

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Reading Genesis 2:18-24
God's original desire for humans is to find in each of us a bond of love that runs so deeply that we never feel alone.

Responsorial Psalm 127

May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

Second Reading Hebrews 2:9-11

Jesus was fully human and lived a human life, understanding all human needs.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 10:2-16

Jesus had deep concern for the welfare of wives and children, supporting the institution of marriage for the sake of the whole family's well-being.

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)	2 Oct	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	3 Oct	9.00am	Shirley Firth RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	3 Oct	11.00am	Thomas and Catherine Freaney RIP
Tuesday Live Streamed	5 Oct	12.00pm	
Wednesday (St Michael's)	6 Oct	12.00pm	Bernadette Hoult (Illness)
Thursday (St. Helen's)	7 Oct	7.00pm	Andy Andrews RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	8 Oct	12.00pm	
Saturday Live Streamed.	9 Oct	12.00pm	
Saturday (St Michael's)	9 Oct	5.30pm	Toni Prictoe RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	10 Oct	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	10 Oct	11.00am	William Andrews RIP

Divine Mercy Chaplet is at 3.00pm on Fridays at St. Michael's Church

Lectio Divina is at 7.00pm on Tuesdays in the Lady Chapel of St. Michael's Church

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, and is always available upon request.

Sunday 3rd October 2021

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time,

Sunday Year B

Weekday Cycle III

"Anyone who does not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Today's Gospel is about relationships, particularly involving women and children. More than that, it is about the status of women and children. Today there are many instances in the global south – especially in Africa and Asia – where widows, for example, can find themselves thrown out of households and destitute overnight. "When my husband died, my in-laws told me to get out, so I came to town and slept on the pavement," reported a widow in India. The shock of widowhood can entail a loss of economic means, including access to productive assets, such as land, as well as the loss of protection and status. Around the world there are many instances where children have little legal protection. Tens of thousands of young children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are driven by extreme poverty to seek work in mines, where they can be paid as little as £1.50 a day for backbreaking, dangerous work digging for cobalt rocks with primitive tools in dark, underground tunnels. The cobalt is used in our batteries, cars and smartphones.

In the UK the National Board of Catholic Women released a report last year on the devastating effects of a surge of domestic abuse on women during the Covid pandemic. Many children lived in families which experience violence. Catholics in England and Wales were encouraged to support projects helping vulnerable families. The Church emphasises that the essential nature of marriage is a commitment by the spouses to love and respect each other and nurture children, but many families can face tensions in their relationships.

Jesus gives us a lot to think about in today's Gospel. He speaks especially on behalf of married women and of children. Both were vulnerable in his society and had little value or official protection. Women were too often seen as property, without social power to protect themselves from the whims of a husband's disloyalty or disinterest. Jesus defends women and speaks out for the protection of marriage. He seems to accept the reality of separation in some marriages but the passage is less about the regulations for ordering relationships and more a glimpse or vision of God's loving plan. Jesus' words urge us to see the importance of marriage, rather than seeing commitment and love as fleeting.

Then Jesus rebukes the disciples who try to block children who are being brought by their parents for his blessing. "Let the little children come to me," says Jesus, "do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." While the disciples see the small children as unimportant, with little economic or social power, Jesus wants to meet them for they are precious and worthy of his blessing. To emphasise their value, he makes the claim, "I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Jesus blesses the children because he loves vulnerable people and has compassion for those whose innocence and powerlessness make them susceptible to abuse and exploitation.

So what does the deep concern that Jesus has for the welfare of women and children say to us today? It is clear that Jesus gives women equality in the marriage relationship. Jesus implies that adultery involves more than violating the property rights of another man or woman. It concerns accountability to a partner, just as marriage does. He highlights that every person is made in the image and likeness of God – both men and women. Because of that, every person is worthy of respect. Every person has great dignity. Every person is worthy of love. No one deserves to be disregarded or betrayed by partners or indeed by people known to their family. How can we respond to Jesus' teaching here? We could identify those in our community who need help – perhaps women recently widowed and feeling lonely or perhaps in families experiencing abuse – and support the church agencies and other service organisations that assist them. We could find ways to volunteer to help those in need, or visit someone we know who needs care and attention. Jesus teaches us not to be indifferent to suffering. Perhaps, too, we could support human rights more widely; for example, in places of conflict, where women and children are often victims. The "little children" represent those who are among the most weak and helpless in society. Are we receptive to the kingdom that Jesus presents?

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Mary Gibson, 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 on Wednesday at Sacred Heart Church Goldthorpe. The next Marist Meeting is on 13th October after the Rosary. All are welcome.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Please return your envelopes to church as soon as possible. Please consider using the Gift Aid slip if you are a UK Taxpayer, thus enabling CAFOD to benefit further from your generous donations. You can also find out more and give online at cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis

First Holy Communion Programme 2022

As we look ahead to 2022, preparations will begin with an introductory meeting about the First Holy Communion Programme on Monday 11th October at 7.00pm in St Michael's Church, Wombwell. Please contact Fr. Declan or one of the Catechists if you have any queries.

Annual Mass Count

There are two more weeks to count mass attendees, October (2nd/3rd, 9th/10th).

Mass Offerings

There are plenty of Masses available for your intentions, especially for weekday masses. Please use one of the specially printed envelopes from the back of church.

Bonus Ball – Goldthorpe

Bonus Ball is back up and running in Goldthorpe. Last weekend the bonus ball was number 53, so it will be a rollover next weekend. Please contact George Burnitt if you want to join the weekly draw, which raises much needed funds for our Parish. You have a chance of winning £25!

PayPal

Our PayPal account is now closed. If you have been making contributions this way, please cancel your arrangement with them. Standing Order forms are available after Mass. 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