



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, Eastertide, Sunday 4, 8 May, 2022

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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Parish Website www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

			Mass Intentions
Saturday 7 May	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Kath Dixon</i>
Sunday 8 May	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Michael Fahy</i> <i>Jim Noeleki</i>
Monday 9 May	St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Michael Murtagh</i>
Tuesday 10 May			
Wednesday 11 May		<i>No Parish Mass today</i>	
Thursday 12 May	St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Jim Noeleki</i>
Friday 13 May	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Raymond Ward</i>
Saturday 14 May	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Parish Family</i>
Sunday 15 May	St Joseph's Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm Baptism	<i>Jack Smith</i> <i>Victor Pizey</i> <i>Lucas Caleb Palmer</i>

*The sheep that
belong to me
listen
to my voice.*



*I give them
eternal life;
they will
never be lost.*



At our Saturday/Sunday Masses, on 21/22 May
Our married Parishioners will be invited to
*give prayerful thanks for their years of marriage and to
Renew their Dedication to Marriage*



Couples of an age, do invite your children and grand-children, to come to share in the celebration

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 information below has been received from our Diocesan Parish to Mission organisers. It unfortunately arrived too late for inclusion in our Parish Newsletter, last weekend.

Now that the international listening exercise, that was carried out as part of the Vatican Synod 2021/23, is completed, our Diocese is continuing with its own second phase. This will focus on identifying the pastoral priorities for the diocese, as we move forward from the pandemic.

Volunteer facilitators are again visiting parishes, to lead 'listening' meetings. There is opportunity, also, for individuals or groups to fill out an online questionnaire, or to make written submissions.

Our parish meeting will take place in our Sacred Heart Hall, this Monday 9 May, 7.30pm.

Please do come along to the meeting.

In this second phase, people are being asked to consider three questions:

The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers.

(Evangelii Gaudium 28)

- 1 What, within our current practice as a parish and diocese, helps to fulfil this vision?
- 2 What would our parish and diocese look like if this vision was being fully lived?
- 3 What practical steps can we take to move towards that fully lived reality?

Please do your best to participate in this period of discernment. What is very clear from the submissions given in the first round is a very deep love for the Church, and a desire for formation.

If you are unable to attend our Parish meeting, or if you would rather engage with the process online, you can complete an online questionnaire at: <https://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/parish-to-mission/online-survey/>.

O God,
who in each pilgrim Church
throughout the world
make visible
the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,
graciously grant that your faithful
may be so united to their shepherd
and gathered together in the Holy Spirit,
through the Gospel and the Eucharist,
as to worthily embody
the universality of your people
and become a sign and instrument in the world
of the presence of Christ.

Things happening in our Parish



This Weekend Door Collection after our Masses, with the proceeds to be equally divided to assist the Holy Land Shrines and needs of the Vatican (Peter's Pence).

Seniors Group Meets weekly on **Wednesdays**, in our Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 2-3.30pm. All aged 55+, both males and females, most welcome. Chat, refreshments, entertainments, all the order of the day.



They would be delighted if you come and join them.

From Parish to Mission Volunteer facilitators are again visiting every parish in the diocese, to lead another open meeting, similar to the one in November last, *but this time to consider questions that are more local to our own Diocese.* Our Parish meeting is this **Mon 9 May, 7.30pm**, in our Sacred Heart Hall. Please do come along.

The overall purpose is to help towards knowing the needs and planning for how our Diocese should respond to those needs and, in general, live out its mission.

Confirmations Our next Programme of Preparation for Confirmation is due to begin **Sat 9 July**. Application forms should be available from Fr Anthony, **at weekend Masses, from 14 May**. Parents of Baptised Children who are now in school year 5, or older, are invited to apply. We await notice from our Bishop of a date, but it is likely he will administer Confirmations, for our local Parishes, early in 2023.

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, **Fri 13 May, 10.00-12.00am**. Do come along for a cuppa, chat, laugh and to meet new friends. All welcome.

Letters of Thanks have been received from The Prince of Wales Hospice, Pontefract, for the £1694 we donated to them, through our Lent Project - also from Cafod, for the recent donations for Ukraine totalling £640. Copies of the letters are displayed on our Entrance notice boards, at both of our Churches.

Gone Missing Again? Not really, but Fr Anthony will not much be around this Tuesday/Wednesday, on account of a Diocesan Conference of Priests, at Hinsley Hall.

& In our Diocese

Briery Zoom Meditations Each Thursday 7.30-8.15pm. Opening on-line at 7.15pm for a chat and then a prompt start at 7.30pm. It is a simple format of praying with the Sunday Mass Readings and sharing in small groups. All invited. Please email the Briery: briery@btconnect.com to register.



Blessed Sacrament Procession Join with our Diocesan Family, Sun 15 May, 3:00pm, Hinsley Hall, Headingley, Leeds. Followed by BBQ, ice creams, bouncy castle etc. All welcome. Please check diocesan website on the morning in case it has to be cancelled due to bad weather.

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 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.

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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.**

Note: this is only for Children who have already made a First Confession.

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

DO YOU KNOW?

The three times pouring of water, at a Baptism, can first be taken as symbolic of God being three persons - as the words of Baptism state: I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. However, it is also symbolic of Christ rising from the dead on the third day.

At Baptisms, two 'oils' - the oils of Baptism and of Chrism - are used. In all, our Church uses three 'oils' for various anointings. Of what do these oils consist and when might each be used?

