

<p>2nd Sunday after the Nativity First Reading Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2. 8-12 God's Wisdom is sent by the creator to dwell on earth.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm 147:12-13,14-15,19-20 The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.</p> <p>Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-6. 15-18 From the beginning of creation God called us to live through love in God's presence, and to inherit the rich glories of the saints.</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel John 1:1-18 John reveals the mystery of the incarnation, the presence of Jesus Christ, the Word of God from the beginning of creation, the true light that enlightens everyone, and the Word made flesh who dwelt among us.</p>
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Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 3rd January 2021 Sunday Year B
Second Sunday after the Nativity Weekday Cycle II

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michael's)	2 Jan	5.30pm	Annette Cheetham RIP
Sunday (St Michael's)	3 Jan	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	3 Jan	11.00am	Brian McAllister RIP
Tuesday	5 Jan	12.00pm	Audrey O'Neill RIP
Wednesday The Epiphany (St Michael's)	6 Jan	12.00pm	Fr David Drake-Brockman RIP (Leeds)
Thursday	7 Jan	12.00pm	Canon Philip Fitzgerald (Leeds) RIP
Friday	8 Jan	12.00pm	Winnie Kilroy RIP
Saturday	9 Jan	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Saturday (St Michael's)	9 Jan	5.30pm	Reta Nicholson RIP
Sunday (St Michael's)	10 Jan	9.00am	Maureen Singleton RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	10 Jan	11.00am	People of the Parish

"The Word was made flesh, he lived among us."

During the Second World War all the signposts were removed from British roads in case the country was invaded. It was hoped that the enemy would get lost, running round in circles, long enough for defensive measures to be taken. Of course, the country was not invaded and inevitably it was the resident population that got confused and lost. There are many stories of what happened in those days, including one about a brave woman who made a remarkable journey. She drove an old Ford van from a small village in north Lincolnshire, with the aid of a road atlas, all the way to an RAF station in Oxfordshire. What made her even more courageous was the fact that in those days you didn't need to pass a driving test and she had hardly learned to drive. Yet she managed to find her way across the country, from one village to another, in order to meet her husband who was on a twenty-four-hour leave, and then find her way back. All for true love.

For a lot of people today life is like that: going from day to day without the signposts that religion provides or what has been called a "moral compass". Some people do take seriously wrong turnings in life and get completely lost; and it is a terrible grief to their families when this happens. But the majority find their way through life. In today's Gospel, John explains how it is that people manage to find their way. He tells us there is a light in everyone: a light "that enlightens all" whoever they are, people of all religions and faiths, or of none at all; atheists and agnostics, saints and sinners all have this inner light, which guides us through life. It means common sense, natural understanding, wisdom, conscience, instinctive knowledge, reason – call it what you will, this light – everyone has it. John gave a name to this light that everyone has within them. He calls it "the Word". What he says may be a little subtle, though hopefully not too obscure for us. He is writing originally to Greeks, whose philosophers used this term *logos*, "word", meaning by it an inner perception or reason. Aristotle taught that it is the innate sense that enables a human being to distinguish between good and evil. St John Henry Newman explained it to be conscience, the voice of God.

One day St Paul was strolling around ancient Athens, admiring its sacred monuments, when he came across an altar inscribed, "To an unknown God". Paul

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www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live_videos/

stood there and explained who this God is, this God they did not know. It is Jesus, he declared. Similarly, St John disclosed, this Word within everyone has become a human being, Jesus Christ. "The Word was made flesh" and "lived among us". We saw God's glory. The Word, which speaks to everyone within their minds, now had a body and can speak for all to hear.

We don't have to look very far to find God. We need only look into ourselves, at this light within us. And then read the scriptures. We then recognise that the voice that speaks within us as we listen to it is the voice of Jesus, whose words we find in the scriptures. In St John Henry Newman's novel *Callista*, the title character has to explain what she means by "God". She answers: "I feel God within my heart. I feel myself in his presence. He says to me, 'Do this: don't do that'... it is the echo of a person speaking to me. Nothing shall persuade me that it does not ultimately proceed from a person external to me... My nature feels towards it as towards a person. When I obey it, I feel a satisfaction; when I disobey, a soreness – just like that which I feel in pleasing or offending some revered friend."

In the Gospel, John gives this promise to those who recognise the voice of Jesus within themselves and follow him: "to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God". St Paul became a changed person when he recognised the voice of Jesus. And that is why he prayed for Christians in Ephesus (and by implication for us, too): "May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit."

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Paddy McNicholas, 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 soul of Ethel Dobson who died recently. Please keep her family and friends in 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/ Another way is to donate 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`.

CAFOD Volunteers Required.

Join our CAFOD Volunteer Team: Just a few hours a month could help us to share updates and enable our parish community to take action for global justice. Please help us to keep the conversations about human rights, social justice and climate action going, and stay connected with those who are impacted by poverty and injustice. You will be supported by Angela Powell, our local CAFOD worker for the Diocese. Contact Angela for more details apowell@cafod.org.uk or sign up here www.cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Sign-up

Mass Offerings

There are plenty of Masses available for your intentions, especially for weekday masses. Please use one of the specially printed envelopes from the back of church, or you can send an email or telephone.

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