



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 18, 31 July, 2022

Getting in touch Father Anthony G Fenton
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Saturday 30 July	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	Mass Intentions <i>Parish Family</i>
Sunday 31 July	St Joseph's Sacred Heart St Joseph's	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass 1.00pm Baptism	<i>Gerard Knowles</i> <i>Intentions Caroline & Family</i>
Monday 1 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	<i>Michael Murtagh</i>
Tuesday 2 August			
Wednesday 3 August	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	9.30am Mass 5-6.00pm Exposition / Reconciliation	<i>Parish Family</i>
Thursday 4 August	St Joseph's St Joseph's St Joseph's	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.00am Reconciliation	<i>Patrick's Intentions</i>
Friday 5 August	Sacred Heart	10.15am Funeral Mass	John Higgins
Saturday 6 August	Sacred Heart	5.00pm Mass	<i>Chris Rayner</i>
Sunday 7 August	St Joseph's Sacred Heart	9.00am Mass 10.45am Mass	<i>Fr Norman</i> <i>Christine Feetenby</i>

This Sunday, on her being Baptised into our Church and Parish Family, we congratulate and pray for Clara Alice McCann, with her parents, Charley & Carl

My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; eat, drink, have a good time."



But God said, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; then whose will this hoard be?"

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

To help Catholics grow in faith, as they read Scripture, the Church gives us three important points for interpreting and understanding the Bible.

Be attentive to the content and unity of the whole of Scripture (Catechism, 112). It all fits together as a coherent vision, so we shouldn't just look at selected parts in isolation.

Read the Bible within the living tradition of the whole Church (Catechism, 113). The Holy Spirit guides the Church in interpreting Scripture; and we find many examples of how the Saints, Popes, Early Church Fathers and Mothers, and Church Councils have commented on Scripture and its meaning throughout history. We can learn much from others and better not to rely only on our own interpretations!

Pay attention to all the truths of faith within the whole plan of Revelation (Catechism, 114). The entire deposit of faith forms a wonderful unity – Scripture sheds light on our Church teachings, and our Church teachings then shed light on Scripture.

The Bible is not a book; it is a library of seventy three books. The word *Bible* comes from the Greek *ta biblia*, meaning *The Books*. The Bible is a library which contains many books stemming from very different periods of time, written in various languages, with many different *authors*, and having been subjected to the influence of many different cultures.

The Bible is not scientific history, but a *Faith Narrative History*. It does not aim to pay exact attention to narrating what has happened and how it happened, but rather to how God showed and continues to show himself to humankind. Some points to bear in mind:

In biblical times, throughout the then known world, history was mostly kept alive through oral tradition, not in the written word, and was passed on from one generation to the next, century after century. Its purpose was to explain why things are as they are. Why is there so much beauty? It is because God created it. Why is there also so much evil? Because the humans God created turned away from him and disobeyed him.

Heroic deeds were attributed to ancestors in story form, often in exaggerated ways, to give emphasis to their meaning.

Only from around the year 1000 BC were these oral stories gradually entrusted to paper. Also, the Gospels in the New Testament knew this process: stories about Jesus first lived on for many decades through oral tradition and in early Christian communities, before eventually being written down and becoming the four Gospels.

From 'The God who Speaks' Website (adapted).



Things happening in our Parish

Please Assist if at all you can, with reading, serving and clearing Sunday morning teas/coffees, at our Sacred Heart Church. It would be good to have a little rota, so none need to cover every Sunday. Please have a word with Mary Day, as soon as you can.

We very much need more to read at our Masses, and just now at our St Joseph's Church especially, where soon we will have only four regular readers. *It would also be good to have more young readers, particularly from among those who*



have been confirmed in recent years. Rehearsals can be arranged for any who require some guidance in public speaking or using microphones. Give names, please, to Margaret Whitehouse (St Joseph's). Mary Day (Sacred Heart), or Fr Anthony.

Singing for the Brain The local Alzheimer's group invite people with dementia and carers/supporters to a sing along, **Thu 4 Aug**, in our Sacred Heart Hall. The event is free, but please first book places: tel 01924-373264 or email wakefield@alzheimers.org.uk.

