

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### First Reading 1 Kings 17:10-16

The starving prophet Elijah begs a poor widow for food and she shares her last meal with him.

### Responsorial Psalm 145:7-10

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

### Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28

Jesus' offering of himself surpasses any sacrifice a Temple high priest might have made for the sins of his people.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, Alleluia!

Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.

### Alleluia!

### Gospel Mark 12:38-44

Jesus observes how some people take advantage of others. He watches a widow donate her last pennies to the lucrative Temple cult.

## 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 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Sunday Year B

Thirty second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle I

*"He sat down... and watched the people putting money into the treasury."*

## Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michael`s)	6 Nov	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	7 Nov	9.00am	Miley Connors and Paddy Connors RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	7 Nov	11.00am	Jack O`Connell RIP
Tuesday Live Streamed	9 Nov	12.00pm	Reta Nicholson RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s School)	10 Nov	2.00pm	Deceased Burnitt Family Members
Thursday (St. Helen`s)	11 Nov	2.00pm	Sheila Anne Foody RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	12 Nov	2.00pm	Sheila Durkan RIP
Saturday Live Streamed.	13 Nov	12.00pm	Cyril Howitt RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	13 Nov	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	14 Nov	9.00am	Intentions of Lee Conway
Sunday (St Helen`s)	14 Nov	11.00am	Brian McAllister 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. It is always available upon request.

The FIFA World Cup normally takes place every four years. If you are a football fan, it is a long time to wait. The hype, however, begins to build up many months beforehand. This was especially so for the 2018 World Cup. It was the first time the tournament had been hosted by an eastern European country, and there was concern among many about the government's record on human rights. To many fans, however, the prospect of travelling to Russia seemed thrilling. More than three million set off to Moscow, imagining that affordable tickets and cheap accommodation would be easily available. After all, Russia was a big country, with eleven host cities as match venues.

However, it was every scammer's dream. Many fans fell victim to cybercriminals who posed as ticket agents, or who took over the accounts of hoteliers to steal people's bank details. Russians alone were targeted by 25 million cyberattacks. People had been too trusting, too carried away by football mania, willing to believe in special offers that turned out to be too good to be true. The tournament left a question on people's minds: was corruption spoiling "the beautiful game"? A similar question worried people in Jesus' day. Corruption was spoiling the beauty of God's Temple. At festival times, a vast crowd of pilgrims headed for Jerusalem, looking forward to the Temple worship. United in belief, they came longing for forgiveness, often desperate for healing. As with football fans, enthusiasm made some of them a target for exploitation. The Temple had vast wealth and not everyone who officiated there was honest or unselfish.

The disciples may have been in awe of their magnificent surroundings, but Jesus looked beyond. He pointed out religious leaders in flowing robes, lapping up the wide-eyed admiration of visitors and persuading vulnerable people to give money in expectation of a blessing. He noticed something else. At first sight it appeared unremarkable: someone dropping coins into one of the trumpet-shaped collection boxes. Worshippers were expected to make sacrificial offerings for their sins and the cheapest was a pair of pigeons at the cost of two pennies, but Jesus understood what those two pennies meant for this particular widow: it was all she had. He seemed saddened that the moral and religious life of his nation had come to this. He

was reminded, perhaps, of the widow of Sidon in our first reading. She also gave her all, but there was a difference: she was not being exploited by unscrupulous people. She had been asked for help by a starving man in time of famine. There was just enough food for one last meal, yet she allowed herself to be moved by a fellow human being in distress and shared it.

It was no coincidence that Jesus forgave sins for free, healed for free and taught for free. He deplored the way the Temple took advantage of people. "Beware", he says, in case we should ever be tempted to do the same, or seek to benefit from the suffering of others by giving in order to attract attention to ourselves. True generosity is not about us: it focuses on others. It allows a cry for help to melt our hearts in compassion. Charities today are in need of funding as never before and people may sometimes feel under pressure. Jesus does not expect us to give what we do not have. He urged one young man to give his possessions away, but the man was rich and Jesus asked him to give the money to those who were poor, not to an already rich institution. We have to make responsible choices, and today's readings urge us to let fellow feeling be the basis for those choices.

Jesus still watches at the treasury of our hearts, still saddened that charitable giving is so often out of a sense of obligation, or because people feel that God cannot love them as they are. Just as he invited his disciples to look – *really* look – at what was going on around them, Jesus calls us to recognise human distress when we see it and to be moved to respond. It may be with money, but practical help and companionship are often needed too. The prophecy came true for the widow who shared a meal with Elijah: her flour jar was never empty, her jug of oil never ran dry. May that be true of our own hearts.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Dominic Kilroy, Harrison Fisher, Deacon Chris Kime of Doncaster, Michael Bennett, 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

### **Barnsley Hospital Chaplaincy Update**

The out of hours 'on call' Chaplaincy provision for all denominations, including Catholics, has recently been suspended at the hospital. The only way that a Catholic priest can now be called, should you require the sacraments out of office hours during your stay, is by patients giving the contact details of their Parish Priest to the ward staff on admission. This is a somewhat regrettable move by the hospital and has already resulted in one patient dying without recourse to the sacraments. Fr Damian is working in collaboration with ecumenical partners to try and get the 'on call' chaplaincy provision reinstated as soon as possible.

### **School Masses**

Please note the changes to masses for next week. School masses will be at 2.00pm on Wednesday in St Michael's School, Thursday at 2.00pm in St Helen's Church and Friday at 2.00pm in Sacred Heart Church.

### **Sick & Retired Clergy**

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Sick & Retired clergy to help ensure all of our sick and retired priests are cared for at their time of need, after years of service to God and their parishioners.

### **First Holy Communion Programme 2022**

The first meeting will be on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 6.00pm to 7.15pm in St Michael's Church Hall and is for the children only.

### **Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe**

Rosary is each Wednesday at 2.00pm at Goldthorpe The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Holy Souls**

During the month of November, we pray especially for those who have died. If you would like a mass for your loved ones, the Holy Souls lists and envelopes are now available from church. The masses will then be said throughout the coming year.

### **Bonus Ball – Goldthorpe**

Michael Bennett was the winner last weekend, with bonus ball no. 17

### **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