

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3  
People who once suffered invasion and war will one day be blessed with the joy of true light and liberty.

**Responsorial Psalm** 26:1,4,13-14  
The Lord is my light and my help

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17  
Paul appeals for unity among the followers of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom, and cured all kinds of sickness among the people  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Matthew 4:12-23  
Jesus begins his mission in Galilee with the light of his teaching and his healing power.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Declan Brett.

23 Park Street, Wombwell Barnsley, S73 0HQ  
01226 752372

email: [parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com)

Website: <https://corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com>

Facebook: Corpus Christi Dearne Valley

Parish Safeguarding Representative:  
Sheila Marren 07932 722188

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Sunday 22nd January 2023

Sunday Year A

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light."*

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>21 Jan</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Colin Hermitage RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>22 Jan</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s)	<b>22 Jan</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Andrew J Marren RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	24 Jan	10.00am	Barry Cooper RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	25 Jan	10.00am	Our Lady`s Army Intentions
Thursday (St Michael`s)	26 Jan	9.30 am	Funeral for Kath Cragg
Friday (Sacred Heart)	27 Jan	10.00am	Full Knight and Imoson Families
Saturday (St Michael`s)	28 Jan	10.00am	
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>28 Jan</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Colin Hermitage RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>29 Jan</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s)	<b>29 Jan</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Anne Clark 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

Charlie Bird is a retired Irish journalist. He worked for RTÉ, the Irish radio and television network, for forty years. His voice was his life. Using his voice was his daily occupation. One day in October 2021 he noticed that he had a problem. Something was wrong with his voice. A diagnosis revealed that Charlie had MND, motor neurone disease. All of a sudden he was faced with the prospect of a terminal illness. He was cast into darkness.

After shedding many tears, Charlie found himself dry-eyed and with a new determination. He was going to bring some light into this situation. He resolved to climb Croagh Patrick, "the Reek", Ireland's holy mountain in County Mayo, and to raise money for two special charities – for MND, from which he now suffered, and for Pieta, an Irish charity that helps those affected by suicide. In April 2022 over a thousand people across Ireland joined in "Climb with Charlie", local groups climbing mountains all over the country, as Charlie ascended the Reek in Mayo, and raised over three million euro for those charities. In the chapel on top of the Reek, Charlie lit five candles for five special intentions. He also said, "I do not know how long I will live but until my dying day I will extend the hand of friendship everywhere."

The prophet Isaiah spoke about a king who would come to bring light into a world of darkness. The people of Galilee and its environs had suffered badly from war, invasion and exile, and Isaiah looked forward to the day when such suffering would be swept away with the coming of a great king. When Matthew comes to write his Gospel story, he sees that ancient prophecy fulfilled when Jesus begins his public ministry.

The light begins to shine in the words that Jesus uses to announce to people that the kingdom of God is, here and now, very close to them. In synagogues all over Galilee Jesus announces his Good News to people who, like ourselves, long to hear good tidings. The teaching is backed up by the healing power that Jesus has, to cure all kinds of sickness and disease. He truly is a light shining brightly. But Jesus is no one-man band. As surely as he begins to preach and heal, he begins to recruit his own followers, in order to make them into preachers and teachers and healers in their turn. Fishermen will become fishers of humankind.

One of the great followers of Jesus in the years to come is Paul, a powerful and dynamic character. He comes to hear about division and partiality in the church at Corinth, where people have their favourites among Peter, Paul, Apollos and Jesus. He writes to them to set the record straight, urging them to be united in Christ Jesus. He also points out to them the central place of the crucifixion in our understanding of our life and our faith. We are not here to philosophise about life, but to preach the Gospel of Jesus, who endured the cross for our sake. The life of Jesus involved the great struggle of light and darkness, good and evil. The Lord faced many foes in his short public life. He endured opposition and oppression. He was accused of doing the devil's work. In the end he was falsely accused, condemned and put to death. But you cannot extinguish the light of God, and Christ Jesus rose from the dead.

Our lives meet with the same challenges. Our joys are mixed with sorrows. Our light is sometimes threatened with darkness. Ill health, broken relationships, depression – these and other forms of sadness come upon us. In our hard times, it is our connectedness to one another that will see us through. Charlie Bird has had the company of a dog in recent times. Charlie says, "He knows when I'm distressed. It's incredible the love of that creature." Charlie has rallied from his dark days. He has said that he wants to continue to shine a light in dark places. We all know the dark days. We have all been to dark places. We need a light to shine. We also need to be the light that shines. As one candle is lit from another, so let the light of Christ catch fire in you to set this world ablaze with the light of life.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Tony Walsh, Marie Bray (nee Walsh), Peter Gillott, Jan Dextor, Percy Winterton, Kath Hardy, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Hoult, Janet O'Brien, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Justin Phillip Collins, Hannah Prentiss, Pat Hermitage, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Terry Mullins, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher.

### **Requiescant in Pace**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Baby Hudson Kyle Sales  
The funeral of Kath Cragg is arranged for Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am in St Michael's.  
Please note there will be no morning mass at St Helen's on that day.

### **Craft Group**

The Craft Group is now up and running after 3 years absence, meeting one a fortnight on Thursday morning in the Parish rooms at Wombwell from 10.00am until 12.30pm. The next time they meet will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
All are welcome, and please feel free to come to knit, sew, crochet and natter, or just for a cuppa!

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

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 24. The winner in Goldthorpe was T Haigh, and in Hoyland the winner was Sheila Marren, each winning £25.

### **Monday Gentle Exercise Group**

The group has been running for several years and meets in St Michael's church hall each Monday at 10.00am. They have been successful in obtaining funding from Barnsley Council as part of 'levelling up' which will cover the cost of renting the hall for a year. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Sandra, 01226 751656 or 07801490992

### **Offertory Collections**

If you regularly contribute to the offertory each week, either by using an envelope or cash, please consider changing to Standing Order payment instead. Bank charges have increased fourfold in the last couple of months and from 1<sup>st</sup> January the amount of coin paid in is also being restricted. Paying by Standing Order will reduce the bank charges. These changes impact on all churches, it is not just our parish which is affected.

Standing Order forms can be obtained from Fr Declan.

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 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