

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

The most attractive qualities in a person are not beauty or charm, but trustworthiness, wisdom, industriousness and generosity.

Responsorial Psalm 127:1-5

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Speculating when the world will end is not the best way to prepare for it. We need to be working hard and doing the right thing when the Lord comes.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who entrusted his disposable wealth to the care of servants during his absence. He was furious to find that one of them made no effort to put it to good use.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 15th November 2020

Sunday Year A

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

Service Times & Intentions

Sunday	15 Nov	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	17 Nov	12.00pm	John Crick RIP
Wednesday	18 Nov	12.00pm	Brian Barrett RIP
Thursday	19 Nov	12.00pm	Sheila Latham RIP
Friday	20 Nov	12.00pm	Rowland and Harriet Swallow RIP
Saturday	21 Nov	12.00pm	Winnie McDonald RIP
Sunday	22 Nov	11.00am	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/>

"Speak properly," parents sometimes complain when their children use slang language. Young people, however, are not the only ones who cut corners. Few of us use the formal word "telephone" these days, or to say "mathematics", when "maths" will do. Rather than search our memories for more precise terminology, people often refer to a "thing" or a "whatsit". Just as we take shortcuts in our journeys, we economise in the way we speak.

Youngsters who get criticised for a lazy way of speaking might well argue that they are at a higher stage of development! George Zipf would have agreed with them. He was a Harvard academic, working in the 1940s, who saw the growing simplification of language as part of an evolutionary process. He noticed how most people use only six hundred words in daily conversation even though they have a much wider vocabulary, and concluded that we will always try to solve problems in ways that minimise the overall workload. He called it "the principle of least effort". That principle does not just apply to humans. All animals naturally choose the shortest route; the least demanding method; what is most convenient to themselves. So it is that some people give up easily until encouraged to persevere; that some are reluctant to volunteer until shamed into doing so; and that even the most well behaved of us may occasionally ignore signs to "Keep off the grass" and step out across a lawn when the path takes us by a longer route.

A servant of God, however, is called always to go that extra mile. Love overrides "the principle of least effort". It goes out of its way to do everything possible. We do not ask, "How little can I get away with?" but "What else may I do?" The kingdom of heaven operates by the principle of utmost effort, not least. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of three servants to whom a rich man entrusted his fortune. Imposing loans on people was common in ancient times as a profitable way to deposit cash. Two of his employees were delighted to have such trust placed in them. After all, a talent was a coin of value, and he had lent them five and ten talents apiece. Eager to please him, they showed enterprise in their use of his money; unlike the third

servant, who wanted to save himself any trouble or anxiety. He simply dug a hole and buried it.

God does not exploit people; nor was Jesus a financial advisor. He was interested in a different kind of treasure. God is rich in kindness and we are distributors of that grace. What God bestows is not meant to be hoarded. God gives us wisdom and skills that we may be of service; God forgives us that we might treat other people generously. Such is the "commerce" of God's kingdom: a reckless investment of ourselves with no certainty of return, other than to increase the circulation of love in this world.

Jesus had harsh things to say of the servant who buried his one talent. All of us have some ability, however modest, and to hide it away or use it only for ourselves is more than laziness. What we have is not gifted, but loaned to us: we are trusted stewards of a grace intended for everyone.

It may feel risky to enter the "marketplace" of other people's lives. Offering friendship can make us vulnerable. It was fear, perhaps, that kept the lazy servant from trading his one talent. Fear that we might get nothing in return can sometimes make people hesitant to give. The servant assumed his master to be a hard-nosed businessman who expected too much of people, and it may be that we have grown up with the same idea about God. Jesus shows us what our heavenly Father is really like: God's happiness is in sharing. And so is ours. The principle of least effort will never make anyone happy. Easy achievements are not the most satisfying. Effort, time and loving attention give value to human endeavour and dignify people. The principle of the greatest effort brings a sense of fulfilment. It is the worship of our lives to give back with thanks what belongs to God. These closing days of the church year are a good time to make an audit of just how indebted we really are. Maybe we, too, have something buried within us which might yet be consecrated to God's service.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Peter Hutchinson, 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 souls of Susan Mann (nee Owen), Catherine Annette Gentles and John Steel who all died recently. Please keep their family and friends on your prayers.

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.

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/

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.

Sick & Retired Clergy

This 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 2nd 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
O Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help	Pray for us