



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 26, 25/26 September, 2021

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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			Mass Intentions
Saturday 25 September	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>John Gill</i>
Sunday 26 September	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Michael Murtagh Pamela Ann Marshall</i>
Monday 27 September	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Tuesday 28 September			<i>Yorkshire Brethren</i>
Wednesday 29 September	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Mark Thompson</i>
Thursday 30 September	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Intentions Alan Biju</i>
Friday 1 October	Sacred Heart St Joseph's	8.30am Mass 12.00nn Funeral Mass	<i>Decd Clarkson, Young, Lawrence Fams Margaret 'Peggy' Heneghan</i>
Saturday 2 October	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Mick Moran</i>
Sunday 3 October	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Fr Sean O'Toole Decd Rel/Friends Mair Family</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

Next weekend, at our Masses, we will celebrate with our First Communion Candidates their Enrolment to Prepare for First Eucharist
Please keep the Children, and their Families and Catechists, in your prayers.



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

St Catherine of Siena (1347-80) was a member of the Dominican Order, but as a Lay member. She was a respected writer of Italian literature, but was also a woman of much prayer, and had a real influence on the Catholic hierarchy of the day, Pope Gregory XI included. The medieval Church is often depicted as having a stern view of God and life, but Catherine, in her words below, gives a truly fond image of God and of his great capacity to love and raise up the sinful.

The eternal Father, indescribably so kind and tender, turned his eye to this soul and spoke to her thus:

'O dearest daughter, I have determined to show my mercy and loving kindness to the world, and I choose to provide for mankind all that is good. But man, ignorant, turns into a death-giving thing what I gave in order to give him life. Not only ignorant, but cruel: cruel to himself. But still I go on providing. For this reason I want you to know: whatever I give to man, I do it out of my great providence.

'So it was that when, by my providence, I created man, I looked into myself and fell in love with the beauty of the creature I had made – for it had pleased me, in my providence, to create man in my own image and likeness.

'Moreover, I gave man memory, to be able to remember the good things I had done for him and to be able to share in my own power, the power of the eternal Father.

'Moreover, I gave man intellect, so that, seeing the wisdom of my Son, he could recognise and understand my own will; for I am the giver of all graces and I give them with a burning fatherly love.

'Moreover, I gave man the desire to love, sharing in the tenderness of the Holy Spirit, so that he might love the things that his intellect had understood and seen.

'But my kind providence did all this solely that man might be able to understand me and enjoy me, rejoicing in my vision for all eternity. And as I have told you elsewhere, the disobedience of your first parent Adam closed heaven to you – and from that disobedience came all evil through the whole world.

'To relieve man of the death that his own disobedience had brought, I tenderly and providently gave you my only-begotten Son to heal you and bring satisfaction for your needs. I gave him the task of being supremely obedient, to free the human race of the poison that your first parent's disobedience had spread through all the world. Falling in love, as it were, with his task, and truly obedient, he hurried to a shameful death on the most holy Cross. By his most holy death he gave you life: not human life this time, but with the strength of his divinity.'

Things happening in our Parish

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).

Parish Pastoral Council Members In the over 25 age group, we have four nominations on behalf of our Sacred Heart Church and four on behalf of St Joseph's Church. We have none in the 14-25 age group. Elections are now unlikely to be required.

However, we do still need, on behalf of each Church one more member aged over 25, and one aged 14-25 (so four members in all). Nomination forms are still available in the Church entrance halls, so please let us make up our membership numbers for this very important role.

Names of Nominees will be published next weekend.

AGM Forewarning Our Parish Pastoral Council will hold its delayed (usually in June) AGM on **Thu 21 Oct**, in our Sacred Heart Hall, 7.00pm. Members continuing and new please especially note, but all of our Parish Family are most warmly invited - and to light refreshments after.

Further Diary Dates for our 'in Church' celebrations.

Oct 2/3 Enrolment of our First Eucharist Candidates

9/10 Enrolment of our Confirmation Candidates

30/31 Commemoration of all our Faithful Departed

Nov 27/28 First Eucharist Celebrations

Dec 11/12 Election of our Confirmation Candidates

We have a busier than usual autumn round of events, at our Parish Masses. However, by Christmas, if all goes to plan, we ought to be all caught up, following the delays caused by Covid-19.

It is good to note that we also have several Baptisms to be celebrated, so there will be the Presentation of Infants for Baptism at occasional Masses also (additional to the above dates)

Recent Raffle Some prizes have still to be claimed. If you bought any of the following tickets, please claim from our Sacred Heart Hall: all yellow tickets - 38, 72, 64, 116, 130, 139, 359.



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;

ensure 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 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 also.

& Nationally

The Assisted Dying Bill 2021 is due its second reading and full debate in the House of Lords on 15 Oct. Please help to defeat the bill. For more information and practical ways to make your voice heard, please see our Diocesan website: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/news/>

Notices for our Parish Newsletter need to be received by Wednesday 12.00noon, at the latest.

Sacraments

Baptism Our now running Preparation Programme, for Parents of Children to be baptised, continues 7.00-8.30pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall, this **Wed 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?

St Pius Pietrelcina (born 1887, died 1968, canonised a saint 2002), during his own life-time and to many today, would more commonly be known affectionately as Padre Pio?

The Lay Society of St Vincent de Paul now exists throughout the Catholic world. St Vincent (feast day this week) founded an Order of Priests (Vincentian Brothers or Congregation for the Mission) and of Sisters (Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul). But did he found the Lay Society?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A Christian tourist met a bear and prayed loudly 'God give this bear Christian thoughts.'

