

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Eccles 35:12-14, 16-19
The Lord hears our prayers and calls us to serve him with all our hearts.

Responsorial Psalm 32:2-3,17-19,23
This poor man called; the Lord heard him.

Second Reading 2 Timothy 4:6-8. 16-18
In all the circumstances of our lives, God is always with us.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 18:9-14
It is those who acknowledge their own sin and weakness who are open to receive God's mercy.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 23rd October 2022

Sunday Year C

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"God, be merciful to me."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	22 Oct	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	23 Oct	9.00am	Lee Conway`s Birthday
Sunday (St Helen`s)	23 Oct	11.00am	Sheila Foody RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	25 Oct	10.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	26 Oct	10.00am	Cardinal Zen, Bishop of Hong Kong
Thursday (St Helen`s)	27 Oct	10.00am	Dominic Kilroy RIP
Thursday (St Michael`s)	27 Oct	2.15pm	Requiem Mass for Edna Yates
Friday (Sacred Heart)	28 Oct	10.00am	Bridie Pickering RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	29 Oct	10.00am	Christine Haigh RIP
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	29 Oct	5.30pm	Mary and Jim Fleming RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	30 Oct	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	30 Oct	11.00am	Andrew J Marren 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 each Wednesday in Goldthorpe at 1.30pm.

In 1975 Francis Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, "apostle of hope" as he came to be known and Archbishop of Saigon, was imprisoned by the communist regime in Vietnam. He would remain in prison, often in solitary confinement, for the next fifteen years. Heartbroken to be taken away from his people, the day after his imprisonment he wrote, "My heart is torn to pieces for having been taken away from my people."

Soon after being taken into custody, however, he vowed, "I am not going to wait. I will live each present moment, filling it to the brim with love." Such an attitude of heart enabled him to bring Christ's love to his fellow prisoners and to the prison warders. The love, gentleness and courtesy he showed to his captors led them to have a deep respect for him, though it did not lessen his ill treatment. Francis gave them a vision of what it means to serve God with one's whole heart and soul, of how someone who carries the love and mercy of Christ within can be a light in a very dark place. Pope Francis named him among the "Venerable" in 2017, a step on the path towards canonisation.

Our first reading today does not shy away from the inequalities of our world, from the injustice of poverty, the plight of the orphan or the cry of the widow. It does, however, reassure us that, while the world may be deaf to the cries of those who suffer, God is not and in fact always responds to the prayers of those who are humble and suffering. St Paul in our second reading is looking back over his life's journey. He is putting the struggles he has endured for his faith into perspective. Part of this perspective includes offering forgiveness to those who have not supported him in his mission for Christ. Paul has served the Lord with all his heart, and it is out of this love for Christ that his ability to forgive others and to meet the future with hope is born.

Our Gospel reading offers us the parable of the Pharisee and tax collector. There is a certain righteousness in the attitude of the Pharisee, who judges himself to be the ideal servant of God. His prayer reflects his high regard for himself and his disregard for the "rest of mankind", and especially the tax collector. The tax

collector, on the other hand, simply raises his eyes to heaven, acknowledges God's presence and asks for God's mercy. God recognises his humility and his openness of heart sets him at rights with God. In his poverty of heart, he receives the fullness of God's merciful love. He goes home "at rights with God". Once again, we see that God's graciousness is not contingent on a person's status or the observance of the law but on a heart that seeks to serve God with all that it possesses.

We can find many similarities between the world we live in and that of our readings today. In many parts of the world, poverty, hunger and death are a stark reminder of how powerful people treat those who are powerless. Sadly, our world does not put an equal value on every life. Even our own hearts can become hardened to the suffering of those around us and we can find ourselves tempted to a way of thinking that is like that of the Pharisee. We can offer the minimum required to fulfil the law of our Christian faith without touching the core of its meaning.

And yet, at the deepest level of our relationship with Christ, we want our hearts to be open, to be expanded, to envelop the needs of others and to fill the world with God's love. And the good news is that we can. We may not be in prison like St Paul or Archbishop Tuân, but there are other prisons from which we may need to be released. We might find ourselves in the prison of righteous judgement like the Pharisee or in the prison of unforgiveness or ingratitude. The tax collector in his honesty found the forgiveness of God to be more than he had hoped for. The tax collector went home with a heart that knew God's love in its healing fullness and this same gift is ours for the asking. Armed with such loving hearts, we cannot help but be good news for all those we meet.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Karen Barber, Jan Dexter, Ellen Cooper, Percy Winterton, Kath Hardy, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Houlton, Janet O'Brien, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Paddy McNicholas, Peter Hutchinson, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, 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 Edna Yates who died recently. The requiem for Edna will be on Thursday, 27th October at 2.15pm at St. Michael's. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

Holy Souls

November will soon be upon us, the month when we pray especially for those who have died. If you would like a mass for your loved ones who are no longer with us, the Holy Souls lists and envelopes are now available from church. Masses for the Holy Souls will then be said throughout the coming year.

Home from Home Hallam

The Diocese of Hallam has welcomed their first Syrian refugee family and are raising funds to support them. The family consists of two young parents and four children including a newborn baby. One of the children is severely disabled and the family have complex social and health needs. Please visit <https://bit.ly/3RtV3hy> to access the newsletter or to donate: <https://bit.ly/3D8BzKR>

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

Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD. So far you have raised £500, of which £125.00 is Gift Aided, thus boosting Cafod's funds further.

Mission Sunday Collection

This weekend there will be a second collection for MISSIO World Mission Sunday is the one Sunday in the year when the entire global Church comes together in support of mission. All the donations from Masses go entirely towards supporting churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball for 15th October was number 39. The winners were C Tissington in Hoyland and C Jevons in Goldthorpe

Gentle Exercise Group

The Gentle Exercise Group meet in St Michael's Parish Hall each Monday at 10.00am for an hour. It is aimed at the over 55's and is an ideal way of meeting other people for a chat and social interaction as well as the gentle physical exercises, in a warm relaxing environment. All for just £2. Why not give it a try? Just come along or contact Sandra on 01226 751656 for further information.

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 in a warm place for a hot meal followed by pudding, tea and/or coffee. Lunch is only £5 and is followed by a raffle and bingo.

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

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