

## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Jeremiah 17:5-8  
Jeremiah's prophecy is uncompromising and must have challenged his hearers. Trusting in God alone rather than in human strength and wealth can seem like madness, but we are invited to do just that.

**Responsorial Psalm** 1:1-4,6  
Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20  
Paul says that without Christ's resurrection, his teaching makes no sense. Either we live and die by this, or we are simply talking nonsense. That is the challenge of faith.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Luke 6:17. 20-26  
Luke's Beatitudes are more uncompromising than those of Matthew. We don't have the get-out clause here of being blessed if we are "poor in spirit". It is poverty, pure and simple, that is blessed. The challenge for us is to dare to believe.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

Sacred Heart (Goldthorpe), Sacred Heart & St Helen (Hoyland) and St Michael & All Angels (Wombwell)



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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Sunday Year C

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"How happy are you who are poor; yours is the kingdom of God."*

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> (St Michael's)	<b>12 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>13 Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Mary Gibson RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>13 Feb</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Annie and John Ward RIP
Tuesday Live Streamed	15 Feb	12.00pm	NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	16 Feb	12.00pm	NO MASS
Thursday (St. Helen's)	17 Feb	12.00pm	NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	18 Feb	12.00pm	NO MASS
Saturday Live Streamed	19 Feb	12.00pm	NO MASS
<b>Saturday</b> <b>(St Michaels)</b>	<b>19 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	20 Feb	<b>9.00am</b>	Sister Sheila Mary Hunt RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	20 Feb	<b>11.00am</b>	Bridget and Brian Liptrott RIP

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

**Lectio Divina** is suspended for the time being

**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.

In the 1989 film *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, the hero – archaeologist Indiana "Indy" Jones – and his companions experience terrible dangers in their quest for the Holy Grail. To save his father from death, Indy has to risk his own life. The final challenge involves stepping onto an invisible bridge over a vast chasm. Indy can see nothing solid to rely on, but that step of faith into the unknown and the invisible saves them both. Today's Gospel invites us to risk a step of faith leading to eternal life. Faith may appear unreliable in the face of life's dangers, and we may struggle to see the way ahead, but the example of many saints shows the transformative power of trusting in God.

The teaching in all three of today's readings contains a strong challenge. There is nothing fluffy and soft here, no "religion as air cushion". Jeremiah's prophecy is uncompromising. It is natural for human beings to seek security and want to trust in what seems powerful and strong. Trusting in God can seem like madness, when there is nothing to show for our confidence and nothing concrete to rely on.

In his own way, Paul is as uncompromising as Jeremiah. Faith in the resurrection is not a "take it or leave it" belief. Without Christ's resurrection, his teaching makes no sense. And in the Gospel, Luke's Beatitudes are more uncompromising than those of Matthew. Luke's Beatitudes are tough, as faith itself is tough. This faith makes demands but offers infinite rewards in return.

The life of faith stands in radical contrast to the values of this world. Reliance on the world's values – whether of strength, security, wealth or reputation – is shown to be pointless and ultimately empty. Instead, we are offered what may seem unrealistic: reliance on a God we cannot see, faith in a crucified saviour, belief in an eternity of which there are no guarantees. Faith, hope and love are not easy virtues, but they are the foundational graces offered to any follower of Christ.

Adventure films love to place their heroes in impossible situations where they are doomed to fail and die, only for them to overcome all odds and win the day. As a Messiah Jesus was nothing like what his followers initially expected. There was no kingly power, no overthrowing of his enemies, no worldly triumph over evil. Several times in the Gospels we see Jesus struggling with not only his own preconceived

notions of his role but those of his disciples, the crowds and his enemies. It seems to make little difference which of these groups anyone belonged to – nothing prepared them for the way in which he ultimately fulfilled the purpose for which he came into the world.

When the Gospels eventually emerged from within the faith communities, they sought to give voice through Jesus' teaching to the difference between a God's-eye view of human affairs and the human perspective. Luke's Beatitudes are far more concrete and starker than those of Matthew. Matthew's version allows for spiritual interpretation, while Luke looks at the lived reality of the first followers of Jesus. They are mostly poor, outcast and without security. Faith in Jesus does not save them from persecution or death. It does not make them rich, powerful or successful. However much we know this, we are often still tempted to think of Christianity as something safe and respectable. We try to tame the message of the Gospel and cut it down to fit our size.

