

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 21st February 2021

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday Year B

Weekday Cycle II

“Repent, and believe the Good News.”

1st Sunday of Lent

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

After the flood, the rainbow is described as God’s promise not to destroy the earth.

Responsorial Psalm 24:4-9

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

St Peter reminds his readers that the Noah story now takes on a new meaning. The water of baptism is not the means of washing off dirt or destroying what is unclean, but a source of new life, a life with and in God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:12-15

After his temptations in the wilderness, Jesus begins his ministry with the call to repentance.

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michael’s)	20 Feb	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Michael’s)	21 Feb	9.00am	Deceased Grant & Howitt Families
Sunday (St Helen’s)	21 Feb	11.00am	Kristina Olczyk RIP
Tuesday	23 Feb	12.00pm	Deceased Members of the Foody Family
Wednesday (St Michael’s)	24 Feb	12.00pm	Vernon Hooper RIP
Thursday	25 Feb	12.00pm	Ben Goddard RIP
Friday	26 Feb	12.00pm	Christine Cooper, Illness Intention
Saturday	27 Feb	12.00pm	Angela Hays RIP
Saturday (St Michael’s)	27 Feb	5.30pm	Anne Marie Dodds RIP
Sunday (St Michael’s)	28 Feb	9.00am	Mark Wainwright RIP
Sunday (St Helen’s)	28 Feb	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:

[www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live _ videos/](https://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live_-_videos/)

It was around a year ago, during Lent, that many of us entered a sort of wilderness as we began the experience of lockdown, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Our ways of communication changed significantly. The things we took for granted – communicating with handshakes, hugs and kisses, gatherings with family and friends around the dinner table, worshipping together in church buildings – were replaced for many people by virtual meetings and group discussions using social media and smartphones.

As we become more reliant on such devices, we’ve probably had to become acquainted with the language that accompanies them: for example, “restore factory settings” – whereby phones and other computing devices are calibrated to their original settings – and “software updates”, when they are enhanced with the most recent settings, supposedly to make them more secure and effective. We could apply these two concepts to today’s readings, with the “factory settings” being the ancient stories which helped the Hebrew people fix their identity as God’s chosen people, and the “software upgrade” offered by Peter in his first letter, in which he updates that ancient story in the light of the ministry of Jesus.

The word “repent”, which we heard in today’s Gospel, is derived from the Greek word *metanoia*, which means a change of heart, seeing things differently, a new direction, a fresh beginning. The Gospel writers tell us that it was after John the Baptist had been arrested that Jesus began his mission with the message, “Repent, and believe the Good News.” Jesus prepared for this by spending time in the wilderness, where he was, in Mark’s words, “tempted by Satan”. Matthew and Luke give more details of his temptations, telling of how the devil tried to persuade Jesus to turn stones into bread, or to seek political power and influence, or to abandon his commitment to the kingdom of God.

Our first two readings use images relating to water to convey the idea of a new start. The covenant between God and Noah, made after the great flood, is symbolised by the rainbow, which is itself caused by light refracting through water droplets. Through the water of baptism, referred to by Peter in his letter, we are saved by a pledge “made to God from a good conscience”, not from fear. This is the repentance, the change of direction, which Jesus preached – going forward with joy, knowing that the Lord is with us.

Epic stories of a great flood are found in the mythologies of many ancient peoples, and the writers of the book of Genesis took these narratives into their own context in order to make sense of the world in which they lived. In his first letter, Peter sees the Noah story through a new lens, the lens of Jesus as the beloved Son of God, the central figure of the new covenant. When Peter, on Pentecost day, addressed the crowd in the Acts of the Apostles, he spoke of the promise made “for you and your children, and for all those who are far away”. We may be far away in both distance and time from that crowd gathered two thousand years ago in the dusty streets of Jerusalem, but the message is the same. The Good News came for our time too.

So, as we carry the Gospel story with us today, how will we spend our Lenten time in the wilderness, a place where we can really get down to basics? The Palestinian wilderness was a dangerous place and Jesus had to confront the risks. Mark’s account mentions wild beasts, but also that there were angels to look after Jesus. We are never going to be able to escape all danger in this world. We have to face it and find solutions. Like Jesus, we can be assured that we are being looked after and guided to a place of safety. In our prayers, especially in situations that we find difficult and challenging, we can ask for his help and inspiration. We can discuss our problems with each other, and try to find solutions that are helpful and achievable. And we can remember above all that, as was promised through the sign of the rainbow, God is present with us always. As Jesus assures us in the Gospel, “the kingdom of God is close at hand”. If we open our minds and hearts, we will find it.

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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, 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.

Requiescat in Pace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Terence Dyson who died recently. Please keep his 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 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`.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 26th February 2021

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10

KSC Easter Egg Appeal

“The Knights of St. Columba are looking for donations of Easter Eggs to give to children in hospital at Barnsley General. If anyone wants to make a donation we will collect from the churches and will also buy some eggs from our funds.”

Stations of the Cross

As we can’t meet up physically with Anglican friends in Goldthorpe (as we often have in previous years) Fr Carl Schaefer of St John and St Mary Magdalene’s church invites us to join their live-streamed Stations of the Cross each Friday of Lent at 6pm. All welcome. www.parishofgoldthorpeandhickleton.co.uk

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