AND SERIOUSLY!

A man goes into a confessional box after years being away from Church. Inside is a bar, cigar and chocolates.

The priest comes and the man says 'Father forgive me, its been a long time but I must admit the box is more inviting than it was.'

The priest replies, 'Get out, you're on my side.'



Parish Monies

Offertory Monies **Many Thanks**

1 May	
Loose	£210.83
Envelopes	£215.83
Mar Bank Orders	£1612.00

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)

Spiritual poverty is a phrase which describes one aspect of Christ's relationship to the Father, namely that he was so anchored and rooted in the life of his Father that nothing could possess him, neither his desire to have ('Turn these stones into bread'), nor his desire to count and be important ('Leap down from the pinnacle of the Temple'), nor the desire to have power ('Take over the kingdoms of the world'). St. Paul expresses his own poverty of spirit in these words to the Philippians, 'I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength' (4:12-13).

Spiritual poverty is the opposite of diffidence, timidity, self-depreciation, crawling servility. It is the possession of all things in Christ, while being possessed by none, the ability to enjoy and delight in God's creation without being trapped by it, it is the discovery of our true identity, that we live in, through and with Christ in the life of the Father. Spiritual poverty is spiritual freedom.



Blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven' (Matt. 5:3). This the first of the beatitudes, is a summary of the whole of Christ's sermon on the mount, the essence of his teaching.

Actual poverty, if understood as material deprivation imposed on people against their will, is not a good, but an evil, and therefore to be opposed and overcome. The riches of this world are for the benefit of all human beings. The material deprivation of half of the world is not because there is not enough food and resources, but because of their unjust distribution. A Christian who is not striving to be spiritually poor has ceased to be a Christian. It is of the nature of spiritual poverty, because it is the attitude which allows God's goodness, generosity and compassion to act in us, to combat material deprivation and oppose all that contributes to it, whether it be our own individual selfishness and greed expressed in our political and economical systems.

Some individuals are called to renounce all legal right to material possessions as a sign of their complete trust in God. All members of religious orders and of most religious congregations take vows of actual poverty so that the individual members have no right to personal possessions, but whatever they have is held in common.....

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



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 household

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

Gospel: John 10:27-30

Jesus' teaching on the Good Shepherd is the nearest saying approaching a parable in John's gospel. It is so important that the Church puts it before us on the fourth Sunday of Easter in each of the three cycles of readings.

Apart from its obvious sense of Jesus looking after his sheep – and silly, confused sheep at that – this image receives special meaning from the figure of the shepherd in the Old Testament. God is the primary shepherd of Israel, who pastures his sheep in pastures green so that they fear no evil (Psalm 23). In Ezekiel 34 God promises to free Israel from the self-centred shepherds who keep the sheep for their own advantage, and to send them a true shepherd after his own heart, a second King David, who will tend them as God himself would care for them. Thus, in putting before us each year in Eastertide this proclamation that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, the Church is affirming the risen Christ as the divine Shepherd who tends his flocks. Particularly in these verses we see the unity of the risen Christ and the Father in their role of shepherds of the sheep, just as in our second reading from the Book of Revelation we see the unity of the LORD God and the Lamb, both revered on the one throne.

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First Reading: Acts 13:14,43-52

In the Acts of the Apostles we witness the Christian message spreading to the ends of the earth. Yet three times Paul, as he does this, is rejected by his own people and forced to turn to the gentiles: once here in Asia Minor, once in Greece and finally in



Rome. Each time he does so with a biblical gesture, shaking the dust off his feet, shaking out his cloak, finally in Rome quoting the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah ('You will indeed listen, but never understand ...'). Perhaps in God's providence this rejection of Paul's preaching was the means by which the Gospel reached beyond Judaism.

Second Reading: Apocalypse 7:9,14-17

In his vision John sees the countless numbers of the redeemed as they will be gathered at the throne of the Lamb. Their palms are the palms of victory and their robes, curiously washed white in blood, are the sign of integrity and innocence. The Book of Revelation was written at a time, whether of bloody persecution or not, when the temptation was overwhelming to submit to the dominance of Rome. This was not only political subjection but religious too, for the Lord Emperor was worshipped as a god. In every city there was an altar to Rome and to Augustus: the greater the city, the greater the temple. Worship of the Emperor and Rome set the whole tone for society. To join this worship was the only way to success and prosperity. Yet if Augustus is Lord, Christ cannot be Lord. Christians had to opt out of the emperor cult, and many paid with their blood. The victory was not by arms but by endurance. Today also there are many practices and beliefs in our society which Christians must opt out of – and yet we must vigorously opt in, also, to bring the Christian values as a leavening of our society.



Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Eastertide, Sunday 5

1st Reading: Acts 14:21-27

2nd Reading: Apocalypse 21:1-5

Gospel: John 13:31-35

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 4

Sun + Seasonal Proper
Mon + Seasonal Proper
Tue + Seasonal Proper (or + Common Pastors)
Wed + Seasonal Proper
Thu + Seasonal Proper (or + Proper of Saints)
Fri + Seasonal Proper (or + Common BVM)
Sat Proper of Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon Of Easter Weekday
Tue St John de Avila, Priest, Doctor of Church
Wed Of Easter Weekday
Thu Ss Nereus & Achillius, Martyrs /
St Pancras, Martyr
Fri Our Lady of Fatima
Sat St Matthias, Apostle