



# 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 25, 18/19 September, 2021

*Getting in touch* Father Anthony G Fenton  
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			<i>Mass Intentions</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 18 September	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Joseph Abrahams</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 19 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Pearl, Christopher, Laurence Timmons Frank Gallagher</i>
Monday 20 September	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Tuesday 21 September			<i>Mary McCloskey</i>
Wednesday 22 September	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Anthony John Tighe &amp; Family</i>
Thursday 23 September	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Faithful Departed (November List)</i>
Friday 24 September	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Delia &amp; Valerie Hannan</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 25 September	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>John Gill</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 26 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Michael Murtagh Pamela Ann Marshall</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**



Sacrament of Anointing & Healing  
Any with a *serious* (but not necessarily life threatening) physical or mental illness or infirmity, whether short term or on-going are invited to receive this Sacrament, at any *one* of our Masses next Saturday/Sunday, 25/26 September  
If any are at all unsure whether they qualify, please ask Fr Anthony



**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

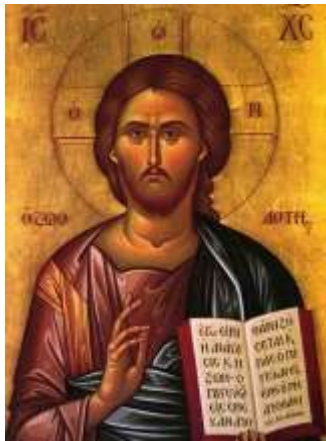
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## From Fr Anthony

*The following is taken from the Sixth Treatise (adapted) of Bishop Baldwin of Canterbury*

*The Word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely.* These words tell us how much power and wisdom there is in the Word of God for those who seek Christ, who is the Word and the Power and the Wisdom of God. This Word, with the Father from the beginning and co-eternal with him, came at its own chosen time, was revealed to them (from the ancient fathers to Christ's own apostles and disciples), was proclaimed by them, and was humbly received in faith by its believers. A Word, therefore, in the Father; a Word in the mouth; and a Word in the heart.

This Word of God is alive. The Father gave him life coming from himself, just as the Father's own life comes from his own self. The Word is not just *alive*, therefore, he *is life*, as he said: *I am the way, the truth, and the life.* Since the Word is life, the Word is alive to give life. For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son gives life to anyone he chooses. He gives life, as when he calls the dead man out of the tomb, saying *Lazarus, come forth.*



When this Word is preached, the voice of its preaching which is heard outwardly calls forth a voice of power that is heard inwardly, that voice by which the dead are restored to life and their praise raises up sons for Abraham. So this Word is alive in the heart of the Father, alive in the mouth of the preacher, and alive in the hearts of those who believe and love. If the Word is alive in this way, how can it not also be active?

The Word is active in creating, active in guiding the world, active in redeeming the world. What could be more active? What could be more powerful? *Who shall tell of his powerful deeds? Who shall proclaim the praises of the Lord?* He is active when it works, he is active when it is preached. For he does not come back empty-handed: wherever it is sent, it prospers.

The Word is active and *cuts finer than a double-edged sword* when it is believed and loved. For what is impossible to the believer? What is hard for the lover? When this Word speaks, his words transfix the heart like a flight of sharp arrows, like nails hammered deep into its very essence. This Word is sharper than a double-edged sword in that it cuts deeper than any strength or power, it is finer than anything made by human ingenuity, sharper than human wisdom or learned speech.

Between our Masses, this weekend,  
we congratulate and pray for  
Our twenty two children, Receiving the Scriptures  
and who have just begun their preparation to  
Celebrate their First Eucharist, in Advent

## Things happening in our Parish

**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 this **Wed 22 Sep**, at latest. We seek **six** who might be considered associated with our *St Joseph's Church* and **six** who might 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.

**At St Joseph's** All are welcome to have tea/coffee and good chat after our 9.00am Masses, **Sundays** through September (and beyond, if enough are attending).

**Missio Red Boxes** are due for opening. Please bring any not brought in the past three weeks or so to either of our Churches, as soon as you next come to Mass.

