

3rd Sunday of Lent

First Reading Exodus 20:1-17
God does not let sin continue for ever. The commandments are also statements of fact.

Responsorial Psalm 18:8-11
You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

Second Reading 1Corinthians 1:22-25
Until we see God, God's wisdom will always look like foolishness to us.

Gospel John 2:13-25
The cleansing of the Temple by Christ warns us that he will continually cleanse the new temple of the Holy Spirit, which is his Church.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michael's)	6 Mar	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Michael's)	7 Mar	9.00am	Mrs Margaret Bennett RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	7 Mar	11.00am	Terence Dyson RIP
Tuesday	9 Mar	12.00pm	Louisa Leeman (Aunty) RIP
Wednesday (St Michael's)	10 Mar	12.00pm	Frank Shields (Illness)
Thursday	11 Mar	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Friday	12 Mar	12.00pm	Margaret and Alan Grayson RIP
Saturday	13 Mar	12.00pm	Louie Leeman RIP
Saturday (St Michael's)	13 Mar	5.30pm	Jack and Vera O'Connell RIP
Sunday (St Michael's)	14 Mar	9.00am	Mrs Margaret Bennett RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	14 Mar	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

Sunday 7th March 2021

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday Year B

Weekday Cycle II

"Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up."

The Old Testament has what may seem a surprisingly small vocabulary, which means that the same word can mean many different things. This is one reason why translations of the Old Testament can be so different from each other. Remarkably, the Hebrew word for "word" is a good example of this. It can mean "word" or "thing". In the Hebrew mind, "words" are "things" – they have just as much substance as any other "thing". This is not so odd as it might seem. Although few of us may have noticed it, we do something similar in English with "thing" and "think". A "thing" is something you can think of.

In Hebrew the word has a special power in the sense of God's words. Human beings use words to describe things, but God uses words to bring things into being. So in the first reading today, we have the famous Ten Commandments, except the word for "commandment" is actually the word for "word"; it is really ten "words", rather than ten "commandments". Yet we speak of the ten "commandments" rather than the ten "words". With God, a word is both a commandment and a statement of fact. God's words come true. Sin will end for those who enter heaven and even for those who reject God, sin will be limited. The frustration of the evil will is the greatest of punishments in hell. God does not allow us to sin for ever. We should not think of God's commandments as human laws, which may or may not be obeyed. In the end God's kingdom will come and God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We see this in the story of the cleansing of the Temple in the Gospel.

In today's Gospel reading, Christ cleanses the Temple in Jerusalem. When he is challenged about his actions, he responds with these words, "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." His victory is guaranteed and the resurrection is the sign of that victory. Even though the historic Jerusalem Temple will be destroyed, the risen Christ and the Church which is his body will triumph. The destruction of the Temple and the death of Christ are caused by sin, but Christ will triumph over sin and death. In purifying the Temple now, Christ shows that his resurrection is about creating a new life.

This is one reason why the Church continues to sing the Old Testament psalms. The psalms speak of victory, often in militaristic terms, and this can seem strange and

even offensive to our way of thinking. The key is that the victory is not ours but God's. God will win, and God does not need us to bring about that victory by force. Instead we are called to believe and hope in God's victory, the victory we prepare for by prayer. Much will be destroyed before that victory comes, but what is destroyed, the Lord can raise up again, as Christ says later in John's Gospel: "Now the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day." We see so much degradation and ruin in the world, often caused by human sins, but there is nothing that falls that cannot be raised again, until we come to the place where the true temple stands for ever.

If God is going to win, then what is our role in God's victory? It is quite simple: we are called to believe and hope in that victory, and by love share the fruits of that victory with others. There are signs of the kingdom to come here on earth, and there are small victories over evil, which can give us hope and protect us from despair. While we live on earth as Christians, we live in the temple because we are the temple, which is why we are called to purify ourselves to keep the temple pure. This is why self-examination is the foundation of all progress. If we fight injustice, or prejudice, we must start by considering our own injustice, to be constantly trying to overcome our own prejudices, and we must be honest here, even if it is painful for us to do so. We will fail if we rely on our own power, but we can remember that Christ is with us; he will teach us the truth and set us free.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Claire Selby, 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 Paul Galvin who died on 3rd March. 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

Thank you for your generous donations. So far, the parish has received over £300 to send to CAFOD. 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

Diocesan Caring Services

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Diocesan Caring Services. The Diocese of Hallam Caring Services is an affiliation of projects and organisations, serving the social needs of the Church and wider community within South Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and part of North Derbyshire. The Family Focus Project offers support and information at all stages of the family life cycle.

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."

Online Stations of the Cross Fridays in Lent at 6.00pm

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

You may have experienced difficulties accessing the online Stations of the Cross. If you see a message about using MS Teams when you click on the joining 'link', choose the option 'Watch on the web' and then 'join anonymously'.

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