



# 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, The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus, 19 June, 2022

*Getting in touch* Father Anthony G Fenton  
The Sacred Heart Presbytery  
Market Street, Hemsworth,  
Pontefract, WF9 4LB

*Email* anthony.fenton@dioceseofleeds.org.uk  
pp.sacredheartstjoseph@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

*Tel* 01977-610733

*Parish Website* www.hemsthorpe.org.uk

			<b>Mass Intentions</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 18 June	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Intentions Kath Straughan</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 19 June	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Parish Family Mick Moran</i>
Monday 20 June	St Joseph's St Joseph's	<i>No Morning Prayer today</i> 9.30am Funeral Mass	Liz Finn
Tuesday 21 June			
Wednesday 22 June	Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass	<i>Decd Giblin, Ince, Cunningham Fams</i>
Thursday 23 June	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Thanks St Anthony</i>
Friday 24 June	Sacred Heart	8.30am Mass	<i>Decd Donovan &amp; Eaton Fams</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 25 June	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Kath Dixon</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 26 June	St Joseph's Sacred Heart St Joseph's	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm Baptism	<i>Liz Finn Parish Family</i> Ellie Nowak

*They  
all ate  
as much as  
they wanted.*



*The  
remaining  
scraps filled  
twelve baskets.*

### Do Remember and Book in Your Diary

International Mass, Saturday 2 July, 5.00pm in our Sacred Heart Church  
*Any who wish are invited to come in what they regard as their national dress.*



We hope all will bring some food to share afterwards, so please, bring what you consider typical food for your (original) nationality, with enough for your group, but to put with the rest, for any to enjoy.



**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

*A book of huge influence.* The book that has had the biggest influence on the history of the world is almost certainly the Christian Bible. It has touched individuals and societies in so many ways. It has been a source of fascination even for those without faith. But what is the Bible? Well, it's got a big section at the front, usually called the Old Testament; and a shorter section at the back, usually called the New Testament.

*The Bible is a collection of books.* It's not one book, but an astonishing collection of different writings from the Jewish and Christian traditions. It's written by different people, in different places, over many centuries. In effect it's a whole library, rather than an individual book.

*The Bible has many different types.* It brings together history, poetry, prayer, legal documents, moral codes, religious instruction. But despite all this diversity, there is a common theme. It tells the story of God's plan for humankind, as it unfolds from the creation of the world to the end of time. It speaks about God's love for all people; the coming of the Saviour, Jesus Christ; his death and resurrection; the gift of the Holy Spirit; the beginnings of the Christian Church. It finishes with an extraordinary vision of heaven.

*The four Gospels are the most important books in the Bible.* Their authors, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John tell of Jesus from different perspectives. They are historical, reliable works that connect us with his life and his teaching.

*Christians believe that the Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit.* That doesn't mean it fell down from heaven, fully formed, or that God dictated it by speaking into the ears of the authors. No. They were real authors, and the history of the Bible is incredibly complex. But God was guiding them and guiding this history, and giving us the truth we needed for our salvation.

*God speaks to us through the Word.* The Bible is absolutely central to the Christian life and to the Church. Christians believe that God speaks to us through the words and events of the Bible. These are not just dead words sitting on a page. They come alive and we are drawn into the reality of these events. Think of those amazing pop up books you can buy, when you turn the page and a scene unfolds itself and literally pops up in front of you. You feel like you can step inside. Jesus said that we can make our home in his Word. In the Gospels you will find the life of Jesus, but you will find your own life there too.

*There is a spiritual power in the God's Word.* His Word created the universe. His Word walked among us in Jesus Christ. And his Word has the power to change our lives today. This is why Christianity is a religion of the Word, rather than of the Book. We read this book, but we hear the voice of Christ.

*From an article (abbreviated)  
by Fr Stephen Wang.*

**Parish A.G.M, Wednesday 29 June, 7.45pm**  
Our Parish Pastoral Council invite all of our Parish Family to receive its reports,  
and afterwards to enjoy a chat over cheese/wine/juice,  
in our Sacred Heart Parish Hall,  
(after the 7.00pm Holyday Mass of Ss Peter & Paul).

## Things happening in our Parish

**Confirmations** Our next Programme of Preparation for Confirmation begins **Sat 9 July**. Any application forms not yet returned to Fr Anthony should please be returned to him by this **Sunday 19 June**.



