



# 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, Lent, (Laetare) Sunday 4, 27 March, 2022

*Getting in touch* Father Anthony G Fenton  
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			<b>Mass Intentions</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 26 March	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Stanley &amp; Catherine Wilson</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 27 March	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Pat Holmes Philip Bense</i>
Monday 28 March	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Constance Cockroft</i>
Tuesday 29 March			
Wednesday 30 March	Sacred Heart St Joseph's	9.30am Mass 12.00nn Stations of the Cross	<i>Intentions C.B</i>
Thursday 31 March	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass <b>11.00am Funeral Mass</b> 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	<i>Deceased Durkin Family Raymond Ward</i>
Friday 1 April	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Christopher, Mark, Derek, Stephen Jones</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 2 April	St Joseph's St Joseph's Sacred Heart	<b>10am-2.00pm Exposition</b> <b>10-11.00am Reconciliation</b> 5.00pm Mass	<i>Albert Allan</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 3 April	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Parish Family Potenciana L Gabriola</i>

This weekend, please pray with and for our First Sacraments Children, who between our Masses Receive the Scriptures

Take a short while out, in the presence of Our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, in our **St Joseph's Church, Saturday 2 April** - anytime 10.00am-2.00pm  
Come along, even if but for 10/15 minutes, to help make this Lent truly prayerful; and pray too *that many may welcome Our Lord, this Lent - and for peace, for Russia and Ukraine especially*  
Come anyway, but if you can, please sign up for a time as listed in our Church Entrance Hall.  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 10-11.00am.*

**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

With the Mass of the Lord's Supper, celebrated in the evening of the Thursday in Holy Week, our Church begins the sacred Easter Triduum (Three Days). *At the Supper on the night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus, loving those who were his own in the world, offered his Body and Blood to the Father under the appearance of bread and wine, gave them to the Apostles to eat and drink, and then called his followers, throughout the ages, to do the same.*

This Mass is, first of all, the Memorial of the celebration of the very First Eucharist. At this time of year the Jews celebrate the memorial of the Passover from being slaves in Egypt to freedom in Israel. Our Mass is the Memorial of the Lord's Passover. In the Sacramental Signs he makes present and active for us today his passing through his Suffering and Death to the Resurrection. So, the Mass is the means he gives us to be freed from sin and its hold over us, to live lives filled with a Godly Love.

This Mass, too, tells of the Institution of the Priesthood, to continue Christ's Mission and the offering of the Eucharist. Also, it is the Memorial of the Christ-like Love that all his followers are called upon to demonstrate. As Christ washed his disciples' feet, we are called upon to wash one another's feet. All of us, from the newest Catholic to the Pope, are called to serve any and all whom we can possibly help, no matter who they are or what the nature of the help needed.

While this Mass falls on the Eve of Good Friday, when we celebrate the Lord's Passion, the altar which has been bare of flowers through Lent may be modestly decorated. The bells will be silent through the rest of the Mass, but they are rung during the singing of the Gloria, which again has not been used through Lent. So, while this is a solemn occasion, it has a definite note of thanks and joy, as we mark such wonderful God given gifts as the ability to Love as he Loves, the Priesthood, and the gift of the Eucharist.

We do indeed do a great act for ourselves and in honour of our Lord Jesus, if we share in the Lord's Supper Mass, on Maundy Thursday. There really can be no finer way of giving our thanks to our Father God, and asking him to give us his Son always, in his Words and in his Sacrament, and with all his Love.

After the Mass, the Sacrament is taken to the Altar of Repose. All are invited to *Watch in quiet Prayer*, in memory of the Lord's Agony in the Garden, and pray that we will always be faithful to him, through both good and difficult times.

**Holy Thursday, St Joseph's, 7.00pm  
Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
**Good Friday, Sacred Heart, 3.00pm  
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**  
**Holy Saturday, Sacred Heart, 7.00pm  
Paschal Vigil & First Mass of Resurrection**

Stations of the Cross: through Lent  
Each Wednesday, 12.00nn - at **St Joseph's**  
& Thursdays 7.00pm, alternating  
*Sacred Heart (31 Mar) - & - St Helen's CofE (7 Apr)*

## Things happening in our Parish

**Covid Guidelines** Next weekend, we will re-introduce the sign of peace, at Mass, but with a difference. All will be asked *not to shake hands*. While evidence suggests that covid is passed on much more by droplets in the air than touch, we want as many as can to feel comfortable, at Mass. For the sign of peace, all will therefore be asked to *give a kindly bow of the head* to those by them and, it is suggested, to emphasise the gesture, *at the same time to join their own hands together*, as in Eastern custom.

