

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

**First Reading** 1 Kings 19:4-8  
Elijah, afraid for his life and discouraged, prays to die but God has other plans for him.

**Responsorial Psalm** 33:2-9  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Second Reading** Ephesians 4:30-5:2  
We should get rid of all negativity and, instead, try to imitate Jesus' love and forgiveness.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** John 6:41-51  
Jesus is the bread of life, come down from heaven for the eternal life of all who eat of it.

## 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 8th August 2021

Sunday Year B

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven."*

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>7 Aug</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Fr Brian Davies RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>8 Aug</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>8 Aug</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Brian McAllister RIP
Tuesday	10 Aug	12.00pm	
Wednesday (St Michael's)	11 Aug	12.00pm	Rosemary Pells RIP
Thursday (St. Helen's)	12 Aug	7.00pm	Deceased Members of the Foody Family
Friday (Sacred Heart)	13 Aug	12.00pm	Maureen Walton RIP
Saturday <b>(St Michael's)</b>	14 Aug	12.00pm	Elizabeth Daley RIP
<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>14 Aug</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Mary and Jim Fleming RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>15 Aug</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Gwen Walsh RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>15 Aug</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	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](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiDearneValley/live)

One day in mid-1950s China, soldiers locked a village's parish priest, Père Luc, a Frenchman and member of the Society for the Foreign Missions, into the sacristy and went away, thinking that there would be no escape. They left a desecrated church, the shattered, empty tabernacle and the consecrated hosts scattered across the sanctuary. Yet, for a ten-year-old girl named Li, the soldiers' actions provided the opportunity for outstanding heroism. From his sacristy prison, her parish priest saw the child sneak into the ruined church building and go down on her hands and knees. Unseen by the soldiers, Li crawled into the sanctuary, where she picked up and swallowed a single host. She repeated this for several days, knowing that she risked her life.

One morning, a soldier entered the church, saw Li crawling around and shot her in the back, killing her. The soldier was so appalled at his own act that he released the parish priest and gave him time to bury Li. "Sir, if in every town there was such a little girl, no soldier would ever fight for the Communists," he said, before driving the priest to the border and safety. When Li's story hit the world's Catholic media, she became an iconic example of someone whose love for Jesus' presence in the Eucharist was more important than life itself.

In some of the Gospel stories, we can understand the confusion of the people who listened to Jesus. They had known him since he was a child, had watched him play and learn alongside their own children; together they had attended the local synagogue and travelled to Jerusalem for the celebration of the major Jewish festivals. The same people knew Mary and Joseph, and had spent time with them at the well and at the market, and they may have visited Joseph's workshop. They could probably list all the relatives who lived in Nazareth and the outlying villages. How could Jesus claim to be special, to have heavenly origins? It didn't make sense.

In the scene in today's Gospel, they have just heard Jesus declare that, through him, they could enjoy eternal life. Surely eternal life was in God's gift, so was this young man saying that he was equal to God, with whom Jesus said that he had a unique relationship? They complained to each other about these unlikely claims. Yet Jesus persisted. He declared himself to be "the living bread", which they must eat if

they wanted to live for ever. Was he inviting them to cannibalism? Were they listening to a madman or to a blasphemer? No wonder they were confused. Jesus' listeners thought that they knew him, but they didn't. To use a familiar saying, they were guilty of judging a book by its cover: they saw the man but couldn't understand his message. This isn't really surprising: two thousand years later, we are still discovering its meaning, sometimes also arguing about it and sometimes, like Li, finding it more precious than life itself.

Very few people, if any, can say that they really know us at the very depths of who we are and what we can become. Before Li died protecting the Blessed Sacrament, her parents probably thought their daughter extraordinary only because she was special to them and they loved her so much. As her parents, they probably thought that they knew her – but surely they hadn't seen her as a future heroine and martyr? The people of Jesus' home town certainly didn't see his presence among them as a life-changing event. How many of them thought deeply about his claim that he was "the bread of life" and their route to eternal life? Instead of listening to his words, they rejected them and turned away from Jesus.

What about ourselves? Think about the times of lockdown in the Covid-19 pandemic. We discovered that people we'd never really known or noticed performed acts of incredible generosity and kindness. Local heroes and heroines seemed to be popping up everywhere. Perhaps we'd never previously realised that our neighbours and even complete strangers had such amazingly big hearts. Time and again, we heard of and saw people who put their own lives on hold in order to care for someone else. They put themselves second and others first. Were we inspired and encouraged by such goodness? Did it help to make our own life worth living? Isn't it wonderful to look more deeply than usual into someone else's heart and to expose the buried treasure?

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Chris Haigh, Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Amy Moore, 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

### **Requiescant in Pace**

We pray for the souls of Antony Wildsmith, Toni Prictoe and Espiridion S Ingalla who died recently. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers

### **Rosary and Marist Meeting**

Rosary will be at 1.30pm each Wednesday at Sacred Heart Church Goldthorpe. The Marist Meeting will recommence every month starting 11th August at 2pm after the Rosary.

### **Dearne Churches Together**

The next DCT meeting will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August at 10.45am at Goldthorpe Pentecostal Community Church. All are welcome to attend.

### **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**

### **Change to Masses**

Following the lifting of Covid restrictions on 19<sup>th</sup> July, it is finally possible to reopen our churches of St Helen's in Hoyland and Sacred Heart in Goldthorpe. For the time being, there will be 7.00pm mass in Hoyland on Thursdays and at noon on Fridays in Goldthorpe. Sunday morning mass at 9.00am will also be held in Goldthorpe from 1<sup>st</sup> August.

Please continue to take care, the virus has not gone away, do not attend any of the church services if you are feeling unwell or have any Covid symptoms, and keep using the hand sanitiser, wash your hands regularly, and wear a mask if you prefer to.

### **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