Remember, remember do! God never Stops thinking of and caring for us; and being away from home, on holiday or otherwise, is no reason to stop thinking of him. The location of many Churches, at home and abroad, and Mass times, can now so easily be found via the internet, especially if the name of the local Diocese or town is known. If you need help to find such information, or you do not have access to the internet, Fr Anthony can try to help, if you ask him a week or two before you go. Local tourist information offices, and hotel and holiday complex receptions, should have information of this sort to hand.

& in our Diocese

World Youth Day 2023 Any aged 16-30 are invited to join the Leeds Diocese Youth Service, in Portugal, 31 Jul to 7 Aug 2023, for a youth festival with Pope Francis and young people from across the world! Cost of £1200 includes accommodation, travel, WYD package & more! Apply at youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

Reviving Prayers

Some older, well known and loved prayers seem now to be lessening in memories. The following, which might be recommended for daily use, is a well established prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It has a particular use when difficult circumstances or decisions arise.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

*Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.*

Let us pray.

O God, who did instruct the hearts of your faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise, and ever to rejoice in his consolation, through Christ, our Lord. Amen

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.

Confirmation Our Applicants and also their Parents are to next meet, in our Sacred Heart Hall,

Sat 17 Sep, 9.30-12.00am.

Note: as the Programme has begun we are unable to accept late starters.

First Communion Our Children who have already begun their Preparation Programme for First Eucharist will next meet, with their parents, in our Sacred Heart Hall:

Sat 10 Sep, 10.00-12.00am.

Application forms for Children who will be due for First Confession, next time round, should be available during the coming Autumn.

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

Parish Monies

24 July **Many Thanks**

Offertory: Loose £167.82
Envelopes £259.50
Donation £1000.00
Retired Priests £247.22

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

The decision in Every Decision - God or Mammon

True happiness and spiritual joy does not mean living on a perpetual 'high', but may be compared to the ballast in a ship. With ballast the ship will roll in a storm, just as a person capable of true happiness and joy will feel pain in a crisis, but the storm will not capsize the boat which will quickly right itself, even when struck by a wave. Similarly true happiness and spiritual joy does not mean living on a continuous high, unaffected by grief, sadness or loss, the pain of others, but it does mean that we shall not sink into despair under the blows, but will recover peace and tranquillity when the storm is over.



Therefore, if in a particular action or decision we feel inner revulsion, destructive of inner peace and joy, then this cannot be from God and we need to look at and pray over the 'ought', or the notion of God's will which is operating within us. If our state in life, whether it be our health, married or Religious state, or our work leaves us in a constant state of sadness and anxiety, we must not divinize this state by calling it God's will and so accept it passively, but pray to know what it is in us that is blocking out the peace and joy which God wants to give us. He may be calling us to change our state of life, or to change the way in which we are living it.

What I have written may upset readers who do live more or less permanently in a state of sadness or depression. God is with you in your darkness and what I have written is to assure you that he is with you. I believe this, but it is not just a personal belief: it is the belief of the Church. But that he is with you does not therefore mean that you have to stay where you are. He is the God of true consolation, and therefore he is calling you out of your sadness and depression.

For those who are afflicted with gloom, it is good to pray and imaginatively contemplate the raising of Lazarus in John 11. Have a good look at Lazarus in his tomb. He is dead, corrupting, enclosed in darkness. Then hear the voice outside the tomb saying: 'I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.' Without forcing anything, let your own feelings of sadness and depression surface in your consciousness so that you see yourself locked within the tomb of your own sadness. Then hear the stone being removed and hear the voice of Jesus calling you by name, '...., arise, come forth'. Sometimes, people who pray in this way discover that they do not want to emerge from the tomb. This is not failure, but an important discovery, showing them that they are in the tomb of sadness not because God wills them to be. but because they have chosen to be there for some reason. If this were to happen to you, do not be alarmed, but acknowledge your own attachment to the tomb and keep asking Christ to set you free.

.....*To be continued*

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

DO YOU KNOW?

The focus, at Mass, is first on our Lord as he comes to us in the Liturgy of the Word, so on the lectern or ambo. The focus then shifts to the altar, where our Lord becomes present in the consecrated bread and wine. The final focus is on our Lord being within the recipients of Communion and their taking the Lord out to wherever they go. Some argue that a tabernacle, being unnecessary for the celebration of Mass, is best having its own focal point in a separate chapel, rather than being on the main sanctuary,

Why might others think a tabernacle is best sited on the main sanctuary?

