

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

First Reading Apoc 11:19,12:1-6,10
A woman adorned with sun, moon and stars gives birth to a child.

Responsorial Psalm 44:10-12,16
On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.

Second Reading 1 Corinth 15:20-26
In Christ, we are raised from the dead and brought to new life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 1:39-56
Mary is blessed among women. She proclaims God's greatness.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



PARISH PRIEST: Fr Declan Brett.

Parish Office: 01226 752372

email: parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com

Website: <https://corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com>

Facebook: Corpus Christi Dearne Valley

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Dave Coefield 07754 471052, Sheila Marren 07932 722188

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Sunday 14th August 2022

Sunday Year C

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Weekday Cycle II

"Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	13 Aug	5.30pm	Anne Whittingham RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	14 Aug	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	14 Aug	11.00am	Rev Denis Norman RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	16 Aug	10.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	17 Aug	10.00am	
Thursday (St Helen`s)	18 Aug	10.00am	Dominic Kilroy RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	19 Aug	10.00am	John Nally RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	20 Aug	10.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	20 Aug	5.30pm	Ralph Blackburn RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	21 Aug	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	21 Aug	11.00am	Minnie Helen Pozorski RIP

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

In her book *The Reed of God*, the Catholic writer and artist Caryll Houselander speaks poetically of Mary, the mother of Jesus, as "a reed, / straight and simple / growing by a lake / in Nazareth". Mary, like a reed, is open to the Spirit of the Lord dwelling in her heart and soul, "a reed that is empty / until the breath of God / fills it with infinite music". She is a reed that bends to carry the music of love and the Son of God in her very body: "The word of God / is infinite music / in a little reed". Our readings today are poetic and beyond the everyday language used by most of us.

However, the use of such poetic language can speak to us of a world beyond – beyond our understanding and beyond our dreams. All three readings today offer a vivid picture of a creative and innovative future. This is a future dreamed of, and hoped for, when God's kingdom in all its beauty will be fully revealed. In this new future, good prevails over evil. In this new future, Christ himself, the new Adam, brings the promise of eternal life, and Mary, in openness to bearing Christ, God's Word, enables the Spirit of love to sing a new song for our world.

The word of God to us in all our readings today speaks of new life, of birth and of fruitfulness. In our first reading, the book of Revelation tells us of God's sanctuary in heaven opening and a great sign appearing in the sky. This sign is of a woman giving birth: a sign of new life and of future prosperity. As with every birth, there is an element of risk and we see the evil one (depicted as a dragon in John's vision here) seeking to destroy the child. After a titanic struggle, God and goodness prevail. The woman gives birth to a male child, a sign of God's favour and one who is destined to rule the nations. In today's second reading, Christ, who has been raised from the dead, is seen as the second Adam, anointed of the Father; and the Father offers new life to those who belong to Christ.

In today's Gospel, Mary journeys to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Mary must have wondered, as she carried this new life within her, what the future held for herself and her child. Travelling in haste through the hill country, Mary is anxious to share her news with someone who understands how she feels, someone who is

experiencing the same joy and possibly the same uncertainty as she is. Elizabeth's greeting confirms for Mary that she is carrying the Lord, the anointed one – the Messiah for whom the people of Israel have been waiting. Elizabeth is overwhelmed by the coming of the mother of the Lord to visit her, so much so that the child in her womb leaps for joy. Elizabeth goes on to say of Mary, "blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled". In these words, Elizabeth both affirms Mary in her carrying of the anointed one and offers a model of faith and discipleship for all who might desire to bear Christ in their hearts and lives. Mary's response is to proclaim the greatness of God, in the song we know as the Magnificat.

The openness of Mary to God's word allows the immensity of God's love to fill her physically, spiritually and totally. God's fullness and goodness in the lives of Elizabeth and Mary find expression in words of thanksgiving and joy. Openness and hospitality of heart are gifts we can cultivate in our own lives and offer to others. Mary and Elizabeth reached beyond their own needs and concerns, and thus they provided a safe and comforting environment for one another. Might God be asking us, like Mary and Elizabeth, to reach out beyond our own needs and to encourage and support someone close to us? When we are able to reach out in such a way, we become, in the poetic words of Caryl Houselander, "a cradle for God", a "light in a dark house" and "warmth to the world". Then we will truly be "the breath of the spirit of love" for all whom we encounter.

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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 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, Terry Mullins, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Kath Cragg, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher.

Requiescat in Pace

We pray for the repose of the soul of Josephine Needham who died recently. The funeral will be held at 11.30 on Wednesday 17th August at St Helen's. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

Changes to Mass Times

Please note that the weekday masses in our three churches will be at **10.00am** from now onwards, and the Tuesday mass will revert back to St Helen's.

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

Rosary at Goldthorpe

The Rosary is at 1.30pm each Wednesday at Goldthorpe.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball winners will be published next week

Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Friday 16th 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.

Repair and Maintenance Collection

After a two year absence, there will be a basket towards the Repair and Maintenance of our churches at the weekend masses, unless there is a specific second collection for another cause. Thank you.

St Vincent de Paul Society Urgent Appeal

The SVP is launching an urgent appeal to help refugees and asylum seekers in crisis. Please see the insert in the newsletter for further details and how you can help.

Fr Declan's Birthday Bash & Harvest Supper, Sat 10th September

You are invited to a fun night for all the family on Saturday 10th September after the 5.30pm Mass until 9.30pm in St Michael's Parish Hall. Delicious refreshments, Tea or coffee will be available (bring your own drinks) There will be a family quiz, bingo, children's activities. To book, see signup sheets at each of our 3 churches. Volunteers are needed to help on the night or perhaps can you provide any of the following; home grown vegetables or home made bread or cooking apples? There's no charge for the supper but there will be a collection on the night if you wish to make a donation. If you can help in any way please see Liz Salmon or Andrew Goddard. Or text 07877030827 and someone will call you back.

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