

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading 2 Maccabees 7:1-2. 9-14
In this book, new ground is broken in that people are prepared to die rather than submit to pagan worship, because they believe that the virtuous rise to new life, which will never end.

Responsorial Psalm 16:1,5-6,8,15
I shall be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory, O Lord.

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 2:16 –3:5
Paul reminds his readers that God is faithful and will guard them and keep them safe even if difficulties exist.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

Alleluia!

Gospel

 Luke 20:27-38

Sadducees did not believe that the dead rise; many Pharisees did believe in the resurrection. It is strange to learn that Pharisees could actually agree with Jesus on occasion.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 6th November 2022

Sunday Year C

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"Being children of the resurrection they are sons of God."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	5 Nov	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	6 Nov	9.00am	Christine Haigh RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	6 Nov	11.00am	Brian McAllister RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	8 Nov	10.00am	Anne Clark Illness
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	9 Nov	10.00am	Christine Haigh RIP
Thursday (St Helen`s)	10 Nov	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday (St Helen`s)	11 Nov	10.00am	Cyril Howitt RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	12 Nov	10.00am	Karen Barber RIP
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	12 Nov	5.30pm	Sheila Durkan RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	13 Nov	9.00am	Bridie Pickering RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	13 Nov	11.00am	People of the Parish

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.

The British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was once asked what it was like to stand in the House of Commons at the despatch box and to face the enemy. Churchill said, "Do you mean the people sitting on the opposite side of the House? They're not the enemy: they're the opposition. The enemy are sitting behind me." Of course it was a joke, but one that political party leaders throughout the world might understand. A variant of this is the adage, "Keep your friends close to you, and your enemies closer." Too cynical? Perhaps, but it is wise to remember that there may not always be a great distance separating cynicism and truth. A common theme in theatrical and operatic works is the tragedy of an important figure relying on a particular friend or servant, only to find, at the end of the story, that the trusted one is nothing more than a cynical traitor, happy to betray them. Given the prevalence of this particular feature of life, it is not at all surprising to find that prominent leaders in various biblical settings suffer betrayal at the hands of those whom they had trusted implicitly. Christians are well aware of one of these in the life of Jesus: his betrayal at the hands of one of his twelve closest associates, Judas Iscariot. Perhaps the biggest shock is that religious leaders would take any and every opportunity to put an end to Jesus, whose utterances were often directed against the hypocrisy of the religious leaders of his time.

You would be forgiven for thinking that surely nothing terribly problematic should arise from a theological difference of position; but again, just think how many wars have been started with religion at their heart – crusades in the Middle Ages, the Reformation throughout Europe – and to this day people are being executed in the name of religion.

Jesus had become such a challenge to the religious authorities that they were prepared to have him killed. In today's Gospel, we learn first and foremost that the major religious groups – such as the Pharisees and Sadducees – felt challenged by Jesus' teaching, not least because his teaching was something he put into practice in his own life. In regard to the question they asked him today, Jesus was nearer in theology to Pharisees than he was to the Sadducees, who had no belief

in the resurrection of the dead. Their reason for this was that in the so-called books of Moses, the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, there is no mention of the resurrection of the dead.

Many Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead, and this is a reminder to us that they were progressive in their theology, and in fact shared many insights with Jesus. The sad fact about the Sadducees, who belonged mostly to the ranks of the Temple priests, was that they clung to ancient expressions of theology. This differentiation between Pharisees and Sadducees is important to us today. It is necessary for us to recognise the wealth of the religious teaching of the past, and to recognise that through the development of theology, we can develop our own faith too. The letter to the Hebrews has a lovely expression, where it says, "The word of God is something alive and active." It is not something printed in a book that cannot be altered; it is not some kind of monolithic structure where words carved on it can never be rewritten. The Word of God in our tradition is not a text, but a person. It is Jesus who is the Word of God made flesh. This is, of course, exactly how Jesus is described in the opening chapter of the Gospel of John.

Sadducees would not accept Jesus for who he was because they were not prepared to move beyond a very literal interpretation of the first five books of the Old Testament. Their understanding of God was, therefore, very limited indeed. They avoided the insights of the prophets and others. They cut themselves off from anything new being revealed by God – in Jesus' case, the revelation of God *in* Jesus. If only they could have had the openness of St Paul, who was prepared to broaden his theological outlook by listening to the one who is the Word of God made flesh, and who alone can reveal to us the things of God.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Peter Gillott, Jan Dextor, 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 Jean Prescott and of Karen Barber, wife of Deacon David Barber, who both died recently. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

First Holy Communion Programme 2023

The next meeting will be on Monday 7th November from 6.00pm to 7.15pm in St Michael's Church Hall and is for the children only.

Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe Wednesday 9th November

Rosary is at 1.30pm, followed by the Marist Way Meeting at 2.00pm

Service of Remembrance Friday 11th November

The service will take place at 7.00pm in St Michael's church, followed by refreshments in the church hall. All are welcome.

Holy Souls

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.

Children's Liturgy in Goldthorpe

We are happy to share that Children's Liturgy will soon be starting again at Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe, on the first Sunday of each month. Our first session will be on Sunday 6 November, to be held in the Parish Room, during mass, and the children will be back into church during the Offertory Hymn. If your child is not old enough yet to have made their First Holy Communion, but would like to learn a little more about our faith, in a simple way, they are very welcome to join us. We are both DRB-checked by the Diocese and we are looking forward to seeing you in November. *Maureen Greaves and Amanda Campbell*

Safeguarding

We would be grateful if any volunteers who need to renew their DBS (i.e. it's more than 3 years old) would contact one of the Safeguarding reps to arrange for a renewal. Dave Coefield will be leaving his position as Safeguarding rep. at the end of the year and Fr Declan would be grateful to hear from any interested replacement volunteers.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball for 29th October was number 41. The winner in Sacred Heart was M Bennett and P Tomlinson in St Helen's, each winning £50 due to the rollover!

Advent Day by Day

As we approach the beginning of Advent, the Day by Day booklets for both children and adults are available free from the back of church. You may, if you wish, make a small contribution to the costs.

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