep.

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

Please note: this programme is for our Children who have already celebrated First Confession. Application Forms for the next Preparation Programme for First Reconciliation should be available during October.

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

Somewhat unusually, this past week, on consecutive days we celebrated the feasts of a mother and her son, namely St Monica and St Augustine. (28 and 29 August respectively).

Of the saints named as having feast days this coming week (see pg 4), Pope Gregory was Italian. All the rest were born in areas that are now within England, except one. Which one, and with which other lands was that saint associated?

AND SERIOUSLY!

Why do people sing Amen instead of Awomen at church?



Because they sing Hymns and not Hers.

Parish Monies

Offertory Monies

15 August

Loose £164.54
Envelopes £394.85

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

Beginning to Dig for the Treasure

Remember, that repentance is a gradual process, a lifelong work, and that in all of us there will always be a mixture of true and false repentance. What is important is that we should acknowledge our need of God.

Sin is the refusal to let God be God. One subtle way of refusing, while pretending not to, is so to emphasise the 'otherness' of God that for all practical purposes he ceases to matter. In Greek mythology, Cerberus was a three headed guard dog of the underworld, whose murderous attentions could be diverted by offering him honeyed cakes. We do the same with God, offering him our honeyed cakes of our Sunday rituals, uttering honeyed words of our heartfelt devotion, trusting that this action will keep God at bay for the coming week. This is a refusal to let God be the God of all things who is continuously drawing us to himself in every breath we breathe. Baptism is our celebration of this truth, a universal truth, for God calls every human being to himself.

If it is true that God is at work in every detail of our lives, how do we begin to recognise his action and our reaction: for he is over the world's splendour and wonder and his mystery must be stressed. One way is to practise daily the following exercise, called 'A Review of Consciousness'.

At the end of a day, especially before going to sleep, the mind, without any conscious effort on our part, tends to play back some of the events of the day so vividly that if the day has been particularly eventful we can find it difficult to get to sleep. We may find ourselves re-enacting a quarrel, thinking of the clever and cutting things we might have said if we had been more quick-witted. The review of consciousness is based on the natural tendency of the mind.



Before beginning any prayer, it is good to spend a few seconds reminding ourselves what we are about to do, then asking God that our whole being may be directed purely to his service and praise. It is a prayer that our life 'may be directed', and so we can make it although we may be very aware that, in fact it is not so directed.

After this prayer, let your mind drift over the day refraining from any self-judgement, whether of approval or disapproval, attending to and relishing only those moments of the day for which you are grateful. Even the most harrowing day includes some good moments, if only we take the trouble to look – it might be the sight of a raindrop falling or the fact that I can see at all. When people attempt this exercise, they are usually surprised at the number and variety of good moments in the day. This daily review of consciousness is an exercise in 'the praise, reverence and service of God'. Having remembered the events, thank and praise God for them.

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, Jerry O'Mahony and all our household

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 22: Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Legal observance has its dangers, for it is sometimes easy to obey the law exactly while forgetting its purpose. It is no good driving doggedly just below the speed-limit while endangering life and limb. The more exact the law, the greater is the temptation to manipulate it to evade its purpose. The Pharisees were as aware of this danger of distortion as is the modern stickler for exact observance. The Pharisees have a bad press in the gospels because, at the time the gospels were written, hostility between Christians and Pharisaic Judaism was at its height. During Jesus' own lifetime their opposition was not so obvious. For instance, they had no share in the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus. In any case, Jesus' own final saying here, while it may apply to the Jewish ritual Law, has much wider application than the observance of Jewish rules for clean food. It is more akin to the saying in Matthew: 'A sound tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor a rotten tree bear good fruit. By their fruits you shall know them'. A person's true qualities are seen by that person's actions; their true intentions and character, which comes from the heart, become visible in their words and actions.



First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1,2,6-8

What was special about the Law laid down for Israel? Many of the laws are strikingly similar to those found in law codes of peoples of the Ancient Near East: they are written on stone or clay tablets and recently discovered; some are more primitive, some more sophisticated. Running through them all, however, are two threads about relations with the divine and with others. So in the Law of Israel, if you want to be the People of God, this is the way you must live - to be like him and keep company with him and be his very own. The Law, then, was a testimony of love, and obedience to it is an expression of grateful love: 'Be holy as I am holy'. A second thread is respect for human dignity: in the Israelite code this is especially the respect shown to the poor and

needy; in other law codes nobles have more honour and privilege than commoners, free men and women than slaves. In Israel all are owed equal respect, and every faithful Israelite must remember that God's protecting hand hovers over those who are in any misfortune: since they are created in the image of God, a person must treat the widow, the orphan and the immigrant as God treated them when you were strangers in Egypt. All this was enshrined in the written Law, interpreted by the oral traditions of the elders - not always successfully, as we see happens in the gospel.

Second Reading: James 1:17,18,21,22,27

For the next few weeks we will be reading the Letter of James, the longest of the seven so-called 'catholic' epistles, written not to any particular community but to the Church universal, throughout the world (which is what 'catholic' means). The real author is unknown, but it purports to come from James, the first leader of the Jerusalem community after Peter's departure. As we know from Paul's letter to the Galatians, James continued to value the Jewish observance of the Law and way of life even while following Jesus. The letter accordingly contains many practical lessons about fulfilling the Law of Christ, stressing especially - as at the end of this reading - the need to care for the poor and the weak. The letter is full of striking, pithy images, like that of looking in the mirror and then going off and forgetting what one saw (verses 23-24, verses omitted from today's reading). The author applies this to care of the poor: it is no good glancing at the Law and then claiming to be religious while neglecting those in need. True religion consists not in 'piety' but in putting one's beliefs into action.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 23

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

2nd Reading: James 2:1-5

Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 2

Sun Of the Feast

Mon Of Weekday (or + Common of Martyrs)

Tue Of Weekday (or + Common of Saints)

Wed Of Weekday

Thu Of Weekday

Fri Proper of Saints

Sat Of Weekday (or + Common of Pastors)

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Ss Margaret Clitherow, Margaret Ward,
Anne Line, Martyrs

Tue St Aidan, Bishop, and Saints of Lindisfarne

Wed Of Weekday

Thu Of Weekday

Fri St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of Church

Sat St Cuthbert, Bishop