

## 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Ezekiel 17:22-24  
The Lord has spoken – God will carry out God's word.

**Responsorial Psalm** 91: 2-3,13-16  
It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

**Second Reading** 2 Corinthians 5:6-10  
We walk by faith and not by sight.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, Alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

### Alleluia!

### Gospel

 Mark 4:26-34

This is what God's kingdom is like – and how it grows.

# 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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Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Sunday Year B

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"This is what the kingdom of God is like."*

## Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michael`s)	12 Jun	5.30pm	Valerie Hovington RIP
Sunday (St Michael`s)	13 Jun	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	13 Jun	11.00am	Colin Barker RIP
Tuesday	15 Jun	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	16 Jun	12.00pm	Most Forgotten Souls
Thursday	17 Jun	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Friday	18 Jun	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Saturday	19 Jun	12.00pm	In Thanksgiving
Saturday (St Michael`s)	19 Jun	5.30pm	Jack and Vera O`Connell RIP
Sunday (St Michael`s)	20 Jun	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	20 Jun	11.00am	Barry Cooper 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](https://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live)

Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador, was brutally martyred while celebrating Mass in March 1980. He had been outspoken in his condemnation of poverty, social injustice, assassinations and torture used in the vicious war between left-wing and right-wing forces in El Salvador. In 2018, he was proclaimed a saint and martyr by Pope Francis, who praised his ministry among the most poor and marginalised people. But Romero wasn't always feted by the Church. On the one hand, he found himself frustrated in his efforts by a large number of his own clergy who collaborated with the oppressive government; and on the other hand, his ministry was undermined by a Vatican policy which refused his request to condemn the government's violations of human rights.

It would be easy to portray Romero as a lone voice, powerless in the face of implacable odds. But in fact, by means of his weekly Sunday broadcasts to the nation, he was able to make sure that his small voice was amplified by being received and welcomed by the ordinary people of El Salvador. His single voice resonated in the seeds of hope it planted in the hearts of those who longed for a better future.

The ministry of Oscar Romero is itself a parable of the mystery of the kingdom of God which Jesus announces – the kingdom which encapsulates humanity's deepest hopes. Jesus' first parable today tells us that just as seed grows without the knowledge or activity of the farmer who sowed it, so God's kingdom will grow in the same unstoppable way. The seed has an inner dynamic to grow and become a rich harvest. It's a wonderful expression of the power of God at work in our world, irrespective of human efforts either to encourage or to thwart that growth. It conveys absolute trust in God's power to achieve God's purposes and realise God's plan, which is the flourishing of the kingdom in all its fullness – a kingdom of love, justice, peace and freedom. The parable contains a hope-filled promise: the harvest time will come. This image of reaping the harvest is drawn from the prophet Joel, who affirmed his absolute certainty that, no matter what, God's plan will be accomplished.

Jesus' second parable expresses a related truth about the kingdom. This time Jesus draws imagery from the prophet Ezekiel, who spoke of God's kingdom becoming like

a mighty cedar towering above all others, offering protection and security to all peoples, represented by the birds of every kind which can rest in its shade. Jesus uses the example of the mustard seed to respond to those who question his vision of the future greatness of the kingdom he is ushering in. Although the kingdom has only small beginnings – rooted in the life and ministry of one man, Jesus – just like the mustard seed, it has the potential of greatness within it and can become the biggest of all shrubs, able to offer welcome to all.

Oscar Romero knew how to “broadcast” – to scatter seed, to disseminate hope – even in the darkest of times. He trusted that God’s plan, God’s preferential love for those who are poor, would not be thwarted. He shared the conviction expressed by Martin Luther King that the moral universe – we might say the kingdom of God – always “arcs towards justice”, even if, like the farmer, we don’t understand how that happens. And he believed that the kingdom of God offers welcome to all – no matter how small or marginalised they might be. Romero knew that he had his own small part to play in scattering the seed, but he had the assurance that, ultimately, the work – and the victory – belong to God alone. This was the basis of his confident hope.

His famous prayer sums up the part each one of us is called to play in the growth of the kingdom: “The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision... We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise... We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well... We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.”

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Paddy McNicholas, Peter Hutchinson, 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.

### **Day for Life, 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> June 2021 Second Collection**

This day, Inaugurated by St. John Paul II, presents an opportunity to pray for the gift of life from conception to natural death and to raise awareness of the precious gift of life.

This year’s theme for Day for Life focuses on assisted suicide and the respect owed to life. Day or Life is a simple, practical response against ‘the use and throw away logic’ often at the heart of a culture which seeks to abandon its elderly, sick and dying when ‘they no longer serve our interests’.

In 2020 there was no annual collection due to the pandemic, funds are very much depleted at a time when threats to life have never been greater.

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