

## 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Wisdom 6:12-16  
The writer reflects on wisdom, personified as God's agent in the world who shares intimately in God's life and creative purpose.

**Responsorial Psalm** 62:2-8  
For you my soul is thirsting,  
O God my God.

**Second Reading** Wisdom 6:12-16  
The writer reflects on wisdom, personified as God's agent in the world who shares intimately in God's life and creative purpose.

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Matthew 25:1-13  
The parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids is principally about having hearts, minds and spirits open and alert to detect the presence of Jesus in our lives.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 8th November 2020

Sunday Year A

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"Stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour."*

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8 Nov</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
Tuesday	10 Nov	12.00pm	June Brown RIP
Wednesday	11 Nov	12.00pm	Sheila Durkan RIP
Thursday	12 Nov	12.00pm	Jack and Vera O`Connell RIP
Friday	13 Nov	12.00pm	Brian McAllister RIP
Saturday	14 Nov	12.00pm	Jane Thurston RIP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15 Nov</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish

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/>

The Boxing Day tsunami of 2004 was a devastating tragedy which took thousands of lives, with whole communities destroyed. There are many stories of animals behaving strangely before the tsunami struck. Elephants, dogs and cats, even flamingos are said to have given signs of alarm and gone into hiding, or onto higher ground in order to save themselves. Scientists deny that animals have any kind of "sixth sense", but agree that the more finely tuned senses of sight, hearing and scent in many animals may alert them to changes in the atmosphere long before humans become aware that danger threatens.

While humans don't have more than five senses either, and those are often far more blunt than animal senses, the Bible teaches that we are made in the image and likeness of God, and thus have a built-in capacity for intuiting the things of faith and God's presence in our lives. This is what the first reading describes as wisdom. It is part of our spiritual DNA, as it were, but unlike the heightened sense of animals, it isn't just an automatic reaction on the part of humans when faced with the divine. It will stay dormant unless we are open to the possibility of there being a God who wants to be in a mutually loving relationship with us. There are people who go through life never apparently feeling a need for or interest in God. There are others who are brought up in a faith community and learn all about God, but as a distant notion, without much relevance to their daily lives. There are also those who have an active faith, but see it as confined to matters they consider religious. Human life, from this perspective, is divided into the sacred and the secular spheres. God inhabits the holy sphere and it is there that we must look for and pay attention to God. The rest is just "the world", and not worth bothering about.

But in joining the human race as one like us in all things but sin, Jesus inhabited every aspect of human life. There is no part of our experience, good or bad, where Jesus is absent. So the main message of the parable of the foolish and wise bridesmaids is not just about being alert to the coming of Christ on judgement day, or even on the day of our own death. It's about having the senses of our soul finely tuned in order to detect God's presence in all aspects of our human living. In that

sense any and every moment is the one in which the bridegroom announces his arrival to those awake and alert enough to notice and recognise him.

This also means that God's presence around us requires a response on our part. Matthew's Gospel tells us that when Christ demands an account of our lives on judgement day, we will not be asked about our liturgical correctness or our enthusiasm for religious observance. We will be asked if we fed those who were hungry, clothed those who were naked, were compassionate with those sick and in prison and welcomed the stranger. Our capacity to "touch the suffering flesh of Christ in others", as Pope Francis has said, is the proof of our wisdom.

Christ is present to us in the sacraments, which are signs that make real what they signify. They do so by enabling us to embody in the way we live what they carry within them. We receive sacraments of healing and restoring, sacraments of loving union, of a call to relationship with God and transformative service of our world. These sacramental signs bear fruit through our own compassion, our willingness, as Pope Francis has said, to be "revolutionaries of tenderness". This is the oil that keeps the lamp of faith alight in the world.

There is a need for prayer, for mature thinking and for worship in our lives. These are the signs of living faith. There is also a need for compassion. We cannot rely on others to do our loving for us. God's grace gives each of us the capacity to grow and live in love. The more we exercise our capacity for detecting and responding to Christ's daily invitations, the more alert we will be to the "still, small voice" that calls us. God's amazing grace makes it possible for us not only to have our lamps ready, but ourselves to become the light of the world. That's certainly worth staying awake for.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Clare Dingwall, Anne Whittingham, Terence Dyson, 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, Anne Lacey, Kath Cragg, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher, Andrew Chandler.

### **Requiescant in Pace**

Please pray for the soul of Sheila Mary Latham who died on 30<sup>th</sup> October.  
Please keep her family and friends on your prayers.

### **Donations and Weekly Offerings**

Please continue 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/](https://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`.**

### **Holy Souls**

During the month of November, we pray especially for those who have died. If you would like a mass for your loved ones, the Holy Souls lists and envelopes will be available from church for an extended period after the Lockdown restrictions are relaxed. The masses will then be said throughout the coming year.

### **Sick & Retired Clergy**

Next weekend a second collection is scheduled for the Sick & Retired clergy to help ensure all of our sick and retired priests are cared for at their time of need, after years of service to God and their parishioners. If you wish to donate via online or Paypal please make sure you specify that it is for Sick & Retired Clergy. Alternatively, just keep your envelope or donation until lockdown is eased.

### **Lockdown 2**

Following steps to control the spread of Covid-19, the Government has imposed restrictions until 2<sup>nd</sup> December. These Regulations, once again, prohibit the gathering of people for communal worship in churches and other religious buildings. Fr Declan will continue to livestream mass each day except Monday, and there will be one mass for Sunday instead of three. Please see the mass schedule over the 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