**Helping Parents** We need to train up one or two to help run our Baptism Preparation course, for parents who are wanting their child baptised. The course has run over two evening 90 minute sessions, four times a year, and the next is due in September. For Information, please speak with Steve Dent, Linda Needham or Fr Anthony, and Fr Anthony much looks forward to receiving volunteers.

**Assistant Gardener** very much needed for our grounds at St Joseph's. If you can help, please have a word with Bernadette France or Fr Anthony.

Extra help at our Sacred Heart grounds would also be welcomed. Have a word with Pat Matchan or Fr Anthony.

**Don't forget our International Mass  
and the International Food Feste  
2 July 5.00pm**

*After the long days of covid  
it's an opportunity to celebrate God's love for us  
as his and our Parish Family*

**Door Collection** after each Mass, next weekend: half to go towards *Catholic Communications* and half to *Day for Life*: two different ways to help promote the teachings of our Church, in England and Wales.



**Our Parish SVP** in the spirit of St Vincent de Paul, can be called upon for a number of reasons, such as - to visit the sick and housebound - to help bring some comfort to those who are grieving - to give practical assistance to any who are suffering poverty.

Might you be interested in helping, as an SVP member, in such important Christian works? Have a word with any present member to learn more. (A DBS check is required before members may visit any who might be vulnerable.)

In these difficult times, many are struggling, or even can't make ends meet. Our SVP may be able to help with such as a food parcel or towards other necessities. If you know of someone with a real need - *but first ask their permission* - let Fr Anthony or any SVP Member know, so that the SVP can visit them, to assist.

### & in our Diocese

**Novena** to Our Lady of Unfailing Help 18-26 June, Leeds Cathedral: Saturdays/Sundays, 5.00pm, Mon-Fri 6.15pm.

*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 14 & 21 Sep**. 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 to begin **Sat 9 July**. Application forms are due to be returned, to Fr Anthony, by this Sunday, 19 June, at latest.

*Note: once the Programme begins we are unable to accept late starters.*

**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.

## Parish Monies

12 June **Many Thanks**  
Offertory: Loose £167.80  
Envelopes £234.00  
May Bank Orders £1932.00

## 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

### His Passion and Resurrection in Our Lives

*Let him easter in us, be a dayspring to the dimness of us,  
be a crimson cressed east.*

Contemplating Christ's suffering in his passion, the grandeur and the scale of it, our suffering can seem so mean in comparison that we feel we cannot possibly be sharing in his passion. We may see with very painful clarity, that most of our suffering comes to us not because our lives are dedicated to promoting Christ's kingdom, but from frustration at our failure to build our own kingdom of wealth, honour and power, from knowledge of our own incompetence, feelings of inferiority, from physical weakness or mental slowness, from difficulties of temperament, loneliness, inability to love or be loved, in which there is no glory, no heroism, just a pathetic mediocrity. God, in Christ, meets us in all our pain and suffering, however mean and mediocre we may be. If we can have the humility to present this suffering to him in prayer, our weakness and mediocrity will be changed into the cause of our joy, for in our weakness we shall find his strength, 'For it is when I am weak that I am strong' (2 Cor. 12:10).



The love of God for us and for all creation is being revealed in the sufferings of Christ. We are called to answer this love, not by passive suffering, but by letting the love and compassion of God and his hunger for justice express itself in our own lives. If we enter into the passion of Christ, we begin to feel the pain of this world as Christ did, and his Spirit at work in us takes this pain, absorbs it, and answers it with forgiveness and love.

We would prefer a different kind of God, a God who would hurl back the pain onto those who inflict it, adding a bit more to deter them from ever trying the same again, but 'God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength' (1 Cor. 1:25).

It is not uncommon for people who contemplate the passion and who do so without any preconceived or distorted notion of its meaning, to experience dryness, desolation and inner darkness, a sense of estrangement from God and disturbing temptations against faith, although they have prayed to be with Christ in his passion. In fact, they are with him, suffering his 'hour and the hour of darkness', sharing his sadness and his 'becoming sin for us', the experience which made him cry out 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' The pain they experience and the emptiness is the obverse side of their longing for God. If they were not so close to him, they would not feel so keenly the pain of his absence. They have no sensible awareness of his nearness, but the reality of his presence manifests itself in the changing quality of their lives, in a deepening and broadening love, joy, peace, patience, tolerance and goodness.

