



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 6, 13 February, 2022

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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			Mass Intentions
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 Ireneusz Dabrowski</i>
Monday 14 February	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Tuesday 15 February			
Wednesday 16 February	Sacred Heart St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass <i>11.15am Funeral Service</i> <i>4.00pm Reception of Body</i> 5.00pm Exposition / Reconciliation	<i>Mick Moran</i> Bernard Tulley Mary Walsh
Thursday 17 February	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.00am Reconciliation <i>11.00am Funeral Mass</i>	<i>Donor's Intention</i> Mary Walsh
Friday 18 February	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Kath Dixon</i>
Saturday 19 February	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Alan Taylor</i>
Sunday 20 February	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Vera Pownall Amanda Armer</i>

Happy you who
are hungry:
you shall be
satisfied.



Happy you who
weep now:
you shall
laugh.

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

In the 'Breviloquium', St Bonaventure tells us that from knowing Jesus comes the understanding of the whole of holy Scripture.

The stream of holy Scripture flows not from human research but from revelation by God. It springs from *the Father of lights, from whom all fatherhood in heaven and on earth takes its name*. From him, through his Son Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit flows into us; and through the Holy Spirit giving, at will, different gifts to different people, comes the gift of faith, and through faith Jesus Christ has his dwelling in our hearts. This is the knowledge of Jesus Christ which is the ultimate basis of the solidity and wisdom of the whole of holy Scripture.

From all this it follows that it is impossible for anyone to start to recognise Scripture for what it is if he does not already have infused into him faith in Christ. Christ is the lamp that illuminates the whole of Scripture: he is its gateway and its foundation. This faith is behind all supernatural enlightenments that we receive while we are still separated from the Lord and on our pilgrimage. It makes our foundation firm, it directs the light of the lamp, it leads us in through the gateway. It is the standard against which the wisdom that God has given us should be measured, so that *no-one should exaggerate his real importance, but everyone must judge himself soberly by the standard of the faith God has given him*.

The substance and fruit of holy Scripture is very specific: the fullness of eternal happiness. For this is what Scripture is - its words are words of eternal life, and it is written not just so that we should believe, but specially so that we should possess eternal life in which we may see, and love, and have all our desires fulfilled. When they are fulfilled, we shall know the superabundant love that comes from knowledge, and so we shall be filled with the fullness of God. God's Scripture tries to lead us to this fullness, and to the truth of the preaching of the apostles. It is to this end, that we should study holy Scripture, and teach it, and hear it.

If we are to follow the direct path of Scripture and come straight to the final destination, then right from the beginning – when simple faith starts to draw us towards the light of the Father – our hearts should kneel down and ask the Father to give us, through his Son and the Holy Spirit, true knowledge of Jesus and of his love. Once we know him and love him like this, we shall be made firm in faith and deeply rooted in love, and we can know the breadth, length, depth and height of holy Scripture. That news can then lead us to the full knowledge and overwhelming love of the most holy Trinity. The desires of the saints draw them towards the Trinity, in which all that is good and true is and finds its completion.



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

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.



Covid Regulations It is intended that, in a week or two, we will resume Offertory Processions at our weekend Masses. At least initially, from among those regularly at a particular Mass, one will be asked to invite two or three of those attending to take forward the bread and wine, as the offertory collection is taken forward. Over the weeks, the aim will be to give any and all who feel comfortable with taking up the Gifts chance to do so. Volunteers will be welcomed, but all please remember that we wish to involve as many as we can.

Readers We would welcome more to assist with reading at our weekend and weekday Masses. It is important that readers can be heard and understood, so three year olds need not apply. However, if you might like to have a go but are unsure, Fr Anthony would be happy to give you some time at the microphone, to see how it goes in an otherwise empty Church, and without obligation.

Lent Approaches For many, the schools half term is a near thing on the mind - but we are also now less than three weeks from the start of Lent. Have you yet given any thought to - what you might try to give up - what you might try to do better or more of - what cause or to whom you might give extra - how this might be your best Lent for quiet prayer or being at Mass - ?? - ?? Maybe don't try all these things at once - but what are you going to try to do for Lent?



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.

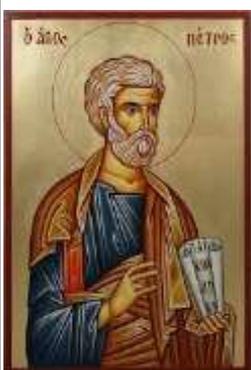
Confirmations Our next Programme of Preparation for Confirmation should begin in the summer. Application forms should be available soon after Easter.

First Reconciliation Our Children now preparing for their First Reconciliation will next meet, along with their Parents, in our Sacred Heart Hall,
Sat 12 Mar, 10.00am-12.00nn

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

But seriously

DO YOU KNOW?



Peter and Cephias have one and the same meaning - rock. Jesus most likely used the word Cephias, rather than Peter, when he said that *Simon was to be called Cephias, and on this rock he would build his Church*. Peter is

from the Greek language, while Cephias is Aramaic, and Jesus would have spoken Aramaic as his common, daily language.

Today's Gospel tells of people from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon coming to meet Jesus. In today's geography, what country would they have come from?

AND SERIOUSLY!

When does life really begin?

A Roman Catholic priest said:

'It begins at conception'.

The Anglican Vicar said:

'When the umbilical cord is cut'.

The Rabbi said:

'It begins when the mortgage is paid off and the kids leave home'.



Parish Monies

Offertory Monies

30 January

Many
Thanks

Loose £155.37

Envelopes £358.00

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

A Most Surprising God

Such evil deeds can religion prompt. (Lucretius)

Continued from last week....

