

Trinity Sunday

First Reading Proverbs 8:22-31
The figure of Wisdom is God's companion in creation and in communicating with human beings.

Responsorial Psalm 8:4-9
How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth.

Second Reading Romans 5:1-5
It is our faith and commitment to Jesus Christ that puts us at peace with God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 16:12-15
The Spirit will help us understand more fully the teachings of Jesus.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 12th June 2022

Sunday Year C

The Most Holy Trinity

Weekday Cycle II

"The Lord created me when his purpose first unfolded."

Service Times & Intentions

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| Saturday Vigil (St Michael's) | 11 June | 5.30pm | Anne Whittingham RIP |
| Sunday (Sacred Heart) | 12 June | 9.00am | People of the Parish |
| Sunday (St Helen's) | 12 June | 11.00am | Callaghan Family |
| Tuesday Live Streamed | 14 June | 12.00pm | NO MASS |
| Wednesday (St Michael's) | 15 June | 6.00pm | NO MASS |
| Thursday (St. Helen's) | 16 June | 12.00 noon | Funeral service for Dominic Kilroy |
| Friday (St. Helen's) | 17 June | 10.00am | NO MASS |
| Saturday (St Michael's) | 18 June | 12.00pm | NO MASS |
| Saturday Vigil (St Michael's) | 18 June | 5.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Pentecost Sunday (Sacred Heart) | 19 June | 9.00am | David Earley RIP |
| Pentecost Sunday (St Helen's) | 19 June | 11.00am | Nicholas Ward RIP |

Divine Mercy Chaplet is at 3.00pm on Fridays at St. Michael's Church
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available upon request.

A young couple were out walking one day, pushing a pram that was carrying the newest addition to the family. As they passed through the town, they met an older acquaintance, who peered into the pram and asked about the child, "What is it?" The father was very offended at this line of enquiry and made his indignation known when relating the incident years later.

The way in which we refer to people is important: we do not usually talk about anyone, even a baby, as "it". That is a depersonalising, even a dehumanising form of speech. It reduces a person to the level of an object, and most people would regard it as a lack of respect for a human being. Language, in this case the use of pronouns, is important and can reveal our way of thinking. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that when we speak about God, we use *analogy*: we express what we believe as we understand it, but human language can never capture the essence of God, and it can affect our conception of who God is. One of the reasons for the Jewish forbidding of making images of God was that this practice limited people's ideas of God and confined their thinking to the product of their own imagination, excluding other notions that could be just as valid. In some ways, this is a form of idolatry, where we worship our own idea, rather than the God who is beyond all human comprehension.

When we come to think about the Blessed Trinity, we are faced with three Persons: Father, Son and Spirit. The first two are masculine in grammatical gender, so the appropriate pronoun for each is "he". The Spirit is actually neuter in the text of the New Testament, so the correct reference would be to "it"; but this is hardly a respectful way to talk about the third Person of the Trinity, so usually the pronoun used is "he". So we have two masculine words and one neuter term. There is, therefore, often no feminine aspect suggested in our language or vocabulary about the God we believe in. This lack of a feminine perspective seems to be at odds with the thinking of the Bible. The opening chapter of the book of Genesis tells us that God created human beings "in the image of God"; and, just in case we missed the point the author is making, we are then told that God created them "male and

female". The point is that, according to Genesis, women are just as much the image of God as are men.

The reading from Proverbs presents the figure of Wisdom as God's companion, God's helper or instrument, in the work of creation: in the Old Testament, the figure of Wisdom is typically presented as female. This is the figure that the evangelist John presents as "the Word" in the Prologue to his Gospel and applies to the person of Jesus. It is through the Word that God creates, communicates with human beings and invites them into relationship: it is their decision whether they accept or not.

One of the features of the Catholic Church has always been devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Perhaps part of the reason for this emphasis on Mary could be a feeling in people that there is something missing in our idea of God, that all three Persons of the Trinity are often referred to in masculine terms. The absence of any feminine language may suggest a lack in our appreciation of who God really is, especially if we take seriously the teaching of Genesis about both genders being created in God's image and likeness. Writers have described Mary as "the feminine face of God", but this may be missing the point. Mary is not part of the Trinity or the Godhead: she is a human being, like any of us. If there is a feminine aspect to God, then it belongs within the Trinity.

Could we think of the Holy Spirit as fulfilling this function? Might we appreciate the Spirit as representing a feminine aspect of the Trinity? This would then encourage us all to think about the place of women in the Church. In that way, might our understanding of the Trinity, of God and of the Church be greatly enriched?

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Bridie Pickering, Bernadette Houlton, Janet O'Brien, Clare Dingwall, Michael Bennett, Christine 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.

Dominic Kilroy

Dominic Kilroy will be brought into St. Helen's church on Wednesday 15th June at 4.00pm and his funeral will take place on Thursday 16th June at noon.

Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

Rosary at Goldthorpe

The Rosary at Goldthorpe is every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm.

Changes to Masses

Fr Declan will be away for the next few weeks. Please note there will be no weekday Masses during this time. If you need a priest in a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. Damian on 01226 284961 or 07791554214.

Marist Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The coach is now fully booked, which is wonderful. Thank you everybody for being so understanding about this year's fare increase. If you have booked a seat and then find your plans have to change for any reason, please contact Amanda Campbell (07505 408870) or Pam Kershaw (07867 505966)

School Governors required

If you are interested in becoming a governor at one of our schools, please see the poster at the back of church, or ring BMBC 01226 772367/772620 or you can email Admin-GovernorsServices@barnsley.gov.uk. There is a poster at the back of church with further details

Diocesan Annual Appeal for LIFE 2nd Collection 18th/19th June

Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent
Psalm 71:9

'Day for Life' is the day in our calendar set aside to celebrate life from conception to natural death. This year the focus is on caring for and valuing the elderly. Funds raised from the second collection next weekend support various Day for Life initiatives, which focus on upholding the dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. Please do support this work in any way you feel able.

For more information and to donate, see here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/df122/>

WORLD YOUTH DAY, Lisbon, August 2023.

Hallam Diocese is taking 35 young people aged 17 - 30 to WYD next year. This is a great experience of Church where young people from every continent gather to celebrate their Catholic Faith in the presence of the Pope. If you would like to join us or want more information email Sue, our Hallam Youth Ministry Director for an information pack: smcdonald@hallam-diocese.com

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball was Number 24, the winners were Tony Haigh in Goldthorpe and Sheila Marren 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.

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| 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 |