**Very much needed** Readers and Eucharist Ministers for our Holy Week ceremonies. We aim to have a mixture from *each* of our usual congregations at our Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday Services. Please add names against the listed Services, but next to the name of the Church that you usually read/minister at.

**Also required** for our Maundy Thursday Mass, for the washing of feet, **six males** and **six females**, hopefully with some from all our usual weekend congregations.

**Please see lists** on our Church notice boards.

**Ukrainian Crisis** At our recent Parish Council meeting, all were agreed we should offer St Joseph's Presbytery, as a safe place to welcome refugees, from Ukraine. We have registered with our Diocesan Property Office, who are acting as an agent for potential Diocesan properties. If our Presbytery is found practicable, speedy help of our Parish Family will be important as it will need furnishings, of re-decoration, and kitchen repairs. Details will be given as and when known. Present indications are that it would be for a minimum of 6 months and maximum of 3 years.

**Offertory Envelopes** The 2022/23 envelopes are with us. If you use envelopes and have not yet got yours, please collect from the Church entrance asap - but if you cannot find a pack with your name on it, please inform Jackie Ventom, Margaret Whitehouse or Fr Anthony.

Also, please have a word with one of them, if you do not use envelopes nor have a standing order with our Parish, and wish to start with one or the other.

**Red Missio Boxes** Are due for emptying. Please bring to either of our Churches, as soon as you can.

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

## Our Lent Project Pontefract Hospice



After each Lent Weekend Mass, a collection will be taken at the Church door, for the Hospice. Wish to organise an event to raise money towards this? - You are welcome to place an ad in our Parish Newsletter.

To help, we are also to have a **Chocolate raffle**. Tickets, at £1 a strip, are now on sale at **weekend Masses**. Draw after 10.45am Mass, **Sun 3 Apr**. Many thanks to all who have contributed things chocolatey.

## 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 8 & 15 Jun.** 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 is due this coming summer. Application forms should be available soon after Easter.

**First Communion** Our Children who had their First Confession, during Lent, will begin the Preparation Programme for First Eucharist, in our Sacred Heart Hall, **Sat 2 July**, 10.00-12.00am.

*This is only for Children who have had their First Confession.* Application Forms for the 2023 First Reconciliation and Eucharist Programmes should be available during the coming Autumn.

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

## Day of Reconciliation

Leeds Cathedral, **Tue 5 Apr**, 7.00am-7.00pm. There will be priests available to hear confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, throughout.

### DO YOU KNOW?

From Laetare (4th) Sunday, in Lent, our Church, so far focusing on our need to undertake acts of penance and repentance, increasingly focuses on the approaching events of Holy Week, in Jerusalem, when Christ won for us freedom from sin and the way to salvation, through his suffering, death, and resurrection.

*Which Sunday of Lent is traditionally known as Passion Sunday?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!



A woman was infuriated by her husband's habit of leaving his socks on the floor. When he reminded her of Christ's teaching to, 'forgive seventy times seven times,' she replied: 'Well just wait till the four hundred-and-ninety-first time you do it, then!'

## Parish Monies

**Offertory Monies** **Many Thanks**  
13 March

Loose	£246.81
Envelopes	£370.04
Lent Project	£246.75
Ukraine	£345.00

## 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

### Knowing Christ

For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. (Phil. 3:8-9)

Christ's perception of his world, the way he acts and reacts, the teaching he gives, all is permeated with his relationship to his Father. Knowledge of his Father pervades his being as yeast affects the whole loaf, as salt gives relish to food, as light penetrates darkness. Whatever his eyes see, whether it be the sparrows, lilies of the field, the crops being sown or harvested, the sheep being shepherded, the fruit on trees, the landscape, the colour and shape of clouds, the features of men's faces, their dress, social conventions, the world of economics or of politics, he sees it all in relation to his Father.

How does Jesus see his Father? We can begin to answer by looking at the parables he uses, because the parables reveal his ways of looking and assessing.

