

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 55:6-9
Isaiah preaches to the people, urging them to return to the Lord who is rich in forgiving.

Responsorial Psalm 144: 2-3,8-9,17-18
The Lord is close to all who call him.

Second Reading Philippians 1:20-24. 27
The apostle calls us to avoid anything in our everyday lives that would be unworthy of the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings of the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace be in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16
Even at the eleventh hour the Lord calls people to work in his vineyard.

Parish of Corpus Christi

Sacred Heart (Goldthorpe), Sacred Heart & St Helen (Hoyland) and St Michael & All Angels (Wombwell)



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Sunday 20th September 2020

Sunday Year A

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"You go into my vineyard too."

At election time political parties make promises, and we know what we expect them to say. Taxation will be reduced; more money will be available for schools, for health care and welfare. A new and ambitious house-building programme is on the cards. Public transport will be a top priority and more will be spent on infrastructure, including road repairs and building new ones. But suppose a political party presented this: "We are going to introduce a revolutionary new wage policy. Instead of an hourly rate of pay, we shall pioneer a daily rate for the worker. By this we mean that whether you spend just one hour a day at work or a full eight hours, you will be paid the same wage. Just to make this crystal clear: we are proposing an enhanced daily minimum wage, which workers will receive whether they work for one hour or eight. It is a progressive new deal. Employers will be compelled to comply".

Such a suggestion would be met with outrage. It would not be fair; it would not be right or just. Unsurprisingly those who worked for a whole day in the field or factory would be furious and envious of those who had worked for only an hour.

Jesus, however, was not advocating some strange new social teaching when he told the story of an employer who did this. The key to his parable is in the words, "Why be envious because I am generous?" It is a parable about the extraordinary generosity and love of God. It is not about human rights; it is, Jesus said, about what the kingdom of God is like.

So in the parable there are people waiting around the marketplace, idle, lost and unemployed, maybe misbehaving. Although they do not know it, they are waiting for the Gospel. Along comes the landowner who, of course, is Jesus, and a group of them take up his invitation to work in his vineyard. A meaning comes to their life at once and they are gainfully employed in the kingdom. They are working for God, in the sense of fulfilling their purpose in life, living life in the way that is pleasing to God. And the wages they will receive will be eternal life. Some hear the call later in life and their reward is the same. Even at the eleventh hour some people respond to his call, and among them we may think about the penitent thief on the cross: "Today you will be with me in paradise." Here is a wonderful picture of Jesus walking into his Father's presence, leading this man by the hand: "Here, Father, is the man I have

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michaels)	19 Sep	5.30pm	Edith and Albert Cresswell RIP
Sunday (St Michaels)	20 Sep	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	20 Sep	11.00am	Andrew J Marren RIP
Tuesday	22 Sep	12.00pm	Patricia & Stuart Jacobs RIP
Wednesday	23 Sep	12.00pm	Winnie Kilroy RIP
Thursday	24 Sep	12.00pm	Thanksgiving for 60 Years of Marriage
Friday	25 Sep	12.00pm	A Sick Person
Saturday	26 Sep	12.00pm	John & Mary Coefield RIP
Saturday (St Michaels)	26 Sep	5.30pm	Blanche Neale RIP
Sunday (St Michaels)	27 Sep	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	27 Sep	11.00am	Deceased Members of the Foody Family

Please go to the link below so you can join in with Masses and Services, streamed live by Fr Declan, or catch up later at the following link:

<https://m.facebook.com/CorpusChristiValley/videos/>

saved.” How completely appropriate that the saviour brings with him the sheep that was lost; that the first to enter the kingdom of God with him was a thief.

The fundamental point seems to be that the Church, the messenger of Jesus, is sent to preach the Gospel to people in every kind of situation, both young and old, with the invitation to enter the kingdom of God. So Isaiah preached: “Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way... Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him.”

But we can only do this, and offer a welcome to those who come to the Church from all kinds of backgrounds, if we share the mind of Christ and his love for sinners. If we think, “Why should people just be able to walk into the kingdom of God, when we have disciplined ourselves and kept the commandments all our life?”, we do not have the mind of Jesus. Nor have we really understood that Jesus came into the world to seek and to save those who are lost. As Pope Francis said, “It is a phrase that we could write on the doors of our churches: ‘Here Jesus welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.’”

Every soul is of infinite value to God. When we love as Christ loves, without a hint of judgement, we want to see everyone saved and in the kingdom of God; those addicted and tied into a sinful life, those who have not yet come to believe, those who are hostile to the Church or consumed with selfishness or pride, those whose lives have fallen apart. The Lord opens his arms to us all.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Terence Dyson, Gordon English, Sue Bird, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Carol Beard, Edna Yates, Justin Phillip Collins, Hannah Prentiss, Pat and Colin Hermitage, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Lesley Easton, Val Armstrong, Minnie Helen Pozorski, Terry Mullins, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Sr. Ann Coyle, Anne Lacey, Kath Cragg, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher, and Andrew Chandler.

Requiescant in Pace

Please pray for the soul of Mary McNally who died recently. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

Weekend Masses

The vigil mass at 5.30pm on Saturday, and the mass at 9.00am on Sunday will both be at St Michael’s.

The 11.00am mass on Sundays will be at St Helen’s, where the same rules will apply.

Numbers allowed in the building will be limited and stewards will be on hand to assist. Please adhere to the track & trace instructions, the one way system, hand sanitisation and social distancing measures indicated on entering the church. This is for the safety of all.

It is only possible to reopen thanks to those who have kindly volunteered to act as stewards and assisting in cleansing, etc.

All the weekday masses and other services as announced, will continue to be live streamed at 12 noon.

If you do choose to attend mass, please remember that face coverings are required by law in places of worship, unless you have a valid exemption. Please contact Fr. Declan if you are in this category.

Annual Mass Attendance Count

Mass attendance figures need to be collected for this weekend and for the next three weekends.

Donations and Weekly Offerings

Please continue, if you can, to donations via PayPal, online payments and Standing Order. This is our main source of income. Donations to the parish can be made online via PayPal at

corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com/parish-news/donate-if-you-can/

Another way is to donate is by Standing Order and the form is available on the website. Please note that the full name of the account is

Diocese of Hallam, Corpus Christi Parish`.

Dearne Churches Together

The Dearne Community Arts’ Festival will be held online on Saturday 26th September. If any churches or church members wish to be involved in this, photographs of items (paintings, crafts etc.) or videos (showing how things were made) should be emailed to julie@gpcchurch.co.uk These will then be displayed online on the DCAF Facebook page.

Apostles` Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

Prayer for Vocations

Loving and generous Father: it is you who call us by name and ask us to follow you. In particular, you call some to serve you as ministers in your church. Bless our Diocese of Hallam by raising up faith-filled and dedicated priests, deacons and religious. Bless our families and choose from our homes those who are needed for your mission.

Blessed John Anne	Pray for us
Blessed Robert Ludlam	Pray for us
Blessed Nicholas Garlick	Pray for us
Blessed William Richardson	Pray for us
0 Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help	Pray for us