AND SERIOUSLY!

An old man was enjoying his hundredth Birthday party when a reporter asked him: 'Sir, what is the secret of your long life?' The man considered this for a moment, then replied: 'Every day at 9pm I have a glass of port. Good for the heart.'

The reporter replied: 'That's all?'

The man smiled, 'That and cancelling my voyage on the *Titanic*.'



**Please Keep
In Prayer**

All whose **Anniversaries** occur about this time
All who have **died recently**, and especially
Johnny Higgins, Fr Bernard Funnell, 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, Ordinary Time, Sunday 18: Commentary on the Readings

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

Luke's language and style make it clear that he comes from a reasonably privileged background. In his stories he refers to far larger sums of money than Mark does. He also understands about investment banking and rates of interest. This makes it all the more striking that he continually warns against the dangers of wealth. Jesus brushes aside a dispute about inheritance. The parable of the Rich Fool is perhaps the most condemnatory of all the parables; nowhere else in the gospels is anyone called outright a 'Fool'! Luke tells us that salvation came first to the poor, to the shepherds of Bethlehem, through a baby cradled in a cattle-trough. Only Luke says that the apostles left 'everything' to follow Jesus. The guests invited to the Great Supper refuse the invitation because they are distracted by their new purchases. In the ideal young community of the early Church in Jerusalem Luke insists that everything was held in common. The only hope for the rich (for example in the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus) is to use their wealth to make friends in heaven.



First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2,2:21-23

This is the only Sunday reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes. The Book is attributed to King Solomon (whose dates are traditionally given as c.970-931 BC), but it must have been written several centuries later, even after the time of Alexander the Great in the 4th century BC. This late book of wisdom is full of disillusionment and restless questioning of all the old certainties, not even sure about the after-life. It queries whether happiness is anywhere to be found - certainly not in hard work! In this our passage partners the gospel reading about the rich fool, though the rich fool is condemned for his selfish hoarding, while the author of Ecclesiastes despairingly thinks that no toil can win any worthwhile

result. Why is this book included in the collection of the revealed truth which is Sacred Scripture? Perhaps because it is always useful to question our certainties, and to make up our minds afresh. Certainly it blows away the assumption made in earlier biblical traditions that happiness is to be found in wealth and distinction, and that wealth is a sign of God's blessing.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-5,9-11

This final reading from Colossians is full of the hope of the Resurrection (indeed, it is prescribed for reading also on Easter Sunday morning). The Pauline theme of being baptized into Christ and so sharing his risen life is familiar from Paul's earlier letters. Adopted into sonship with Christ, we have cast off all the old ties, and there is no room for all the old vices. But there is a fascinating and inspiring change of viewpoint in this epistle. In the earlier letters Paul said that we were already reconciled to God but not yet saved; our salvation is still to be completed in the future. The later letters to the Colossians and Ephesians state that we have already been raised with Christ, but this risen life in Christ is still hidden in God and merely has yet to be revealed. Once we have been baptized into Christ we have been taken on as his own, and can securely address God with intimacy as 'Father'. This gives us confidence in our continuing struggle to shake off all evil and allow Christ to take control of every aspect of our lives. We still are 'being transformed into Christ', but the battle is already won.

Courtesy of 'The Wednesday Word Trust'

The Word: Year C, Ordinary Time, Sunday 19

1st Reading: Wisdom 18:6-9
2nd Reading: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12
Gospel: Luke 12:32-48

Prayer of the Church

Psalter: Week 2

Sun Of Sunday
Mon Of Weekday + Proper of Saints
Tue Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)
Wed Of Weekday + Common of Martyrs
Thu Of Weekday + Proper of Saints
Fri Of Weekday (or + Proper of Saints)
Sat Proper of Saints

This Week's Feasts & Saints

Mon St Alphonsus, Bishop, Doctor of Church
Tue St Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop /
St Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
Wed St Oswald, Martyr
Thu St John Vianney, Priest
Fri Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major
Sat Transfiguration of Our Lord