



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, Ordinary Time, Sunday 5, 6 February, 2022

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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| | | | Mass Intentions |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday 5 February | Sacred Heart | 5.00pm Mass | <i>Dennis Fricker</i> |
| Sunday 6 February | St Joseph's Sacred Heart | 9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass | <i>Steve McNally</i> <i>Pennamma Abraham</i> |
| Monday 7 February | St Joseph's St Joseph's | 9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass | <i>Margaret O'Connor</i> |
| Tuesday 8 February | Sacred Heart | <i>10.45am Funeral Service</i> | Margaret Hazel O'Connor |
| Wednesday 9 February | Sacred Heart | 9.30am Mass | <i>Stephen Tighe</i> |
| Thursday 10 February | St Joseph's St Joseph's | 9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass | <i>Faithful Departed (November List)</i> |
| Friday 11 February | Sacred Heart | 8.30am Mass | <i>Parish Family</i> |
| Saturday 12 February | Sacred Heart | 5.00pm Mass | <i>Josephine Shaunessey</i> |
| Sunday 13 February | St Joseph's Sacred Heart | 9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass | <i>Les Darren</i> <i>Ireneusz Dabrowski</i> |

They netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear.



Jesus said: **'DO NOT BE afraid; from now on it is men you will CATCH.'**

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

When not a Sunday, 6 February is the feast day of St Paul Miki and his companion martyrs. Paul was born in Japan around 1565. He joined the Society of Jesus and preached the gospel with great success. But in a persecution of Catholics, he and twenty-five others were arrested. They were tortured and then taken to Nagasaki, on 5 February, 1597, bound to crosses, and speared. A writer of the time recorded their extraordinary courage, in the our Lord's name, as follows:

The crosses were set in place. Father Pasio and Father Rodriguez took turns, encouraging the victims. Their steadfast behaviour was wonderful to see. The Father Bursar stood motionless, his eyes turned heavenward. Brother Martin gave thanks to God's goodness by singing psalms. Again and again he repeated: "Into your hands, Lord, I entrust my life." Brother Francis Branco thanked God in a loud voice. Brother Gonsalvo, in a very loud voice, kept saying the Our Father and Hail Mary.

Our brother, Paul Miki, saw himself standing now in the noblest pulpit he had ever filled. To his "congregation" he began by saying that he was a Japanese and a Jesuit. He was dying for the Gospel he preached. He gave thanks to God for this wonderful blessing and he ended his "sermon" with these words: "As I come to this supreme moment of my life, I am sure none of you would suppose I want to deceive you. And so I tell you plainly: there is no way to be saved except the Christian way. My religion teaches me to pardon enemies and all who have offended me. I do gladly pardon the Emperor and all who have sought my death. I beg them to seek baptism and be Christians themselves."

Then he looked at his comrades and began to encourage them in their last struggle. Joy glowed in all their faces, and in Louis' most of all. When a Christian in the crowd cried out to him that he would soon be in heaven, his hands, his whole body strained upward with such joy that every eye was fixed on him.

Anthony, hanging by Louis, looked towards heaven and called on the holy names - "Jesus, Mary!" He began to sing a psalm: "Praise the Lord, you children!" (He learned it in catechism class in Nagasaki. They take care there to teach the children some psalms to help them learn their catechism).

Others kept repeating "Jesus, Mary!" Their faces were serene. Some of them even took to urging the people standing by to live worthy Christian lives. In these and other ways they showed their readiness to die.

Then, according to Japanese custom, the four executioners began to unsheathe their spears. At this sight, all the Christians cried out, "Jesus, Mary!" A storm of anguished weeping rose to batter the skies. The executioners killed them one by one. A thrust of the spear, then a second blow. It was over in a very short time.

Pancake Party

Saturday 26 Feb

after 5.00pm Mass

- so about 6.00pm

in our Sacred Heart Hall



Come and join us for a Pancake Party to mark the near start of Lent

Pancakes will be provided but bring your own toppings to decorate them

The pancakes you decorate will be judged for the most colourful, the most artistic, and the funniest!

Much fun for grown-ups and children alike!

Things happening in our Parish

Covid Regulations We have now returned to standing, sitting, and kneeling at all our Masses, at the appropriate times.