*Maybe lockdowns had some advantages, after all, like tidier public spaces?*

Nothing too amiss yet, but let us all remember to

**please, please help tidy-up after Mass:**

*ensure that at our Sacred Heart Church,*

the Parish Mass Parts Booklets are left neatly with, but not in the Hymn Books, on the bench book shelves;

*that at our St Joseph's Church,*

the Hymn Books and Mass Parts Booklets are replaced respectively in and on top of the book shelves, in the main entrance hall.



For your later reflections, and especially as Covid is still prominent, do also be sure to take home Mass Readings sheets you have used, along with your Newsletter.

*Any with Children, do encourage them to help tidy, and ensure other items are not left behind.*

Ten seconds for you saves up to 30 minutes for another.

### **& In the Diocese**

**40 Days for Life** Prayer and fasting, 22 Sep to 31 Oct - also peaceful vigil outside the Leeds MSI abortion facility, 7.00am-7.00pm. Over 19,000 lives have been saved by campaigns worldwide, since 2007. Please take a flyer from the Church Entrance, or for more information see [www.40daysforlife.com/leeds](http://www.40daysforlife.com/leeds).

**Introduction to Philosophy of Religion** Exploring the relationship between Catholic faith and reason. Tuesday evenings, 21 Sep - 19 Oct, Hinsley Hall, Leeds. Details: contact [gregory.stacey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:gregory.stacey@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 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** Our Children, who are preparing for Confirmation, are to next meet, along with their Parents, in our Sacred Heart Hall,

**Sat 9 Oct, 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 2 Oct, 10-12.00am**

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

## But seriously



### DO YOU KNOW?

The clue as to which of this past week's saints was especially noted as an eloquent speaker of homilies, sermons and speeches, is in the title given him - so, St John Chrysostom, with the Greek title chrysostomos meaning, in English, golden-mouthed.

*St Pius Pietrelcina died within the lifetime of quite a few of us. During his own life-time and to many today, he would be more commonly known by what name?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!

What happened when a cannibal bit off a missionary's ear?

He had the first taste of Christianity.



### Serenity Prayer

God,  
grant me the serenity to accept  
the things I cannot change,  
courage to change  
the things I can,  
and wisdom to know the  
difference.

## Parish Monies

**Offertory Monies** **Many Thanks**  
5 September

Loose	£157.15
Envelopes	£276.17
Aug Bank Orders	£1862.00

## 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

### Beginning to Dig for the Treasure

...Listen to Christ as he describes the parable of the Two Lost Sons, God's attitude to sinners, the God who at the moment, holds me in being, who feels more for me than I can possibly feel for him, or for anyone. The mystic, St. Catherine of Genoa, once said, 'God seems to have nothing else to do than to unite himself to us,' and an even more surprising statement, 'It seems to me that God has no other business than myself!'

As Christ tells the story of the two sons, use your imagination on the story so that you see the younger son leaving his father's house with his inheritance. Talk with him as he travels abroad, of his hopes and expectations, see his initial delight until the money runs out, his friends disappear and he is sitting in the pig-sty. He is a symbol of all of us who have used our inheritance, our minds and bodies, to ensure that as much of creation as possible should praise, reverence and serve us. Contemplating him in the pig-sty can put us in touch with our own inner emptiness.



The prodigal decides to return home not from any high and honourable motive, but simply because he is hungry and desperate. This is a most consoling truth. His father is watching for him and rushes to meet him, not because the son is virtuous, nor because his motives are pure, but simply because he is his son and has returned home. All that we have to do is to admit our own emptiness to God and he rushes out to meet us. Linger on this truth because it is letting God be God to us, whereas our tendency is to want to put ourselves in order before we meet him, to be more conscious of our guilt than of his goodness. As you watch the encounter between father and son, beg to know that this truth is happening in you, that you are embraced and kissed by the father who delights in you. Let this truth break in on your unbelief and speak to the father from your heart with the simplicity of a child.