.....To be continued

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

### DO YOU KNOW?

There is a common portrayal, in such as comedies, of the best man, at a wedding, not being able to find the rings, and so everything has to wait until the rings are found. In reality, the rings are a nice symbol, but not an essential in a wedding. The essential part for a true and valid marriage are the Words of Consent, and very importantly, the couple meaning them, as they say them.



*What does the ring symbolise, in a wedding?*

### AND SERIOUSLY!

The mother of three unruly children was asked whether or not she would have children if she had it to do over again.

"Yes," she replied, "but not the same ones."



**Please Keep  
In Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time  
All who have **died recently**, and their families  
especially Elizabeth (Liz) Finn and Carl Bontoft.  
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 housebound

**The Word: Year C, Feast of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus: Commentary on the Readings**

**Gospel: Luke 9:11-17**

On the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ should we not have the gospel reading about the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper? No, the Church puts before us this reading of the wonderful gift of food from Jesus. It is a sort of open-air picnic Eucharist. It begins with Jesus talking to the crowd about the Kingdom of God; this is what happens in the earlier part of our Eucharist, as we listen to the Word in the readings and to the homily which interprets the Word for us. Then the Lord heals those who are in need of healing, and that means all of us, for we are always in need of healing in various ways. Only then does Jesus raise his eyes to heaven, bless the bread and distribute it, just as he gives himself to us in the Eucharist. A sign of the generosity and plenty of Jesus' gifts in the Eucharist is represented by the twelve baskets of left-overs, ready for consumption by the twelve tribes of the new Israel. In the same way, on the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ we share joyfully in the food which Jesus gives to us and to the huge numbers of his followers across the world.



**First Reading: Genesis 14:18-20**

Melchizedek is a historically mysterious figure; designated a king of Salem, he suddenly appears from nowhere to greet Abraham and bless him. In gratitude Abraham gives Melchizedek a tenth of the spoil he has just won in battle. The only other mention of Melchizedek in the Old Testament is in Psalm 110, where he is the priest-king of Jerusalem. The early verses of this Psalm are frequently cited in the New Testament as a fore-shadowing of the exaltation of Christ to the right hand of the Father at the resurrection: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool". In the New Testament the whole Psalm is understood to point to Christ, and so in the Letter to the Hebrews the verse, "You are a priest according to the line of Melchizedek" is

interpreted as a reference to Christ's priesthood. Christ is a priest not in the line of Aaron, but in the line of Melchizedek. The Letter further argues that, since Melchizedek blesses Abraham, Melchizedek's priesthood is superior to that of Abraham and Aaron. So, by this slightly involved explanation, we are celebrating in this first reading the priesthood of Christ, a priesthood superior to that of the Old Law.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

From several points of view this is one of the most significant passages of the New Testament. To begin with, the terms 'received' and 'passed on' are technical terms in the rabbinic process of oral transmission of tradition; they show that what Paul is about to say is part of the tradition conserved in the Christian community. Secondly, it shows us that the repetition of this rite of the Eucharist was seen to bring, to those who took part, a participation in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus – whether they were worthy or unworthy. Moreover, Paul's purpose is to rebuke the Corinthians for taking part in the Eucharistic supper without due seriousness. Thirdly, it underlines some of the most precious aspects of the Eucharistic meal: it is the sealing of the new covenant in the cup of Christ's blood, that covenant which brings to each individual the union with the Father wrought by Christ's death. Fourthly, Paul's chief rebuke to the Corinthians is that they are disunited and selfish at their Eucharist, treating it just like an ordinary dinner, neglecting one another's needs; but in this text he reminds us that the Eucharist is a celebration of the Body of Christ, in which we are all united in love, and in which we all depend on one another.

*Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'*

**The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 13**

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:19,19-21  
2nd Reading: Galatians 5:1,13-18  
Gospel: Luke 9:31-62

**Prayer of the Church**

**Psalter: Week 4**

**Sun** Of Weekday  
**Mon** Of Weekday (or + National Proper)  
**Tue** Of Weekday + Proper of Saints  
**Wed** Of Weekday + National Proper  
**Thu** Proper of Saints  
**Fri** Of the Feast  
**Sat** Proper of Saints

**This Week's Feasts & Saints**

**Mon** St Alban, Martyr  
**Tue** St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious  
**Wed** Ss John Fisher, Bishop & Thomas More, Martyrs  
**Thu** Nativity of St John the Baptist, Prophet. Martyr  
**Fri** Feast of The Sacred Heart of Jesus  
**Sat** Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of God