

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18
Human reasoning is unsure, but Wisdom, the light of the Holy Spirit, teaches us what pleases God.

Responsorial Psalm 89:3-6,12-14,17
O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Second Reading Philemon 9-10. 12-17
St Paul speaks about Onesimus, a runaway slave whom he converted to Christianity; he asks his master to take him back not as a slave any more but as a "dear brother".

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33
Jesus commends a radical life without possessions and human ties, providing we weigh up the costs.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 4th September 2022

Sunday Year C

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	3 Sept	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	4 Sept	9.00am	Barbara Campbell RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	4 Sept	11.00am	Andy Andrews RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	6 Sept	10.00am	Deceased Members of the Foody Family
Wednesday	7 Sept	10.00am	
Thursday (St Helen`s)	8 Sept	10.00am	Nico Sikorsky 1 st Birthday
Friday (Sacred Heart)	9 Sept	10.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday (St Michael`s)	10 Sept	10.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	10 Sept	5.30pm	Dominic Kilroy RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	11 Sept	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	11 Sept	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.

There are many versions of Christianity. The most ancient Churches are the Catholic and Orthodox Churches, which Pope St John Paul II described as the "two lungs" of the Church. During the sixteenth-century Reformation in Europe, Protestant versions of Christianity developed, while in modern times other types of Christianity have emerged in what are often called "Community Churches". Although they differ from the Catholic Church and from one another in various ways, Pope St John Paul taught us that such Christians "are properly regarded as brothers and sisters in the Lord by the sons and daughters of the Catholic Church". We recognise faith in Christ and goodness wherever it is found and, as Pope St John Paul reminded us, many of these Christians have been faithful unto death, shedding their blood for Christ, in modern times.

The various schisms and divisions nonetheless remain tragic, for it was always Christ's will for his followers to be one body. A particularly brutal element in the English Reformation was the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of King Henry VIII. Terrible was the loss of magnificent monastic buildings and libraries; worse was the expulsion of the monks and nuns, and the consequent closure of hostels and hospitals they ran. Leprosy sufferers were rendered homeless, with no one to care for them. Schools built by monks were closed down.

One of the most persistent teachings of Jesus is the call to lead a simple life. Today's Gospel ends with the words of Jesus: "None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions." The call to sell possessions and give the money to those who are poor is a constant theme in the teaching of Jesus. The first Christians in Jerusalem did this, and throughout history others have done it and still do. It is the inspiration of what we call the religious life, following Jesus under vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. It is perhaps the most distinctive mark of the Catholic Church. After the Reformation this teaching of Jesus was, for centuries, no longer heard in England, except by Catholics in secret, and his call for simplicity could no longer be fully lived in this way, until the restoration of the religious life of monks, friars and nuns in the nineteenth century.

An explanation should perhaps be given for the perplexing words “If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children” and so on. Jesus used hyperbole to make his hearers sit up. He simply meant a simple life, free of attachments, attached to Christ alone.

Climate change is causing increasing numbers of people to change their lifestyles, reduce their carbon footprint, eat less meat or none (like all Catholics once did on Fridays), and practise more sustainable living. In this they find support from Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, in which he expresses real concern about the danger consumerism poses to our planet. He writes “Christian spirituality proposes a growth marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little. It is a return to that simplicity which allows us to stop and appreciate the small things.” The religious life is the most radical way to live in moderation and “to be happy with little”. Many religious are found in the poorest parts of the world for the love of Christ. And although the number of religious has declined in recent years, some communities are experiencing growth. The call to live more simply is addressed not just to them but to all of us. Simplifying our lifestyle involves hard decisions and sacrifice, but in today’s Gospel Jesus asks people to carefully consider it, as would a builder who was planning a large construction.

St John Henry Newman speaks of the personal cost of taking God’s word seriously and building our life on faith: “If then faith be the essence of a Christian life... it follows that our duty lies in risking upon Christ’s word what we have, for what we have not; and doing so in a noble, generous way, not indeed rashly or lightly, still without knowing accurately what we are doing, not knowing either what we give up, nor again what we shall gain; uncertain about our extent of sacrifice, in all respects leaning, waiting upon him, trusting in him to fulfil his promise.”

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Percy Winterton, Kath Hardy, Carole Dyson, Bridie Pickering, Bernadette Houtt, Janet O Brien, 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.

Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe

The Rosary at 1.30pm on Wednesday 14th September will be followed by the monthly Marist Meeting at 2.00pm.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball for 27th August was number 19. The winners were T Swindells in Goldthorpe and M Tomlinson in Hoyland.

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.

Second Collection for CES 10th & 11th September

Next Sunday, 11th September is Education Sunday, when Catholics are encouraged to reflect on the Church’s enormous contribution in this country and pray for all those involved in Catholic education. There will be a second collection for this worthy cause.

DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal

Devastating floods have hit Pakistan, leaving millions in urgent need of help to survive. A third of the country is now underwater (that’s an area almost the size of Great Britain). From the Coppers for CAFOD jars in our 3 churches the sum of £130 can be sent immediately. If you wish to donate you can do so by using one of the CAFOD envelopes in church or via the jar. Your donation will help CAFOD’s local partners support communities with clean drinking water, food, emergency medical assistance and shelter. Please pray for those affected and donate now at cafod.org.uk/give

Synod Conversations and the Gospel of Mark

The Diocese is hosting a new event, I am Mark in Hallam Diocese, Join in at St Marie’s Cathedral, Sheffield, on Saturday October 8th at 7:00pm, and listen to nearly the whole Gospel in one evening. For further information and to book your ticket go to <https://hallam-diocese.com/i-am-mark-in-hallam-diocese/> Register soon because space is limited.

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

Starting after 5.30pm Mass until 9.30pm in St Michael’s Parish Hall. Refreshments, tea or coffee will be available (bring your own drinks), 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 donation. If you can help in any way please see Liz Salmon, Andrew Goddard or text 07877030827.

Gift Aid

If you are a UK Tax Payer please consider Gift Aiding your offerings to Corpus Christi Parish. For the previous Tax Year 2021-22, the Parish received £8400 from the Government as part of the Gift Aid scheme, which is a tremendous boost to Parish finances. We are also allowed to include any loose offerings in the Gift Aid scheme so even the smallest offering can add up over the year. A big thank to to all who contribute in whatever way they can.

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