

<p><b>5th Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>First Reading</b> Acts 9:26-31          Barnabas introduces Saul to the apostles, preparing the way for the mission of the future apostle, Paul.</p> <p><b>Responsorial Psalm</b> 21: 26-28, 30-32          You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> 1 John 3:18-24          We know that God lives in us when the Holy Spirit enables us to believe in Jesus and love one another as he told us to.</p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b>  <b>Alleluia, Alleluia!</b>          Make my home in me, as I make mine in you.          Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.  <b>Alleluia!</b></p> <p><b>Gospel</b> John 15:1-8          Just as the branch has to be attached to the vine if it is to bear fruit, so we have to be united to Christ if we are to bear the fruits of love.</p>
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## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021

Sunday Year B

5th Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

*"Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty."*

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>1 May</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Mary and John Coefield RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>2 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>2 May</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Francis and Cassandra Parkin RIP
Tuesday	4 May	9.30am	Prayer for Survivors of Abuse
Wednesday (St Michael's)	5 May	12.00pm	For an increase of priests and religious
Thursday	6 May	12.00pm	John Vincent Cutts RIP
Friday	7 May	12.00pm	Margaret Mary Goddard RIP
Saturday	8 May	12.00pm	In thanksgiving for Sisters' vocations
<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>8 May</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Donald Whitney RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>9 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>9 May</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	George, Mary and 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)

When Covid-19 struck our world, we had to learn a new way to be human. Things that we used to think of as normal behaviour, even polite behaviour, became unacceptable – no shaking hands, embracing or kissing outside our own immediate circle. Social distancing became necessary to restrict the spread of the virus. New recommendations were promoted with ever-growing confusion in the instructions people were given: stay two metres apart; or maybe one metre was sufficient, so long as there were added precautions; masks *may* be worn, *should* be worn, *must* be worn in a variety of circumstances. We were told to stay at home and to meet with no one outside our own household; then the guidance changed so we could meet with certain numbers of people, outside but not inside. For many of us, it all became increasingly muddled and confusing.

As human beings we are social animals. We live in a society. We need other people. Our world only works because we live and work together. Social isolation, being cut off from one another, for most of us, is akin to death, and yet, in a pandemic, social integration can indeed lead to death. Our world has been turned upside down.

Today, in the Gospel reading about the vine, Jesus teaches us a new way to live in relationship with God. He uses the well-known image of the vine. In an agricultural society, people will understand how to get the best out of a vine. If the grapes are to develop so that they can be turned into good wine, they need careful management. The energy of the plant has to be directed to the fruit through proper pruning. The vine cannot be left to do its own thing or it will simply produce lots of leaves and poor quality grapes. There is an obvious connection between root and branch, leaf and fruit – they share the one life. Cut off from that life, they shrivel and die.

This same interdependence Jesus describes for us as the relationship which gives us eternal life. We are one with him and with each other, sharing the one life, his life, and in this way we can live with him and like him and produce the fruits of his love. But, Jesus warns us, the vine cannot be left to its own devices; it needs a vinedresser to manage its growth and encourage its fruitfulness, and God is such a vinedresser. God knows us and knows what part of us needs to be cut away and what needs

encouragement. We are in partnership with God to produce the best version of ourselves, the best fruit, the best wine.

In the wake of the pandemic, we have to re-evaluate our role. In their attempts to end lockdown and get the economy moving, governments may have given the impression that human beings are simply cogs in the great economic machine. Is this God's vision? One thing we have learned from the pandemic is that human life is precious. It is worth putting the world on hold to preserve life. Those who save lives and help keep life safe are as valuable as those who produce wealth. The cleaners, the carers, those who keep our supply chains moving, who were once considered to be less important, are now recognised for the vital role they play in our lives.

When we look at our world through the looking glass of our faith, we see just how interconnected we really are. We are all created in the image and likeness of God, who is love. We are created for love, to love and to be loved, and this love is not restricted to our nearest and dearest. We belong together. We need each other, just as the various parts of the vine need to be connected to the entire plant. Roots, stem, branches, leaves and fruit are all bonded in a purposeful unity. But this is just a tiny example of the unity of the entire cosmos, from the great galaxies and planets, to the smallest particles of matter. All have their place, all work together. As human beings in our little fragment of this entire universe, we have been graced by God with a particular responsibility: to show that love is the overriding force binding all things together. If Covid-19 has taught us this lesson, perhaps it will all have been worthwhile.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Janette Barber, 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**

We pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Andrew Harvey who died recently. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

### **Annual Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse**

The service will take place at St. Vincent's Mission Hub, Solly Street, Sheffield, S1 4DE at 7.00pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

To book a place please contact Fr. Andrew Browne by telephone 01142844048 (leave a message if unavailable and he will return your call) or email [Andrew.BrowneSAP@atholicsafeguarding.org.uk](mailto:Andrew.BrowneSAP@atholicsafeguarding.org.uk)

Please be aware that this is specifically a Service and not a Mass

## **CAFOD**

Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent and for taking part in our 'Walks for Water'. In Lent 2018 we featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe, we are pleased to let you know that the community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.

### **Red Mission Boxes**

Please bring in your Red Mission Boxes at your earliest convenience. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider using Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and for your continued prayers for missionaries around the world.

### **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/](https://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`**

### **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