One of Jesus' favourite images of the kingdom, in which his Father is king, is of a banquet, a marriage feast. When those originally invited refuse to come, the king sends his servants to scour the streets and invite everyone they can find 'good and bad alike'. In Luke's gospel the servants bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame. The king is still not satisfied: 'Go to the open roads and hedgerows and force people to come in to make sure my house is full.'



The Father is presented as a God of overflowing goodness, whose one desire is to share whatever he has with as many as possible. The only people who incur his anger, as he is described in the parables, are those who refuse to accept his goodness or who prevent other people from doing so.

In the parable of the Two Sons, the Father is represented as foolishly lavish towards the prodigal son, even more prodigal than the boy! He would have shown admirable generosity if he had accepted his son home again after disgracing the family; to watch for the son's return, to rush out as soon as he comes in sight, to embrace, clothe with sandals, a cloak, a ring and then to kill the prize calf and throw a party is all a bit excessive, and our prudent, measures and well-controlled selves, brought up on Aristotle's 'Virtue lies in the mean between extremes', can have every sympathy with the sober-minded, hard-working elder brother. Faced with his elder son's indignation, the Father remains his lavish self, telling him 'all I have is yours'.

There is a foolish prodigality, too, in the Father who is presented as leaving the ninety-nine sheep to go and hunt for the one that is lost, a foolishness which we so often correct in the Church by concentrating our attention and energies on the one which is safe and leaving the ninety-nine!

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**, and their families  
especially Raymond Ward, and his family



*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, John Lovely, Tim Byrne  
and all our housebound

The Word: Year C, Lent, Sunday 4: Commentary on the Readings

**Gospel: Luke 15:1-3,11-32**

Jesus spoke this parable to them: "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine. So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. And they began to celebrate. Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. 'Your brother has come,' replied the servant, 'and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.' He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, 'Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening.' The father said, 'My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

**First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12**

In the first readings for the Sundays of Lent, we are working through the history of Israel as we move towards the promise of the New Covenant which is the central point of Easter. In this year's readings, the whole period between the Exodus from Egypt and the promise of the New Covenant at the time of the Babylonian exile (a period of some six hundred

years) is represented by this one reading, the moment of arrival in the Promised Land of Canaan. This is the time when the provisional arrangements of the desert wanderings come to an end. The stories of the desert wanderings are folk-history and what happened there has a special meaning for the people; they are not modern research-history. So, manna (probably an edible honey-like excretion of a desert plant) is used in our passage as a symbol - the symbol of God's wonderful protection and feeding of Israel even in harsh and almost uninhabitable conditions (as here in the Sinai desert). The reading describes a double celebration, bringing together two festivals: the Passover in origin is a feast of wandering nomads, as they move at the first full moon of spring from their sheltered winter pastures to cooler summer pastures; the festival of Unleavened Bread, on the other hand, marks the beginning of the wheat harvest, a feast of a settled agricultural people. For Paul the celebration represents the newness of Easter, the freshness of the New Covenant.

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21**

As we approach the commemoration of Christ's passion and resurrection our readings focus more on these events. The New Testament uses a variety of images to describe what is happening: Christ was glorified (using the idea of the awesome divine glory spoken about in the Old Testament), he was raised to the right hand of God (using imagery from Psalm 110), he was exalted to heaven. In Christ we have been redeemed like freed slaves, ransomed like hostages, reconciled like estranged friends. In Christ God has reached out to us to bring us back into true and full relationship with him. It is always God who does the reconciling.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

**The Word: Year C, Lent, Sunday 5**

1st Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11

**Prayer of the Church**

**Psalter: Week 4**

**Sun** Of the Season

**Mon** Of Weekday + Lent Proper

**Tue** Of Weekday + Lent Proper

**Wed** Of Weekday + Lent Proper

**Thu** Of Weekday + Lent Proper

**Fri** Of Weekday + Lent Proper

**Sat** Of Weekday + Lent Proper

**This Week's Feasts & Saints**

**Mon** Of Weekday of Lent

**Tue** Of Weekday of Lent

**Wed** Of Weekday of Lent

**Thu** Of Weekday of Lent

**Fri** Of Weekday of Lent

**Sat** St Francis of Paola, Hermit