

2nd Sunday in Lent

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4
When God calls Abram, it is a life-changing moment, for he is asked to leave everything that he knows.

Responsorial Psalm 32:4-5,18-20,22
May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Second Reading 2 Timothy 1:8-10
Paul tells Timothy that Jesus brings us the Good News, but following him can come at a price.

Gospel Acclamation

From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9
The wondrous sight of Christ in glory also inspires fear in the apostles.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 5th March 2023

Sunday Year A

Second Sunday in Lent

Weekday Cycle II

"Do not be afraid."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	4 Mar	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	5 Mar	9.00am	Margaret Bennett RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	5 Mar	11.00am	Brian McAllister RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	7 Mar	10.00am	Taylor Family RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	8 Mar	10.00am	
Thursday (St Helen`s)	9 Mar	10.00am	Lizzy Foody RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	10 Mar	10.00am	Tony Walsh RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	11 Mar	11.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	11 Mar	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	12 Mar	9.00am	Christine Haigh RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	12 Mar	11.00am	Audrey O`Neill 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

Sometimes even good things that happen to us can cause us to be fearful. We might be glad to have a new job, but worry that we might not be up to it. Parents are delighted to be expecting a baby, but nervous about the responsibilities. A priest may look forward to his new parish, but wonder if he has the pastoral skills to do the job. Even something beautiful can be overwhelming: the emotions we experience listening to stunning music can be almost too much to bear. People climbing a mountain experience such emotions; edging upwards on difficult terrain is something they want to do, yet it can be worrying too – they might slip and fall. And then, when they reach the top, the spectacular view evokes all kinds of powerful emotions.

Many of these difficult experiences are about trust: do we trust ourselves to take on something and do it well? Do we trust those who have chosen us? Our senses can seem to be overwhelmed by the challenge.

These are the kinds of emotions that the three disciples, Peter, James and John, seem to be experiencing when they are with Jesus on the mountain. He entrusts them with seeing a particular vision of him. Today's Gospel describes how he was transfigured, with his face shining like the sun, his clothes like light, and Moses and Elijah appearing alongside him. Although these disciples have been following Jesus for some time, nothing has prepared these former fishermen for this sight – it is beyond anything they have seen before. Matthew describes their sense of wonder, and also their bafflement. But their most powerful emotion seems to be fear.

Jesus reassures them with a simple phrase that appears on several occasions in the Gospels: "do not be afraid". Mary is told "do not be afraid" when the angel appears to her to tell her she is to have a child. The shepherds are told "do not be afraid" when they see angels in the sky, heralding Jesus' birth. They are words of reassurance at moments that are transformational. The people who see such astonishing things realise that their lives are to change for ever. No wonder they are fearful, overwhelmed not only by an extraordinary vision but by how their life is

changing and at what cost. For while they experience a vision, it is also part of a call. Right at the heart of the moment, which causes them to hide from what is before them, the disciples receive a message from God the Father – not only that Jesus is his beloved Son but that they should listen to him. Listening is more than just hearing sound. It is about absorbing what is said, embracing it and acting upon it. Listening to Jesus is vital for the disciples if they are to truly become his followers. Just as Abram in the first reading was called and had to make a choice about leaving all that was familiar, so the disciples here are hearing Jesus being affirmed as the Son of God; following him is to be following God. In the second reading, Paul also speaks of Christians being called, and warns of the hardships that might follow that call.

The story of Christ's transfiguration might seem otherworldly, nothing to do with our experience of faith. Yet even if we do not go up a mountain and see Christ transformed, we can still undergo remarkable experiences because of our faith. That the disciples saw this vision indicates their openness to do so and their readiness to follow Jesus. If we receive a sign, would we be open to it, or would we dismiss such a thing as peculiar or irrational? The disciples, of course, are only human themselves and when they see this extraordinary vision of Jesus – this sight that indicates that he is divine – they are fearful. Jesus responds to their fear with human tenderness, reassuring them both by touching them and by simple words – “do not be afraid”. When we are faced with something overwhelming – perhaps illness, or loss of a job, or taking on a new challenge – we, too, can be reassured by the Lord's words: “do not be afraid”. Life, with all its difficulties, and the Christian vocation with its hardships, can be overwhelming if we try to tackle them alone. But if we place our trust in the Lord, we need not be afraid. God is with us.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Marie Bray (nee Walsh), Peter Gillott, Jan Dextor, Percy Winterton, Kath Hardy, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Houlton, 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.

Message from Lee Conway

On April 15th, I shall be walking the Three Peaks Challenge to raise funds toward the cost of sending some of our young people to Portugal for World Youth Day in August.

I have a crowdfunder and here is a link:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/3-peaks-for-hallam-wyd>

Thank you

Lent Day By Day Booklets

If you have not already taken one, they are still available from the back of church. Please take one for free or, if you wish, make a donation of £1. Junior versions for children are also available

Easter Flower Collection

There will be a basket at the back of church at the Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe each Sunday morning up to Easter for donations for Easter flowers. Thank you.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 3rd March

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

The sum of £110 has already been sent to CAFOD for the Disaster Emergency Committee appeal. This money was donated by you through the Coppers for CAFOD Jars, found at the back of each church. Thank you.

`Jesus of Nazareth`

The 1977 mini series `Jesus of Nazareth` will be screened during Lent as a cinematic pilgrimage with Our Lord. The movie is aired in four sections, the first of which will be next Wednesday 8th March at 6:30pm in the parish room at Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe. It's a great movie and all are welcome.

Lenten Lunch and Stations of the Cross

Mass on Saturday mornings during Lent will be at St Michael's, Wombwell, at 11.00am, followed by Stations of the Cross and a light lunch of vegetable soup and bread. A warm welcome to all. For the lunch, please add your name to the list at the back of church or contact Liz Salmon. See posters for details.

Stations of the Cross

Fr Carl Schaefer and our Anglican friends at St John and St Mary Magdalene, Goldthorpe, invite us to join them for Stations of the Cross at 6pm each Friday during Lent. All are welcome

Hallam Bridge Issue 3

There are a few copies of the latest issue at the back of church. Alternatively, you can access it at hallam-diocese.com

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 35. The winner in Goldthorpe was E Dyson, and in Hoyland the winner was M Tomlinson.

Can you help?

Does anyone have an unwanted upright vacuum cleaner for use by cleaners at St. Michael's Church? Can collect if required.

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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