



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 C, Advent, Sunday 2, 4/5 December, 2021

Getting in touch

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			Mass Intentions
Saturday 4 December	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Dennis Fricker</i>
Sunday 5 December	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm Baptisms	<i>Parish Family Intentions Amanda & Andrew Armer</i>
Monday 6 December	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Faithful Departed (November List)</i>
Tuesday 7 December			
Wednesday 8 December	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Intentions of Louis Martin</i>
Thursday 9 December	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Friday 10 December	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Intentions Amanda & Andrew Armer</i>
Saturday 11 December	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Eileen O'Reilly</i>
Sunday 12 December	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm Baptism	<i>Vic France Debbie Lane Payton Rosalie Hirst</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.

This Sunday, on their being Baptised into our Parish and Church Family, we congratulate and pray for Elias and Edgar Jarimba Harrison, with their mother, Claudia
Vincent-Pawl J.D.A.F Warhurst, with his parents, Helena and Heath
Next weekend, between our Masses, we will celebrate with eleven of our Children, the Rite of Election to Candidature for Confirmation

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 following was recently issued by the Bishops of England and Wales. You have here the second part of the letter (the first part was in last weekend's Parish Newsletter). The full text can now be viewed on the Diocesan Web Site.

Honouring Sunday

The Gift of the Sunday Eucharist

The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.

Responding to the Gift

We now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass.

The Sunday Mass is the very heartbeat of the Church and of our personal life of faith. We gather on the "first day of the week," and devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2:42). The Eucharist sustains us and spurs us on, renewing our gratitude and our hope. When we say "Amen" to Christ in receiving his Body and Blood, we express the love of God which is deep within us, and at the end of Mass, when we are sent forth, we express our love for our neighbour, especially those in need. These two dimensions reveal the full meaning of our faith. We are gathered together and sent out, we pray and are fed, we worship and we adore; these are intrinsic to our lives as those baptised into Christ.

Approved at the Plenary Assembly of Bishops in Leeds - Thursday 18th November 2021



Autumn Raffle
Use your last Chance to win!
Tickets now on sale
at this weekend's Masses
Join the Draw, after this Sunday's 10.45am Mass.



Christmas Mass Times
Friday 24 December
The Sacred Heart, 4.30pm -&- St Joseph's, 6.30pm
Saturday 25 December
The Sacred Heart only, 10.00am
Sunday 26 December
St Joseph's, 9.00am -&- The Sacred Heart, 10.45am

Things happening in our Parish

Mass Times Cards These, printed on **small (A6) card**, give times of our Christmas Masses. Do please take one **or more** - not for yourself but to pass on, to invite some who have not much been coming to Mass, or any who might be thinking of becoming a Catholic.

First Reconciliation (& Communion) Parents who have returned application forms for their Children, to prepare for First Reconciliation, should about now have an email, with a copy of the Preparation Programme.
If any have children eligible to prepare, but have not yet returned an application form, they need to get a form from Fr Anthony, at a weekend Mass, *by next weekend*.

Our Parish Pastoral Council is to meet **Thu 9 Dec**, in our Sacred Heart Hall, 7.00pm. Please give items for the Agenda to Elizabeth Smith, Janet Ward or Fr Anthony by **this Sun 5 Dec**, at latest.

Christmas Cards and New Year calendars can be got from our little shops, at both of our Churches, at very reasonable prices.

Open Heart Memory Cafe Especially for any within our neighbourhood with Dementia and their family, friends and carers. Next gathering in our Sacred Heart Hall, this **Fri 10 Dec**, 10.00-12.00am. Do come along for a cuppa, chat, laugh and to meet new friends. All welcome.

Our Advent Project Our Diocese has long had links with Peru, and Lima in particular. Among other things - our support has helped practising Catholics to complete University degrees, then, as catechists and youth leaders, to go on to enrich their parishes in some of the poorest communities in the world - working with the Columban Fathers, help has been given to those affected by HIV and AIDS, and to protect women from domestic abuse - *Hanoprem*, a welcoming home for adults with special needs, many of whom have been found abandoned on the streets of Lima, has also received our help.



Please contribute to the retiring collection to be taken at our weekend Masses, throughout Advent.

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, continues 7.00-8.30pm, in our Sacred Heart Hall, this **Wed 8 Dec**. 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 11 Dec, 9.30-11.30am

First Reconciliation Our Children who are to prepare for First Reconciliation will first meet, with their Parents, in our Sacred Heart Hall,

Sat 15 Jan, 10.00am-12.00nn

Parents who have returned application forms should, about now, receive an email with a copy of the Preparation Programme. If any do not, they should please contact Fr Anthony.

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

Parish Monies

Offertory Monies **Many Thanks**
21 November

Loose	£282.54
Envelopes	£458.00

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

Recognising the Treasure when you find It

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Psalm 22:1)

Anger, irritability, impatience, sadness are never wrong in themselves, but are healthy human reactions.

To refuse them expression does violence to our inner selves, a violence which may be projected into aggressive behaviour towards others, or turned in on ourselves, leading to depression. The rightness or wrongness does not lie in the emotion itself, but in the underlying attitude which gives rise to the emotion. Jesus' anger, for example, with the Temple dealers was the human expression of his love for his Father's house and so his fury that the house of his Father should be used for exploiting the poor whom he

loved and cherished. Our anger with the Temple dealers might have sprung from a very different attitude, namely that we were jealous that they had discovered a way of making quick money from which we were excluded. Jesus wept over Jerusalem, an expression of his great love for its people. We might also have wept, the tears springing from grief at the prospect of losing our business premises. This leads us to another guideline:



Creative moods are to be distinguished from destructive by their effect. If the mood is leading to an increase of faith, hope and charity, then it is creative: if leading to a decrease of faith, hope and charity, then it is destructive.

