

## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
God's words will be placed on the lips of a Moses-like prophet who is raised up from among his kinsfolk.

**Responsorial Psalm** 94:1-2,6-9  
O that today you would listen to his voice!  
Harden not your hearts

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 7:32-35  
Paul sees the unmarried person as single-mindedly committed to the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

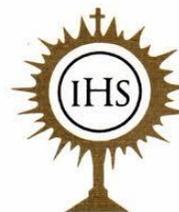
**Alleluia!**

### Gospel

Mark 1:21-28  
Jesus speaks with an authority that leaves the people spellbound, and with a similar authority he drives out evil spirits.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Declan Brett.

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Sunday Year B

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere."*

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>30 Jan</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Dennis Turner Birthday Intention
<b>Sunday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>31 Jan</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>31 Jan</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Bill Callaghan RIP
Tuesday	2 Feb	12.00pm	<b>NO MASS</b>
Wednesday (St Michael's)	3 Feb	12.00pm	<b>NO MASS</b>
Thursday	4 Feb	12.00pm	<b>NO MASS</b>
Friday	5 Feb	12.00pm	<b>NO MASS</b>
Saturday	6 Feb	12.00pm	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>6 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Fr Michael Sullivan RIP (Leeds)
<b>Sunday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>7 Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>7 Feb</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	All Priests, keep them safe.

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:

[www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live \\_ videos/](https://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live_videos/)

"And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere": that is how today's Gospel ends, but it is by no means the end of the story; Jesus' reputation has continued to spread for the past two thousand years and across all the continents. There are countless souls whose lives he has touched and, in some cases, transformed totally; millions upon millions of ordinary people – people like ourselves – who have, to a greater or lesser extent, come to know and love him.

In 1991 the British boxer Michael Watson was left permanently paralysed after a bout with Chris Eubank. The brain surgeon who conducted the initial operation on Michael thought he would die; later, the doctors said that he would never walk again. But twelve years later he managed to complete the London Marathon; he walked it at the rate of two hours each morning and two hours each afternoon, finally completing the whole course in six days. He was accompanied on the last leg of his marathon by the man who had brought disaster into his life; they'd become good friends. Indeed, Watson eventually wondered if it had been a disaster after all. "Getting angry", he said, "won't change the past. Before the accident I wasn't a Christian. Now Jesus is my inspiration. How can you fail to be moved by the words of Jesus on the cross: 'Father, forgive them'?"

The Jewish people revered Moses; they looked upon him as the greatest of their prophets, the greatest of God's spokespeople, but as we heard in today's first reading, Moses promised: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves." That was the promise; the Gospel in dramatic fashion shows its fulfilment.

It's the sabbath day; in the local synagogue Jesus is invited to preach. The people are deeply impressed. In their astonishment, they ask each other what it can all mean. Jesus is a prophet like no other; his teaching is teaching with a difference: for he teaches with authority. Other religious leaders simply pass on what they've learned from others, but Jesus' teaching seems to well up from within himself. And he displays this authority not only in his words but also in his actions: he puts unclean spirits, devils, to flight. It's been said that in Mark's Gospel Jesus does not merely

appear on the scene, he explodes onto it. His appearance is dramatic. Who can ignore a man like this? Indeed, who is he? Where does his power come from?

So Mark's Gospel isn't only a drama: it's a challenge. What do I make of Jesus Christ? Who is he for me? Who is he, not just in theory but in practice; not just on Sundays but in the living of my daily life? And what about evil spirits? Did Jesus come to conquer them? In our modern, scientific world, we perhaps smile a little at the very mention of such beings. But are there not evil forces in each of us, forces that threaten our well-being and that of others, dark forces like pride, selfishness, lust, envy and bitterness that can so easily come bubbling up to the surface? And might not these be described as evil spirits? And then on the world stage, too: if we think of wars, crimes, ethnic cleansings, terrorism, the use of torture, and global warming caused by human misuse of the world's resources – we might ask what drives human beings to do these things.

If today's Gospel highlights the authority of Christ's teaching, it is perhaps not surprising that the responsorial psalm should urge us to "listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts." And if we listen, what shall we hear? Many things, but it will all come down to this: your God loves you, you are God's child; God has prepared a place for you in God's kingdom. Do not be afraid, God can conquer every evil that threatens your happiness. Live for God and for your sisters and brothers. When the people in the synagogue heard Jesus preach, they said: "Here is a teaching that is new." And when we truly listen to him – not merely with our ears but our hearts – then his teaching is always new, always carrying an appeal and a freshness, as though we were hearing it for the first time. It is always Gospel, always good news.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Amy Moore, 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.

### **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/](http://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`.**

**\*\* Please note there will be no weekday masses this week \*\***

### **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
0 Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help	Pray for us