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:

.....Those closest to the family maintain that the deceased Mr Manuel was not, in fact, the father of his child. I am still old-fashioned enough to believe that such facts can be important.

In his early teens, E Manuel disappeared while on holiday with his parents and was missing for three days. It is, as Your Reverences are aware, a well-known fact, that truancy at an early age frequently betokens mental imbalance, On being recovered and questioned, the child maintained that he had been attending to his father's affairs. This could, of course, be explained by his illegitimate birth, which he may have discovered; but some of the relatives have a more sinister interpretation and are convinced he is possessed.

He has no formal education to speak of and was apprenticed to his father, a joiner, at an early age. As a youth he was given to wandering on his own, was strangely silent much of the time, but is also gifted with a fatal fluency and charm of manner, which can easily deceive the unwary, of whom we have more than a fair proportion in this part of the world. Three years ago he gave up his job and took to the road, returning occasionally, sometimes alone, but more often with an unsavoury group of companions who include, besides a few simple-minded folk, some notorious men of violence, along with extortioners and prostitutes. Again, it is a well-established fact that a man can be judged by the friends he keeps. Currently there is a court case pending in which a local farmer is suing Mr Manuel and a local lunatic for the joint destruction of a large herd of pigs. They evidently chased the pigs over a cliff into the sea.



Without formal education in either the sacred or secular sciences, Manuel has set himself up as a religious preacher, making theological assertions about himself and God which would cause alarm even on the western seaboard of the U.S.A.

In the foolish permissive spirit which has infected some sections of the Church in the last twenty years, a joint meeting of the U.C.M. and the Knights of St. Columba, seeing the influence which Mr Manuel was exercising in some sections of the community, invited him to address them. His address was a salutary warning against such permissiveness, for he assured the assembly that the criminals and prostitutes would enter the kingdom of heaven before 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** especially Bernard Tulley,
Mary Walsh, John O'Brien, and their families
- John's funeral will be in his native Morpeth



*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

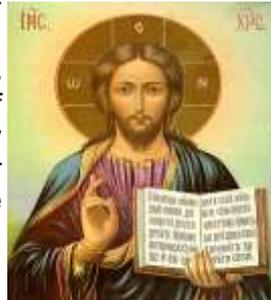
The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 6: Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Luke 6:17,20-26

Matthew's Sermon on the Mount and Luke's Sermon on the Plain are both collections of sayings of Jesus about the basic conditions of Christian living. Each begins with a set of 'Beatitudes', announcing who is specially blessed by the Lord. One frisky modern translation renders them, 'Congratulations to you who are...!' Matthew's set of eight Beatitudes focuses more on spiritual qualities, poor in spirit, hunger and thirst for justice, whereas Luke's four are more directly on the circumstances of life. The stress is therefore on the reversal of values which Jesus brings. Jesus turns the world upside-down. His gospel or 'good news' comes to the poor, the neglected, the oppressed. True blessedness does not consist in wealth, fame or festivities. It is those who struggle now who will receive a lasting reward. Are the four negatives which follow too hard on the rich, the contented, the frivolous, the famous? Through this gospel runs a thread of warning about the dangers of contentment, and we seldom pay attention to warnings unless they are overstated! The worry of those who have plenty (about how they should use their advantages responsibly for others) must be as least as great as those who worry to survive.

First Reading: : Jeremiah 17:5-8

Actually, this passage is neither a curse nor a blessing. It is not invoking or wishing upon a person the blessing or the curse. Instead, the prophet is here saying that people who behave in these two ways are respectively blessed and accursed. There is no need to wish it on them, for their own behaviour merits it and brings it on themselves. Such statements of blessing and its opposite are frequent in the Bible; an example very similar to this is in Psalm One. In Jeremiah's prophecy here, unlike most of the instances in the Bible of 'beatitudes' in both Old and New Testaments, there is no list of ways of moral



conduct; blessing is simply a matter of trust or faith. It is not a person's achievements which count, for we cannot earn blessedness; we can only trust in God. However, if God is the real centre of our trust and reliance, we will try to behave as we were created, in the image of God, imitating the divine generosity, forgiveness, attentiveness to human need, fostering life rather than restricting it. This will mean that our heart is truly turned to the Lord, and the Lord will care for us, as the stream does the tree.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

As he nears the end of his great letter to the Corinthians, which we have been reading for five Sundays, Paul teaches about the resurrection, the bedrock of Christian faith. Last Sunday he was rehearsing the most primitive proclamation, that Christ had truly risen from the dead and had encountered a host of witnesses. Now Paul tackles the resurrection of Christians, of which Christ's resurrection is the first fruits and the model. The importance of his resurrection is not only that it places him in glory at his Father's right hand, but also that it is the forerunner of our own resurrection. We can know little about the transformation which will take place in us at the resurrection. We will be physical, but physical in a quite different way. The glorified body is a body, but not like any body which we know. The traditional Christian picture of clouds and harps is not to be taken too seriously. The only important thing is that we will be wrapped or rapt in the joy of the presence of God, enveloped in utter contentment. Nothing else will matter but the enjoyment of the most lovable of all beings.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 7

1st Reading: Leviticus 19:1,2,17,18

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 2

Sun Of the Season

Mon Proper of Saints

Tue Of Weekday

Wed Of Weekday

Thu Of Weekday or + Proper of Saints

Fri Of Weekday

Sat Of Weekday

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Ss Cyril, monk & Methodius, bishop

Tue Of Weekday

Wed Of Weekday

Thu Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

Fri Of Weekday

Sat Of Weekday