When you are ready to move on, go out and meet the elder son, coming home from work in the fields and talk with him. Watch his reaction to the sounds of music and dancing coming from the house and hear what he has to say when the servant tells him the reason for the celebration. He is so angry and bitter that when his father comes out to persuade him to enter and join the feast, he disowns both his father and brother saying, 'You, and that son of yours'. Try to feel the indignation and bitterness of the elder brother for we may discover that it resonates with hidden anger and bitterness in our own hearts. The elder brother is so conscious of his own hard work and dutiful service that he despises anyone that does not match up to him, and he resents any leniency being shown to weaker and less conscientious people....

*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 Wojciech 'Albert' Baran, Peggy Heneghan,  
and their families



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

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

**The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 25: Commentary on the Readings**

**Gospel: Mark 9:30-37**

Mark gives us three formal prophecies of the Passion, of which this is the second. He uses the triple number frequently to stress the importance and sureness of an event. So Peter denies Jesus three times, and Pilate three times asserts Jesus' innocence. Jesus is shown to be fully aware of the fate that awaits him: he goes into it with his eyes open, and accepts his Father's will; he is, moreover, aware that his Father will not desert him, but will vindicate him by the Resurrection. Again the disciples fail to understand the message: while Jesus had been giving them the message of triumph only through suffering and humiliation, they had been thinking about who would be the greatest. So Jesus sets before them a child as the model. In what way is a child a model? Like adults, children can be selfish and they can be devious and scheming from an early age. However, children are probably more aware than adults that they cannot totally control a situation and trustingly accept that they are dependent on others. The final words that Jesus speaks in today's Gospel suggests that it is this quality of dependence that Jesus proposes: like little children we should be dependent on the will of the Father.

**First Reading: Wisdom 2:12,17-20**

This is one of the few readings we hear on Sundays taken from the Book of Wisdom. This book was written probably at Alexandria, and was written in Greek, so is not included in the Protestant canon of scripture, which includes only the books written in Hebrew. A major theme of the book is the contrast between divine Wisdom and folly. It also includes a wonderful poem to God's Wisdom, by which he created the world, 'the reflection of the eternal light, and the image of his goodness'. In today's reading we are presented with the taunts which those who refuse divine Wisdom make against those who embrace Wisdom. It is remarkable that in Matthew's gospel the taunts of the chief priests, scribes and

elders against Jesus as he hangs on the cross use these very same words. This use of scripture is typical of Matthew's irony, and shows just how wrong those taunting Jesus were. The reading, therefore, both prepares us for the prophecy of the passion in the first part of today's gospel reading, and contrasts the boasts of the godless with the wisdom of simplicity represented by the child in the second part of the gospel.

**Second Reading: James 3:16-4:3**

The reading from the Letter of James begins by contrasting quarrelling and ambition, and their evil effects, with the true wisdom which brings peace. Then it goes on to some stern words about prayer which is not answered, 'because you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires'. Is it wrong, then, to ask God for what we want? What about 'Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find'? The problem of unanswered prayers of petition is a difficult one. We do not really believe that we can change God's mind and intentions by praying. Nevertheless, we express to God our needs and desires, although we are well aware that he knows them already. This is what a child does to a loving father, 'Please, please!' We even link arms with our mother, Mary, or even our brother and Saviour, Jesus, to increase the persuasive power. But every prayer of petition, just as a child's prayer to a loving father, contains the hidden text that the Father knows best. The child or the praying Christian can want something desperately, but, for true prayer, the child or Christian submits in obedience to the Father; only in this way is our prayer an expression of trust and affection.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

**The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 26**

1st Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

2nd Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9: 38-43,45, 47-48

**Prayer of the Church**

**Psalter: Week 1**

**Sun** Proper of Sunday

**Mon** Of Weekday + Common of Martyrs

**Tue** Proper of Saints

**Wed** Of Weekday

**Thu** Of Weekday (or + Common of Pastors)

**Fri** Of Weekday + Common BVM

**Sat** Of Weekday

**This Week's Feasts & Saints**

**Mon** Ss Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest,  
Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companion Martyrs

**Tue** St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

**Wed** Of Weekday

**Thu** St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

**Fri** Our Lady of Walsingham

**Sat** Of Weekday