As soon as we become aware of our inner moods and feelings, we begin to know something of their complexity and how impossible it is to sift out clearly what is destructive from what is creative. The process of distinguishing can come only with practice. Our tendency will usually be to affix labels too quickly to our inner moods. We should allow them to teach us rather than assign them instantly to our 'good' and 'bad' mental filing system. As we have already seen, painful moods and feelings may be destructive, but they can also be very creative, while moods and feelings which are very pleasant may be creative, but they can also be destructive. I can, for example, experience anger, sadness, anxiety which is, at a deeper level of my being, drawing me to God and making me more compassionate, tolerant to others, stronger in faith. In the technical language of spirituality, all those moods and inner feelings, which draw me to greater love of God and other people, are called 'consolation', whether the feeling to be of peace, joy and delight or anger, sadness, anxiety.

To be continued . . .

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

In 1320, the Abbott of Arbroath drew up the Declaration of Arbroath, appealing to the Pope to recognise Scotland as an independent country, not under English rule. While many in Scotland already saw St Andrew as their Patron, it was this document that gave him official status as such.

Which Christmas Carol gives a link between Gracie Fields, The Beverley Sisters, Nina & Frederick, Vera Lynn, and Aled Jones?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A letter from a schoolboy to his parents read:



'Dear Mum and Dad,

Last week the Bishop came to our school and showed us his mitre and other things. Now I know what a crook looks like'.

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**
especially Eileen Snell, Carol Ann Weeks, Patricia Maw,
and their families.



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

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

The Word: Year C, Advent, Sunday 2: Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Each year the two middle Sundays of Advent centre on John the Baptist, preparing the way for Jesus. John came to prepare a community of repentance, of those who would be ready for the Messiah. This was to be a community not of those who went around moping about their sinfulness, but a community of those who had changed their ways, that is, their whole system of values and priorities. The Hebrew concept of repentance which John proclaimed was a matter of turning round and going in the opposite direction. To be ready for the Messiah meant – and still means – just such a radical change of attitude. John himself had prepared by going out into the desert, for the Messiah was to come striding across the desert, as did Israel at the Exodus from Egypt. John's clothing and his whole way of life showed his rejection of current materialism and his single-minded dedication. His is not primarily a negative point of view, for his quotation of Isaiah (reflected also in today's first reading from Baruch), shows that the flattening of the hills and the filling of the valleys is a preparation for the Kingdom of peace and justice. A good deal of positive planning and of spade-work is needed if we are to be ready to welcome that Kingdom.

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

This part of the Book of Baruch is a meditation on Isaiah's promises for Jerusalem at the return of Israel from exile in Babylon. It is, of course, taken up by John the Baptist in his proclamation that the high mountains will be flattened and the valleys filled in to make a smooth road for the Messiah to cross the desert to Jerusalem. In the Hebrew tradition there were many aspects to the Messiah (the harbinger of God's kingship), expected by the people of Israel. For Isaiah the Messiah was a conquering hero, his garments stained with the blood of his victories. In this prophecy from Baruch the reign of God is more peaceful, a heartfelt dedication to God and the values of the divine sovereignty; for at this coming of God

Jerusalem is renamed 'Peace through Integrity (or Justice)' and 'Honour through Devotedness'. True peace is possible only through the saving justice of God, when the People of God truly act as God's representatives, made in the image of God and the envoys of his saving values. The ideal of God's kingdom appears in the Garden of Eden before the Fall, when his representatives (Adam and Eve) lived in perfect harmony with one another and with God's whole creation.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6,8-11

Paul always begins his letters with a commendation and a blessing. The Philippians to whom he is writing were Paul's favourite community; the letter is full of friendship and affection. Here he commends the Philippians for their partnership with him in the work of the Gospel, and prays that God's work in them may be completed so that they may be ready for the Day of the Lord, which Paul envisaged to be imminent. Today's passage is chosen by the Church as a preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus at Christmas – and Christmas shopping leaves no doubt about the imminence of that Coming! This serves as a reminder that the traditional three comings of Christ cannot be separated: the coming in history was the birth of Jesus at Bethlehem; the coming in mystery is the coming of Christ into our hearts as we endeavour to mould ourselves as his faithful followers and to live out his values; the coming in majesty is the final coming of Christ in glory to gather his elect to himself, either at our homecoming in death or at the end of all things. The three comings lead on, one to another: the coming in history gives a new impetus to the Kingdom of God; the coming in majesty brings the Kingdom to its climax; the coming in mystery is our repeated response to the Kingdom here and now.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Advent, Sunday 3

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 2

Sun Of Advent Sunday

Mon Of Advent Weekday

Tue Of Advent Weekday + Proper of Saints

Wed Proper of Saints

Thu Of Advent Weekday (or + Common Holy Men)

Fri Of Advent Weekday (or + Common BVM)

Sat Of Advent Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Of Advent Weekday

Tue St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of Church

Wed Immaculate Conception of Mary, Mother o' God

Thu St John Diego Cuahtlatatzin, Holy Man

Fri Our Lady of Loreto

Sat St Damasus, Pope