

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Isaiah 35:4-7  
God offers courage to all those with faith.

**Responsorial Psalm** 145:7-10  
My soul, give praise to the Lord.

**Second Reading** James 2:1-5  
Do not be deferential to those with riches or power.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mark 7:31-37  
Our call to have “hearts without borders”.

# 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 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Sunday Year B

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle III

*“It was those who are poor according to the world that God chose to be... the heirs of the kingdom.”*

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> (Live streamed)	<b>4 Sept</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Elizabeth Daley RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>5 Sept</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Barbara Campbell RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s)	<b>5 Sept</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
Tuesday ( <del>St. Michael`s</del> ) Live Streamed	7 Sept	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	8 Sept	12.00pm	John Vincent Cutts RIP
Thursday (St. Helen`s)	9 Sept	7.00pm	Brian McAllister RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	10 Sept	12.00pm	Jack Barry RIP
Saturday (Live streamed)	11 Sept	12.00pm	Fr Andrew Smith O Praem
<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>11 Sept</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Irene Kenny RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>12 Sept</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Kitty Bainbridge RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s)	<b>12 Sept</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish

David Simas is CEO of the Obama Foundation, which works to “inspire, empower, and connect people to change their world”. He speaks about how President Obama greeted those he met, offering us an insight into valuing each person based on the riches which lie within, rather than externals, such as rank and power. David says that because of the strict security precautions, President Obama rarely went in the front door of any building. He usually arrived through the basement or back entrance of a building; the garbage bins were everywhere and Barack Obama would use the service elevator. It was usually noisy and there was a person whose job it was to open and close the door. Every time without fail, and without any cameras present, Barack Obama would ask the person, “Who are you? Tell me a little about yourself.” President Obama acknowledged every single person with the same respect, whether they were the Queen of the United Kingdom or the person working in the lift. Both were worthy of respect and received Barack Obama’s undivided attention. For both the person operating the lift and for any other person, whatever their status in the world’s eyes, such recognition and warmth related not to their position or power, but only to the person they were, to the beauty and potential within their hearts.

In today’s readings the riches of the kingdom of heaven are offered to those who are poor, deaf and blind, who are chosen to remind us that God does not have preferences of culture, class or race. We might say God only views us through one lens – the lens of the heart. We are being asked to look beyond external appearances and to see the holiness and beauty within the heart of others. It’s not always obvious at first sight, but we are called to look through God’s lens, God’s eyes. In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah speaks of a time of joy to come, when “the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed” and the tongues of those without words will “sing for joy”. It would seem that the Lord is offering everything to those who, having little or nothing in this world, still cling on to faith and hope; to these the prophet proclaims the words of God, “Courage! Do not be afraid... your God... is coming to save you.”

It is apparent from today's second reading that St James does not feel that faith in Christ Jesus is compatible with making distinctions between classes of people. We are offered a very clear example of preferential treatment being given to a rich man, while a poor man is ignored, left to "stand over there" or to "sit on the floor". Our own partiality may not be as obvious, though it can be just as real. We are reminded that it is those who are poor by the standards of our world whom God chooses to be rich in faith and to be beneficiaries of God's kingdom.

Jesus in the Gospel goes by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee. Taking this route brings Jesus into the world of the Gentiles, people regarded as being outside the love and care of the God of Israel. Jesus chooses to open the ears and give back the voice to a deaf man who has an impediment in his speech. Jesus is showing his love for this man, who is an outsider in the Jewish society of his day, by touching his ears and his tongue. Jesus is giving this man back his dignity as a beloved child of God, his Father. The man obviously has faith, as Jesus is able to cure him. We know from other healing stories in the Gospels that faith and trust would seem to be hallmarks of those chosen by God, those poor by the world's standards.

Reflecting on these readings offers us the opportunity to "open our ears" to God's call to have courage; to "open our eyes" to the living presence of God in all people; and to "open our hearts" to respect the inner beauty in every human soul. From a heart without borders, we will then be able to offer the unconditional love of God to all we meet.

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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, 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

### **Rosary and Marist Meeting**

Rosary will be at 1.30pm each Wednesday at Sacred Heart Church Goldthorpe. The Marist Meetings will be every month at 2.00pm after the Rosary, the next one being 15<sup>th</sup> September. All are welcome.

### **Dearne Churches Together**

The next Prayer Meeting will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 10.45am at Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe. ALL are welcome to attend.

### **Donations and Weekly Offerings**

Our PayPal account is now closed. If you have been making contributions this way, please pick up a Standing Order form after Mass.

Please note that the full name of the account is

**`Diocese of Hallam, Corpus Christi Parish`**

### **CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies across the world**

CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. We are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, we are working to ensure the safety of our local partners and their communities. We are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.]

### **Starting Again..**

As life slowly and very cautiously returns to something resembling normality, please note the resumption of the following:-

**Divine Mercy Chaplet** will resume Friday 3 September at St. Michael's Church at 3.00 pm.

**Lectio Divina** will resume Tuesday 14 September at the Lady Chapel of St. Michael's Church at 7.00 pm.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available after the noon Mass in Goldthorpe on Fridays, after the Divine Mercy Chaplet in Wombwell on Fridays, and starting at 6:15 pm in Hoyland on Thursdays. It is always available upon request.

### **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