Holy Water (usually blessed at Baptisms) is available at both of our Churches. Any may take Holy Water from the large jugs - by the Baptismal Font at Hemsforth and near the Confessional at St Joseph's - but you need to bring your own bottle. While checks are made not to let the water stagnate, in the jugs, it is advised **not** to drink the Holy Water, as it is not kept in sterile conditions.

Retiring Collections In covid times, we suspended most retiring collections, at our Churches, on account of extra financial burdens faced by many. Demands on charities, of course, did not stop during this time. As the prospects are slowly improving, we will resume taking the Diocesan retiring collections. Our next one will be for:

The Poor Mission Fund, at this weekend's Masses, to help parishes in our Diocese that are particularly poor.

Money Counting We are returning to a stage where it would be good to have a team of helpers to count our offertory monies. Ideally, we will have four or five pairs to count monies taken at a weekend, so each pair would count once per month. Days/times of counting can vary, to better suit those counting, but the count would be at our Sacred Heart Presbytery. Any who might be able to help, please contact Fr Anthony.



& In the Diocese

Youth 2000 Retreat 18-20 Mar, Leeds Trinity University. Join hundreds of young Catholics from across the UK, as they explore the big questions in life. Open to all young people aged 16-35. For more information, please visit www.youth2000.org/events.

Lourdes Pilgrimage In the planning for 1-7 July of this year. Details available soon.

Government has advised that face-coverings be worn in enclosed and crowded places, which would include at our weekend Masses and funerals.

(Exemptions for age and some medical conditions apply.)

To assist Track & Trace, all are invited to use the QR code in our Church Entrances, or book with us on-line

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 9 & 16 Mar**. 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 next Programme of Preparation for Confirmation should begin in the summer. Application forms should be available soon after Easter.

First Reconciliation Our Children now preparing for their First Reconciliation will next meet, along with their Parents, in our Sacred Heart Hall,

Sat 12 Feb, 10.00am-12.00nn

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?

From their own time until now, Elijah and Elisha have been recognised as great prophets. Elisha was a young disciple of Elijah and, in accord with God's desire, Elijah anointed him to be his successor as chief prophet of Israel.



In today's Second Reading, St Paul refers to Simon Peter as 'Cephas'. What does Cephas mean and from what language does it come?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A young man, a slow worker, got a job at a zoo and because of his reputation, was given charge of the tortoise section. Later, the keeper found him with an empty enclosure and asked where the tortoises were.

'I can't believe it, I just opened the door and

whoooosh,
they were gone!



Parish Monies

Offertory Monies

23 January

Loose £161.38

Envelopes £337.71

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

A Most Surprising God

Such evil deeds can religion prompt. (Lucretius)

Imagining that I am a parish priest in Northern Ireland I send out the replying circular referring to the refusal to put forward a person for the priesthood:

To: The Excellences, Graces, Lordships, Lord Abbots,
Very Reverend Provincials of England, Scotland and Wales.

Reverend and Dear Brothers in Christ,

Please forgive me for sending you a circular letter, but I do so in the hope that the few minutes required for its perusal may save Your Reverences' time, money and the possible disruption of your seminaries and noviceships.

A young man, Mr E. Manuel, aged 33 and of this parish, has already applied to some of you and may well apply to the rest, for acceptance into your diocese, religious order or congregation. Some of you have asked me to supply a reference. I have replied simply stating that I do not consider him a suitable applicant, as charity and overwork compelled me to be brief. A few of you have asked for a more detailed report. While I appreciate Your Reverences' desire to be fair to this man and to nurture any signs of a priestly vocation, however unlikely, in these times of distressing shortage, I do not, unfortunately have the leisure for letter writing of the unemployed Mr Manuel.

In addition to my heavy parish duties, I have also been asked by His Lordship The Bishop to take over the diocesan marriage tribunal in succession to Mgr Colquhoun, who suffered a coronary two years ago after a meeting with the same Mr Manuel. I am also without a housekeeper for reasons which I shall explain later.

My personal knowledge of Mr Manuel is limited to a few brief encounters. When I first came to this parish three years ago,

Mr Manuel had already left home and he returns only spasmodically, D.G. However, I have spoken at length with people who do know him well, and in particular with the new parish accountant, a bright and ambitious young man, who has, at one time associated with Mr Manuel.