When we do this, we turn the Gospel from a tiger into a domestic pussycat. We render it safe, comforting and comfortable, but we also risk rendering it powerless to make a difference to our own life and that of the world. The values behind Luke's Beatitudes are radical, dangerous and ultimately transformative. They invite us to overstep the safe boundaries that we have set for our faith and to risk losing our securities. Many saints, like Thomas More, Oscar Romero and Edith Stein, learned to find a God greater than anything they could ever imagine when they took this risk. Their greatest apparent failures emerged as victory. This is the paradox of God's offer of salvation. It turns darkness into light and sorrow into joy, but it is a costly discipleship. The grace is there for anyone who asks for it, but God will not force it on us. It is a free choice and a free gift.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Janet O'Brien, Ralph Blackburn, Claire Dingwall, Dominic Kilroy, Michael Bennett, Chris Haigh, Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Paddy McNicholas, Peter Hutchinson, Anne Whittingham, Sue Bird, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Edna Yates, Justin Phillip Collins, Hannah Prentiss, Pat and Colin Hermitage, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Minnie Helen Pozorski, Terry Mullins, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Kath Cragg, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher, Andrew Chandler

### **Requiescat in Pace**

Sister Sheila Mary Hunt, who spent many years in the Goldthorpe Marist Community as an active parish sister, died in January aged 96. She had been living in retirement in Hythe but will be loved and remembered by many of us here in the parish. RIP

### **Rosary at Goldthorpe**

Rosary at Goldthorpe is every Wednesday at 1.30pm.

### **Marist Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 02 July 2022**

IT'S BACK! The Marist pilgrimage to Walsingham will resume in July and the coach is booked for Corpus Christi pilgrims. Usual pick up points in Wombwell and Goldthorpe. Look out for more information being displayed in the parish soon.

### **Second Collection this weekend for Racial Justice Sunday**

In our task, as disciples of Christ, our responsibility is to make sure people are treated with dignity at work and are not exploited. Migrant communities and those suffering from racial abuse are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into unjust working conditions and labour exploitation. Funds raised from this week's collection will be used for promoting racial justice in England and Wales. You can find more about their good works by visiting <https://www.carj.org.uk>

### **CAFOD Disasters Emergency Appeal for Afghanistan**

The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is deteriorating, hundreds of thousands of Afghans have fled their homes, compounding an existing crisis following periods of drought and decades of conflict. It's hard for us to imagine that millions of people face hunger, extreme poverty and even freezing to death. CAFOD is one of the many charities responding to the crisis by helping to provide food packages and cash assistance to vulnerable families.

The Coppers for CAFOD jars in each church have raised £350 over the last few months, which has been sent to CAFOD for this latest emergency, showing that even the smallest donations can make a difference. Thank you.

### **2022 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 24th - 30th June**

(6 nights) £765.00 Full Board flying from Doncaster Airport. Insurance £33. Booking form and further details available from [www.hallam-lourdes.com](http://www.hallam-lourdes.com) or telephone 07724 650066. Please note: everyone participating in the 2022 pilgrimage must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. The travel organisers feel that it is possible to plan for the pilgrimage to take place safely, but if it does not prove to be possible and the diocese cancels, then full refunds will be made. Please see the posters for further details, or visit [hallamlourdespilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:hallamlourdespilgrimage@gmail.com)

### **Synod**

A reminder to return your Synod Questionnaire by 13<sup>th</sup> February, either by placing in one of the Synod boxes at the back of one of our 3 churches, handing to one of the Synod Representatives or sent directly to the Diocesan office, the address is on the back of the questionnaire. You can also complete on line at the Diocesan website link at [Synod - Hallam Diocese \(hallam-diocese.com\)](http://Synod - Hallam Diocese (hallam-diocese.com))

### **Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe**

The winning number was 48, George Burnitt was the lucky winner. Please see George Burnitt if you would like a number, so you not only have a chance of winning, you are also helping the parish.

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