

## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Amos 8:4-7  
The prophet speaks in blunt terms. Religious observance without concern for justice towards those who are poor is nothing but empty show.

**Responsorial Psalm** 112:1-2, 4-8  
Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

**Second Reading** 1 Timothy 2:1-8  
Prayer is essential, not only in individual terms but as the obligation of the whole community. It is important for the common good that we take our responsibility to pray seriously, even when we cannot see the results.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son

### Alleluia!

## Gospel

Luke 16:1-13  
The parable of the dishonest steward appears baffling at first sight. But the key is in the final comment: whoever is faithful in little is faithful in much; and whoever is dishonest in little will be dishonest in much.

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Sunday Year C

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"You cannot be the slave both of God and of money."*

In Dickens' novel *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge learns to see the emptiness and heartlessness of a life centred on the desire for money. Scrooge is saved by seeing the results of his obsession with wealth. This insight unlocks his mind and heart and reveals an unrealised capacity for love and generosity within him. Most of us don't get a mirror held up to our lives in this way, and perhaps don't need it as starkly as Scrooge does, but it's rare for anyone to be satisfied that they have enough money. The need to be secure can blind us to the needs of others and to the Gospel imperative to do justice to those who are poor.

Jesus calls us blessed when we hunger and thirst for justice. Being hungry and thirsty isn't a comfortable feeling and standing up for justice will make demands on our lives. A faith that focuses on devotion but is indifferent to the needs of others is not an adequate response to God's call. Our faith will be known by its fruits. God calls us to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with him. Pope Francis has invited us to become revolutionaries of tenderness. We do this by caring for those who are poor and all who suffer as if we were caring for Jesus himself.

Today's parable is difficult to understand at first sight, but it makes a telling point. Virtue needs to be kept in practice as much as any skill we may have in life. A pianist can't learn to play a concerto without practising. We can't grow in faith, hope and love unless we practise them on a day-to-day basis. Small acts of kindness, justice and faith are not insignificant to God. The mystic Julian of Norwich tells us that God notices not only great deeds, but also those that are small and simple, because not even the least of our good deeds will be forgotten. Virtues, like vices, are cumulative. They gather a momentum of their own. So our little daily acts of goodness become embedded in us and develop into a habit of grace, just as negative habits can become an unconscious but deadly habit that prevents grace from flourishing in our lives.

This is demonstrated in our use of money and material things. Especially in these times when the pandemic has had a negative effect on many people's disposable income, it can be hard to think of the needs of others before our own. We may be tempted to think that we will take care of others once we have secured our own

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>17 Sept</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	John Nally RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>18 Sept</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>18 Sept</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Andrew J Marren RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	20 Sept	10.00am	NO MASS
Wednesday	21 Sept	10.00am	NO MASS
Thursday (St Helen's)	22 Sept	10.00am	NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	23 Sept	10.00am	NO MASS
Saturday (St Michael's)	24 Sept	10.00am	NO MASS
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>24 Sept</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>25 Sept</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Margaret Howitt 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>25 Sept</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	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.

wellbeing. But Jesus reminds us that our heart will be where our treasure is. If we treasure goodness and justice above our own security, we will find that God becomes our security and a rock on which we can build our lives in trust.

It's frequently noticed by fundraisers and those who work for charities that, proportionately, those who are poorer themselves tend to give more money to poor and disadvantaged people than do the wealthy. It is perhaps easier to see and act on the need for justice when we have been in need of justice ourselves. Acting for justice, whether by campaigning and raising awareness, by prayer or by direct involvement in caring for those in need, is the necessary fruit and proof of faith. A faith that is focused mainly on devotional practice with little or no focus on the poor and suffering Christ living among us risks becoming merely an abstraction and a dream that has little effect in reality. Pope Francis teaches us that God invites us to "touch the suffering flesh of Christ in others". If we want to come close to Jesus, the nearest way is through our suffering sisters and brothers.

We may not feel that our contribution to the common good is going to make much difference but, however small, what we give day by day, whether in material terms or by way of our actions and attitude towards our neighbour, makes a difference to the kind of human being that we are. This is how we grow into being "Christ for others", especially for those whose only access to the Gospel is through us. Jesus calls us not only to hear the Gospel but to live it in the small actions and attitudes of our lives. This is the principal way in which we become evangelisers of those around us.

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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 Hout, 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.

### **Requiescat in Pace**



*HM Queen Elizabeth II, 1926-2022*

### **Masses**

Please note there will be no weekday masses next week.

### **Rosary at Goldthorpe**

The Rosary is each Wednesday at 1.30pm.

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

The Bonus Ball for 10<sup>th</sup> September was number 9. The winners were G Allsopp in Goldthorpe and M McAllister in Hoyland.

### **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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Home Mission Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September Second Collection**

Each year we celebrate Home Mission Sunday, when the Bishops invite parishes to pray for the mission of the Church in England and Wales. There will be a second collection this weekend to support the work of evangelisation.

### **Second Collection for CES 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September**

Thank you for your generous donations for the Catholic Education Service. You raised £172.46 in total.

### **CAFOD Pakistan Floods Emergency Appeal.**

The Parish has sent £200 to CAFOD, which has been collected through recent donations and from the Coppers for CAFOD jars in the back of church.

### **St Bernadette Relic Tour - 4th/5th October 2022.**

Please see the programme for the visit of the relics to the Diocese of Hallam. Each year our diocese goes on pilgrimage to Lourdes. Next month, Lourdes is coming to our diocese. All are very welcome. Registration is useful but not required and you can attend any of the liturgies at the Cathedral and St-Peter-in-Chains, Doncaster. For more information on this national event please visit [www.hallam-lourdes.com](http://www.hallam-lourdes.com) <<http://www.hallam-lourdes.com>> and [www.stbernadette.org.uk](http://www.stbernadette.org.uk) A short video trailer gives more information on <https://www.youtube.com/w>

### **Annual Mass Count**

This weekend is the first of four, when the number of mass attendees has to be recorded.

### **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