

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Amos 6:1. 4-7

The prophet denounces the complacency of wealthy people who live a life of luxury and pleasure, while ignoring the dangers into which the society around them is falling.

Responsorial Psalm 145:6-10

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 6:11-16

The writer encourages the young leader of the community to take Jesus as his example and so live up to the demands and responsibilities of his position.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells the story of the fate of the rich man and the beggar Lazarus, warning his listeners of the danger of neglecting those who are in need of help and assistance.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 25th September 2022

Sunday Year C

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	24 Sept	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	25 Sept	9.00am	Margaret Howitt 90 th Birthday
Sunday (St Helen`s)	25 Sept	11.00am	Minnie Helen Pozorski RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	27 Sept	10.00am	Edwin Hanneman RIP
Wednesday	28 Sept	10.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thursday (St Helen`s)	29Sept	10.00am	Minnie Helen Pozorski RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	30 Sept	10.00am	David Barry RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	1 Oct	10.00am	A Family Conversion
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	1 Oct	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	2 Oct	9.00am	Gordon English RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	2 Oct	11.00am	Dominic, Winnie and Julia Kilroy RIP

Divine Mercy Chaplet is at 3.00pm on Fridays at St. Michael's Church

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available upon request.

Rosary at Goldthorpe each Wednesday at 1.30pm

There is a scene in the musical film *My Fair Lady* in which Alfred Doolittle, father of Eliza, calls on Professor Henry Higgins in the hope of being granted money in exchange for his daughter's staying with the teacher of elocution and his household. In explaining his motive, as well as his somewhat cynical attitude towards the situation, Doolittle describes himself as one of "the undeserving poor". He does not claim any particular right to be given funds, but cites his needs, particularly for beer, which, he says, are just as great "as any widow who gained money from six charities for the death of the same husband".

This distinction between so-called *deserving* and *undeserving* poor people was an idea common in Victorian times and can still be detected today, when certain people refer to those who are unemployed and those on benefits as "shirkers" or "scroungers", with the inevitable moral judgement that such terms imply.

In the Bible, we find that poor people are the particular concern of the prophets. We remember that the prophets are God's spokespeople, so their words carry weight. They urge their listeners to be attentive to the needs of those who are most vulnerable in society, whom they often describe as "the widow", "the orphan" and "the poor". These are people who are dependent on the goodwill of better-off members of the society.

However, for the prophets, looking after those who are less fortunate is not an act of charity: it is a matter of justice. In the Hebrew scriptures, the land belongs to God and is given to the people of Israel in trust, to be looked after and used for the benefit of all the people. Everyone is supposed to have a share in the land and its produce. So, for the prophets of Israel, the fact that there are poor people is an indictment of the society: it is a sign that something is wrong. The prophets are concerned with poor people, not because they think that they are particularly pious or close to God, not because they consider them to be deserving, but simply because they are poor. It does not matter whether others would regard them as deserving or undeserving: the prophets are saying, in uncompromising terms, that

such distinctions in wealth and standards of living are wrong in the sight of God, and if better-off people do not realise this, then they will be taught a painful lesson. Jesus' parable illustrates this theme, one with which Luke is especially concerned in his Gospel account. We do not know why Lazarus is in such dire circumstances, and the fact that we are not told suggests that it does not matter. The point is that cheek by jowl we have extreme wealth and extreme poverty. In our world, we can see the same situation. There is a tendency to think that helping poor people is a matter of charity; but for the prophets this is a question of justice. As Christians, we have to take the word of God as presented in the scriptures seriously. That is the warning the Lord delivers to the rich man about his relatives: "if they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets" (that is, the word of God), then nothing will convince them.

Jesus stands in the line of the prophets and it is his teaching in the Gospel that we must think about. It is when we find Jesus' teaching most awkward and uncomfortable that we might ask ourselves why. In our context, the prophets would not see the existence of foodbanks as a positive sign of the generosity of the community; rather, their question would be: why do such centres exist in the first place? Perhaps we should be more involved in the political life of our country and ask uncomfortable questions of our elected representatives in national government, and also our local councillors, about these issues. If we think that the Church should stay out of politics and confine itself simply to matters of religion, we might keep in mind the words attributed to Hélder Câmara, the Brazilian Archbishop of Recife, who made the distinction between charity and justice in a telling observation: "When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint: when I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist!"

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Ellen Cooper, Percy Winterton, Kath Hardy, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Houlton, 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

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bridie Pickering who died recently. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

CAFOD Family Fast Day 7th October – World Food Crisis Appeal

Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. As each day goes by, the situation worsens. As people of faith we must act. Your donations can help CAFOD's local experts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst affected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Please give today or start a monthly gift to CAFOD. Use the envelope for our parish collection or go to cafod.org.uk/fastday.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball for 17th September was number 15. The winners were E Goddard in Goldthorpe and D Coefield in Hoyland.

Annual Mass Count

This weekend is the second of four, when the number of mass attendees is recorded.

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.

Home Mission Sunday 18th September Second Collection

The total raised last weekend was £220.23. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Next month, Lourdes is coming to our diocese. You can attend any of the liturgies at St Marie's Cathedral or St-Peter-in-Chains, Doncaster. All are very welcome. For more information visit www.hallam-lourdes.com <<http://www.hallam-lourdes.com>> and www.stbernadette.org.uk A short video trailer gives more information on <https://www.youtube.com/w>

Readers at Goldthorpe

It will soon be time to draw up the Readers rota for Goldthorpe for the next few months. As ever, a big thank you to all those who undertake this important ministry. If you would like to become a Reader please just let Amanda Campbell know - we currently have a team of 5 readers, so you would only be called upon every 6 weeks.

Schools Update

The three primary schools of Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe, St. Michael and All Angels, Wombwell and St Helen's, Hoyland, each have their own facebook page, which you are very welcome to visit, 'like' and follow to see what is happening in our schools. St Helen's is holding an open day on Thursday 29th September from 1.00pm onwards, if parents would like to bring their children for a look around and then visit the petting zoo. There are spaces in most of the year groups so it is a welcome opportunity for anyone who may be considering the school for the future or are new to the area. For more information and to access the facebook pages, visit www.federationcc.org.uk

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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