

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Genesis 18:20-32  
Abraham, the friend of God, asks God to have mercy on a sinful city.

**Responsorial Psalm** 137:1-3,6-8  
On the day I called, you answered me,  
O Lord.

**Second Reading** Colossians 2:12-14  
Paul assures us that God's forgiveness of sin is total and absolute.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.  
**Alleluia!**

### Gospel Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches those who follow him to call God "Father" and invites them into his own life of prayer.

## 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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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 24th July 2022

Sunday Year C

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"Ask, and it will be given to you."*

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>23 July</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Mary and Jim Fleming RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	24 July	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	24 July	<b>11.00am</b>	A Sick Person
Tuesday (live streamed)	26 July	12.00pm	Maureen and Dennis Walton RIP
Wednesday	27 July	12.00pm	Jim and Mary Fleming RIP
Thursday (St. Helen's)	28 July	12.00pm	Evelyn Hough RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart Goldthorpe)	29 July	12.00pm	Peter Brannan RIP
Saturday (St Michael's)	30 July	12.00pm	
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>30 July</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>31 July</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Spiridion S Ingalla RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>31 July</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Colin Barker RIP

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

"Dear God, you don't usually hear from me, but there's something I'd like you to take care of." If a character in a film or TV drama is shown praying, it often indicates one of two things: either they're a religious fanatic and possibly dangerous; or they're in the middle of a devastating crisis in their lives, so overwhelming that they need to make an emergency call to a distant God. The inference is either that God is absent and that only someone deluded would think otherwise, or, at the very best, that God is far away and only to be called on in the most extreme of human circumstances.

The readings for Mass this Sunday reveal a very different picture of what we do when we pray. Prayer is not about somehow getting hold of God, to put God to work for us, but being drawn beyond ourselves, into friendship with God.

In the readings we see two people praying. In our Old Testament reading we see Abraham who, according to the letter of St James, was called "the friend of God" because of his great faith and his good deeds. This friend of God is allowed to interrogate God about God's plans for Sodom and Gomorrah, and to badger God concerning the fate of any just people who may live in these allegedly sinful cities. After quite a bit of negotiation, the Lord reassures his friend Abraham that even if only ten just people are left, he will hold back his hand rather than destroy the cities. What this prayer of Abraham, the friend of God, reveals is the justice of God, the God who will not punish innocent people along with those who are wicked. This God listens to the concerns of Abraham that justice be done and reassures him.

In the Gospel we see an even deeper intimacy than that of God with Abraham. Jesus prays as more than a friend: he prays as the eternal Son of God who has been made flesh; he prays with the closeness of a relationship that is at the very heart of God the Holy Trinity. He calls God "Abba, Father", a name that reveals his wonderful intimacy with God the Father. If we follow Jesus throughout Luke's Gospel, we'll see him praying to the Father at many significant moments in his life: before choosing the twelve apostles; on the mountain, transfigured in glory; in the garden of Gethsemane. Then finally, on the cross, he prays: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." According to Luke, it's during Jesus' final journey to

Jerusalem that the disciples, seeing him at prayer, ask to be included, to be able to pray as Jesus prays. In response, he teaches them what we know as the Lord's Prayer, the "Our Father". And this prayer of Jesus is something that we are all invited to become part of from our baptism onwards, when we are made adopted children of the Father, brothers and sisters of Jesus.

This is no absent God, no far-away God, but the God who is with us and who loves us. We can't control or manipulate this God, but that isn't why we (as opposed to characters in on-screen dramas) pray. Praying, for Christians, is about becoming part of the deep communion and love of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. Jesus tells us: "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you." So we are encouraged to keep on asking, to persevere in bringing our wants and needs before the Father. We do this not so that we can twist God's arm in an emergency – a bit like the pull cord in railway carriages: "In case of emergency, pull the cord" – but so that we may rest the whole of our lives, our tragedies, our sorrows and our joys, our desires and our hopes for ourselves and for others, upon the mercy of God, the Father of Jesus and our Father. And, in sharing in the prayer life of Jesus, we can come to grow closer and closer in friendship with him, and to know the wonder and the intimacy of the loving communion of God the Holy Trinity, who is never absent or far away but remains with us forever.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Carole Dyson, Bridie Pickering, Bernadette Hoults, 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, Terry Mullins, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Kath Cragg, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher.

### **Rosary at Goldthorpe**

The Rosary is at 1.30pm each Wednesday at Goldthorpe. Please note there will be no Rosary on 27<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Red Mission Boxes**

Please bring in your Red Mission Boxes at your earliest convenience. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider using Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and for your continued prayers for missionaries around the world.

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

The Bonus Ball was Number 23, the winners were M Booth in Goldthorpe and M Smith in St. Helen's.

## **Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham**

### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

The Parish is organising the Pilgrimage at a cost of only £20 per person. There are 51 seats available on the coach so if you wish to participate please add your name to the list at the back of church or let Fr Declan know.

### **Wombwell Community Lunch Club.**

The Lunch Club meets each Thursday at 12noon in St. Michael's Church Hall and is an opportunity for people of different ages and backgrounds to come together for a meal. Lunch is only £5 and consists of a hot meal and a pudding. The meal is followed by a raffle and bingo.

For more information and bookings, please contact Barbara on 07742 548985

### **OFFICIAL TWITTER ACCOUNT FOR THE DIOCESE @HallamDioceseRC**

The Diocese is now on Twitter! You will find the official account under the handle @HallamDioceseRC. Please follow!

We hope that by following, it will connect you more into our local community, as you will find news, events, resources, prayers and inspiration to help you in your everyday life. Feel free to join in our conversation, share your views with us and help foster an even stronger sense of family within the Church.

### **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
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