The bear crossed his paws and said 'God bless this meal!'



Thanks be to you,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which you have
given us, for all the pains and insults
which you have borne for us.
Most merciful Redeemer,
Friend and Brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly, and follow you
more nearly, day by day.

Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Parish Monies

Offertory Monies

12 September

Many
Thanks

Loose £194.93

Envelopes £284.04

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



The Two Lost Sons.....
The elder brother is so conscious of his own hard work and dutiful service that he despises anyone who does not match up to him, and he resents any leniency being shown to weaker and less conscientious people. His treasure is in his own goodness, as exemplified in his own

life, and so he cannot recognise any other goodness. He typifies the Pharisees' attitude, which Christ describes as blindness. Ponder this attitude, see it still operative in the twenty-first century and perhaps see it, with horror, as describing ourselves. The father does not tirade against this arrogance and blindness: he simply says, 'My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours,' words which are being spoken to me now.

I have written at length on this parable, not to suggest that this is the way you should contemplate the passage, but simply to illustrate something of the wealth there is in any passage of the Gospel if it is pondered imaginatively. In praying such a passage, the longer you can linger on one image or phrase the better, and the prayer should never be hurried.

When you have finished the imaginative contemplation, it is useful to let it play back to you for 10-15 minutes, noticing especially the feelings which came to you unexpectedly, whether of joy, peace, hope, strength or of boredom, doubt, anxiety, sadness. Do not attempt to analyse these feelings, but note, if you can, what it was in the contemplation which gave rise to them. Note, too, any part of the prayer in which you felt your mind go blank, or where you seemed to be blocked.

The next time you pray, instead of moving on to another Scripture text, return to this passage and begin with those images, phrases or words which you found helpful, remaining with them as long as you can. Then look at the parts of the prayer when you experienced negative feelings of anxiety, sadness etc., and show them to Christ. These negative feelings are not signs of failure, but of discovery, and they can be as valuable as, sometimes more valuable than, the more positive feelings. It may be, for example, that some can contemplate the first part of the parable, delight in the meeting between the father and the son, but experience anxiety or go blank as soon as they attempt to look at the older son. This might signify a deep, subconscious reluctance to face the truth of their own pharisaism. Until they do so, they cannot be freed from it, nor know the joy of hearing God say, 'All I have is yours'.

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,
Doris Pyta, Jane McKay, 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 26: Commentary on the Readings

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

This part of Mark's Gospel is a collection of sayings about following the Lord, and in this Gospel we are presented with a rich insight into two distinct areas of discipleship. The first little story tells us that we must accept good wherever we can find it, not only in our own group and where we expect it to be. It is the same lesson that is presented in this Sunday's first reading. The Spirit of God is at work not only in Catholics, not only in Christians, not only even in explicit believers. As the Second Vatican Council taught so strongly, the Holy Spirit is at work too in those who are seeking the Kingdom under signs and symbols. They can even be better people and better Christians than we who sometimes rely too comfortably on our membership of Christ's Church! Secondly, the gospel provides some striking and urgent sayings about 'obstacles', literally trip-stones which makes people fall over. These vivid and dire warnings are about leading other believers into evil and about the trip-stones in ourselves, the disordered desires, that lead us into evil. Jesus' sayings here must be taken with the utmost seriousness – but not literally (Jesus is speaking graphically to make us listen, and is not advocating self-mutilation!).



First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

This is a curious little scene, and the corresponding scene in the gospel is no less curious. It is part of the story of Israel's wanderings in the desert. Moses' father-in-law wisely suggests that Moses should appoint assistants to deal with all the complaints, quarrels and lawsuits among the people. So some of the divine spirit of judgment which was on Moses now descends upon these seventy elders. However, there seems to have been some sort of irregularity in the appointment of Eldad and Medad, which leads to objections even from Joshua, Moses' faithful servant and successor. Nevertheless, the message finally

given is that the Spirit of God is to be welcomed wherever it may be found. This story is a valuable reminder that the Spirit of God is greater than human regulations and limitations, and that the Spirit crosses human boundaries. The wisdom of God may be found outside the Church; genuine holiness may be there too. We must respect the freedom of God to give what he wills where he wills it, and we must always be open to learn from those who do not belong to our own tradition.

Second Reading: James 5:1-6

This final reading from the Letter of James is a denunciation of the selfishness of the rich; it is in the style of the Old Testament prophets and contains a wealth of daunting imagery. This strength of expression is somewhat surprising in the early decades of Christianity, for it seems that wealth was not one of the temptations which seduced the early Christians. There do seem to have been rich Christians in the community at Corinth, but on the whole the Christians seem to have belonged to the lower classes and slaves. James, the presumed author of the letter, was the leader of the Jerusalem community. The Church at Jerusalem seems to have been in chronic financial difficulty: Paul was asked to help it out, and took a collection from the gentile Churches to Jerusalem. In the early second century the pagan Celsus denounces Christians as ignorant and ill-educated, but he does not denounce them for their wealth. However, these warnings from the author of our letter are still relevant today. It is still tempting to ease cash-flow by postponing payment of bills! The power and immunity given by wealth can still have a corrosive influence which blinds the wealthy to the needs and susceptibilities of others.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year B, Ordinary Time, Sunday 27

1st Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 2

Sun Proper of Sunday

Mon Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

Tue Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)

Wed Proper of Saints

Thu Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

Fri Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

Sat Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St Vincent de Paul, Priest

Tue St Wenceslaus, Martyr /

St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, Martyrs

Wed Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

Thu St Jerome, Priest, Doctor of Church

Fri St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Religious,

Doctor of Church

Sat The Holy Guardian Angels