

## 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 8th May 2022

Sunday Year C

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

*"The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice."*

A priest on pilgrimage in the Holy Land described how he watched two shepherds talking together while their sheep milled around them in the valley beneath him. The sound of their voices carried up to him on the hillside. After a while the shepherds parted and went off in opposite directions, all the while keeping up a "kind of conversation" with the sheep. To the priest's astonishment the sheep separated from one another and sorted themselves out into two flocks, each one going after its own shepherd. It was a perfect illustration, the priest said, of sheep recognising the voice of their shepherd and following him. We can only marvel at the instinct by which the sheep recognised the voice of their own shepherd and didn't follow the other one. We see the same instinct at work among penguins, who in a crowd of thousands manage to find their own offspring. Pope Francis once commented on what he called "the mystery of the voice". He said, "The mystery of the voice is suggestive: we think about how from our mother's womb we learn to recognise her voice and our father's voice; from the tone of someone's voice we can perceive love or scorn, affection or coldness."

In today's Gospel Jesus observes how the "sheep that belong to me listen to my voice". He is making a claim that we can verify. Every human being, young and old, good and bad, has a conscience. Conscience is, St John Henry Newman taught, "the voice of God". For Newman conscience is a proof of God's existence. "Every human being has a certain commanding dictate... an authoritative voice, bidding him do certain things and avoid others." If we want to know whether we should do a certain thing we only have to ask ourselves and our conscience will give us the answer. Often enough our conscience will kick in before we ask it, warning us not to go down this way or that. More positively it will lead us where we should go. Listening to this voice is how we find our vocation in life. Furthermore, what our conscience tells us is confirmed in scripture. The scriptures are the revealed word of God. "The word of the Lord," the reader proclaims at the end of each reading. There can never be a conflict between what God tells us in our conscience and what God tells us in the scriptures. It is the same voice speaking in two different ways.

### 4th Sunday of Easter

#### First Reading Acts 13:14. 43-52

Despite opposition, many of the people of Antioch respond to the preaching of Paul and Barnabas and become Christians.

#### Responsorial Psalm 99:1,3-5

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

#### Second Reading Apocalypse 7:9. 14-17

St John has a vision of the hosts of believers in heaven, too many to count, from every nation on earth.

### Gospel Acclamation

#### Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.

#### Alleluia!

#### Gospel John 10:27-30

Jesus the good shepherd speaks to his sheep and leads us into eternal life.

### Service Times & Intentions

|   |               |                |                                    |
|---|---------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday Vigil</b><br>(St Michael's)       | <b>7 May</b>  | <b>5.30pm</b>  | John Cutts RIP                     |
| <b>Easter Sunday</b><br>(Sacred Heart)        | 8 May         | <b>9.00am</b>  | Ruth Adamson RIP                   |
| <b>Easter Sunday</b><br>(St Helen's)          | 8 May         | <b>11.00am</b> | People of the Parish               |
| Tuesday<br>Live Streamed                      | 10 May        | 12.00pm        | Holy Souls                         |
| Wednesday<br>(St. Michael's)                  | 11 May        | 1.15pm         | Requiem Mass for Anne Whittingham  |
| Thursday<br>(St. Helen's)                     | 12 May        | 12.00pm        |                                    |
| Friday<br>(St Helen's)                        | 13 May        | 10.00am        | Requiem Mass for Eileen Greensmith |
| Saturday<br>(St Michaels)                     | 14 May        | 12.00pm        | John Nally RIP                     |
| <b>Saturday Vigil</b><br><b>(St Michaels)</b> | <b>14 May</b> | <b>5.30pm</b>  | Donald Whitney RIP                 |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>(Sacred Heart)               | 15 May        | <b>9.00am</b>  | People of the Parish               |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>(St Helen's)                 | 15 May        | <b>11.00am</b> | Andrew J Marren 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.

### Mass Times

\*Please note the changes to masses this week due to the funerals taking place.

But there is what we might call a “false conscience”, persuading us that our conscience is nonsense; that the scriptures are untrue; that our faith is unfounded; that we can do whatever we feel like doing. A man once told a priest that he thought God was telling him to leave his wife and marry another woman who was a more devout Catholic. The priest reminded him of a reading he had heard at Mass: “You shall not commit adultery.” What the man thought God was telling him could not have been God, but his own fantasising.

Many voices speak to us through the media: experts, philosophers, scientists and thinkers; good people of great wisdom and reason. They help form our views. Pope St John Paul II, a philosopher himself, never belittled human reason. He wrote: “Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth.” But even the most intelligent people can be wrong: not all the opinions we hear are right, so we test them by faith. Saints recognise the inner voice of God with clarity because they habitually listen to it. They are not easily deceived or misled. They trust the teachings of the Church, meditate on the scriptures and pray, listening to that still small voice which comes into our mind.

“The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice... they will never be lost,” says Jesus. The more we listen and obey what we hear (for we are free to ignore it), the more easily do we distinguish the voice of our shepherd from alien and mistaken voices or our own imagining. Pope Francis wrote, “When we learn to distinguish [Christ’s voice] from others, he will lead us along the path of life, a path that stretches even beyond death.”

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Mary Gutowski, Janet O Brien, Ralph Blackburn, Clare Dingwall, Dominic Kilroy, Michael Bennett, Chris Haigh, Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Paddy McNicholas, Peter Hutchinson, 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.

### **Marist Pilgrimage to Walsingham**

The annual Marist pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 2nd July. The coach will pick up at St Michael’s Wombwell at 7.30am then at Goldthorpe by the Anglican Church at 7.45am. Owing to higher fuel costs the price this year has had to increase to £20 per person, thank you for your understanding. Payment will be due by the weekend of 11/12 June. If you would like to join the pilgrimage please sign the list at the back of church which includes further contact details.

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2022**

Bishop Ralph will be leading the Pilgrimage to the Shrine at Walsingham on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Please see poster for further details.

### **Priest`s Training Fund**

This Sunday the Church marks the Fourth Sunday of Easter, also known as `Good Shepherd Sunday`, after the Gospel of the Day. The day also marks the World Day of Prayer for Vocations within the Church.

There will be a second collection for the Priest`s Training Fund (PTF) which is aimed at supporting those who offer themselves for the priesthood within our Diocese.

### **Mental Health Matters – Caritas Hallam Appeal 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> May**

Caritas Hallam offers a professional Schools Service to support children’s mental health and well-being within our schools. They also provide professional counselling and ‘cradle to grave’ help and support to everyone in our communities. But not everyone can afford to pay for the help they need. Next weekend there will be a second collection to support the work of Caritas Hallam, and every penny will be going to support the mental health of the people in our Diocese. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.

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

In preparation for the forthcoming First Holy Communions on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May, the final practice are as follows:-

St Michael’s – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 5.00 pm (all children)  
St Michael’s – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 6.00pm (specific children)  
Sacred Heart – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 3.30 pm (specific children)  
St Helen’s – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 3.30pm (specific children)

**On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May a Celebration Party will be held after the vigil mass, for which donations of cakes and biscuits would be most appreciated, enough for the 30 children and their families.**

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

The Rosary at Goldthorpe will be every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm. The Rosary combined with the Marist Way is held once a month on Wednesday. The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday May 11th.

### **Bonus Ball Goldthorpe and Hoyland**

The Bonus Ball was Number 52, so next week will be a rollover in Goldthorpe. R Craven was the winner in St. Helen`s.

### **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 |