Manuel's parents (his father died some years ago) first came to the parish over 25 years ago. Some say that they had been travelling people, a rumour all the more credible by the subsequent vagrancy of their son and by his mother, a singularly silent woman, a characteristic not uncommon among gypsies who are no longer on the road

To be continued.....

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

A Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father,

you have created each of us to love you and your people. You have chosen some to serve by responding to the particular call to the priesthood and religious life. Send your Holy Spirit to stir the hearts of those you have designed to follow this path of spiritual leadership. We pray this petition, faithful and most gracious God, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

**Please Keep
in Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**
especially Margaret Hazel O'Connor, Bernard Tulley,
Mary Walsh, Brian Twiby, John O'Brien, 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, Nicola Glew, Jerry O'Mahony, Raymond Ward, John Lovely
Tim Byrne, and all our housebound

The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 5: Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

There were obviously several different versions of the call of the first disciples circulating in the early Church. In the gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus is passing along the shore of the lake when he calls two pairs of disciples. In John it takes place where John the Baptist was preaching. The story in Luke has many similarities to the story at the end of John's gospel after the Resurrection, when the risen Christ commissions Peter: a night of failed fishing is followed by a huge catch as a consequence of obedience to Jesus' instructions, and so the Church has always seen this event as signifying the need for obedience to Christ. Luke's version combines the same play on words as in Mark and Matthew about fishing for people, but Luke sets the story a little later. In Mark the fishermen have never seen Jesus and follow him blindly; in Luke Peter and his friends have already got to know Jesus before they are commissioned. A special feature in Luke is Peter's cry that he is an unworthy sinner. Luke often teaches us that no one can be a disciple of Jesus without first admitting their sinfulness: Zacchaeus the tax-collector (Luke 19:1-10), and the woman who wept at Jesus' feet (Luke 7:36-50) are other examples.



First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

This passage recounts the first calling of the prophet Isaiah. For Isaiah God is primarily the Holy One of Israel. This vision of the Triple-Holy, seated on the throne of glory in the Temple, does all that is possible to convey in words the daunting otherness of the One whose glory fills the whole earth. The human reaction to this manifestation of God is acute awareness of uncleanness. Isaiah can only shrink away from God until his uncleanness has been purged by the burning fire of God's love upon his lips. No human being can see God and live. The glory seen by Isaiah (and by Moses on Mount Sinai) is only the outer fringe of the fullness of God's glory, but it leaves the human

visionary stunned and aghast at the contrast between the divine holiness and human unworthiness. All through the Book bearing his name, Isaiah will revert again and again to the awesome holiness of the Lord. God is our loving Father, but there can be no neglecting the distinction which lies between Creator and created. At the same time we are both attracted and daunted by the living God.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The most precious element of this reading is the proclamation of the Good News of Christ's death and resurrection, which the earliest Christians already saw as fulfilling the Scriptures. We can tell that by Paul's time this recital of the Good News was already traditional. Firstly, Paul here uses the terms which were used by the rabbis for the handing on of tradition, 'I taught you what I had been taught myself'. Secondly, the language is not quite Paul's own; for instance: for scriptural fulfilment Paul always writes 'as it is written', whereas here we twice have 'in accordance with the scriptures', which Paul himself never says. To witness to the resurrection of Christ was the primary task of the apostles. For us, too, it is the primary task: not merely by our words, but by the way we behave, we need to live in the awareness that Christ's resurrection (after his endurance of humiliation and dreadful suffering) is the basic fact of life. The central factor in Christian faith and witness is not the empty tomb but the experience of the apostles in meeting the Risen Christ. This is what unbelievably transformed them from being a defeated and hopeless rabble, huddled in hiding, to courageous and enterprising witnesses.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 6

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

Gospel: Luke 6:17,20-26

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 1

Sun Of the Season

Mon Of Weekday

Tue Of Weekday or + Propr Saints / CommnVirgins

Wed Of Weekday

Thu Of Weekday + Proper of Saints

Fri Of Weekday or + Proper of Saints

Sat Of Weekday

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Of Weekday

Tue St Jerome Emiliani, Holy Man /
St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

Wed Of Weekday

Thu St Scholastica, Virgin

Fri Our Lady of Lourdes

Sat Of Weekday