

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

**First Reading** Gen 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

Abraham is the great Old Testament figure of faith. At the age of seventy-five he answered the call of God and set off for an unknown land.

**Responsorial Psalm** 115:10,15-19

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Second Reading** Romans 8:31-34

Pauli poses questions: "With God on our side who can be against us?" "When God acquits, could anyone condemn?" The answer is "No!"

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:

"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mark 9:2-10

For the second time in the Gospels, at Jesus' transfiguration, the voice of the Father informs the disciples that Jesus is the Father's beloved Son and adds, "Listen to him."

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>27 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Anne Marie Dodds RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>28 Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Mark Wainwright RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>28 Feb</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2 Mar</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	Deceased Members of the Callaghan Family
<b>Wednesday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>3 Mar</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	Enid Finean RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4 Mar</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	Deceased Members of the Taylor Family
<b>Friday</b>	<b>5 Mar</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	Louisa Leeman RIP
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6 Mar</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	Holy Souls
<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>6 Mar</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>7 Mar</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Mrs Margaret Bennett RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>7 Mar</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Terence Dyson RIP

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](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live)

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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

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Sunday 28th February 2021

Sunday Year B

Second Sunday of Lent

Weekday Cycle II

"Take your son' God said... offer him as a burnt offering."

Even in an age when much formality from the past has been discarded, some things don't change. A good example is the list of social conventions that still operate. For example, when we meet people we have not seen before, a polite handshake has long been the norm – at least, until the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic required us to socially distance – whereas we are much less formal with family and friends. Convention is determined by many factors – age is one. Conventions dictated by formal practice are nowadays probably more regularly seen among those of an older age range, whereas young people may be much less formal within their social settings. Convention, of course, differs from culture to culture and also from one age group to another, and the setting is also important. It's interesting to observe how people's behaviour varies according to how at ease they are – or not – with others. When we know people well, it is easy to relate to them in a relaxed manner, but when we don't have that familiarity, or if we're unsure of the possible reaction of the person we have just met, then we might be more wary.

It's in the latter situation that we find Abraham when, slowly but surely, he is getting to know the God he had not known until he was seventy-five years old. Abraham made himself a backup plan. He left most of his family behind, but brought along his wealthy nephew, Lot; Abraham left *much* of his wealth, but not by any means all of it. Later on in the story, Abraham will seek clarification from God to see if the deal is still on. And then, as we heard in today's first reading, Abraham is really put to the test. In his old age, at long last he has a son who will be his heir: Isaac, whose name means "he will laugh". Abraham's dream has come true; his prayers are answered. He can rely on God – or can he?

One day, Abraham is told by God to take his son Isaac to a place where he is to sacrifice the boy as a burnt offering. Abraham is distraught, but prepares to obey God. The journey is long and its account is painful to read. Isaac starts to ask why there is no animal for the sacrifice. Abraham evades the issue by saying that God will provide the sacrifice. The tension builds up until the point that Abraham is prepared to kill his son on the stone altar. Eventually Isaac must know what his father

