

**4th Sunday of Lent
(Laetare Sunday)**

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13
The spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day onwards.

Responsorial Psalm 22
The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14
Walk in the light of the Lord and turn away from the darkness of sin.

Gospel Acclamation

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who believes in me will have the light of life.

Gospel John 9:1-41
Jesus gives the blind man new sight and the gift of faith.

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
Website: <https://corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com>
Facebook: Corpus Christi Dearne Valley

Parish Safeguarding Representative:
Sheila Marren 07932 722188

Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	18 Mar	5.30pm	Deceased Members of the Goddard Family
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	19 Mar	9.00am	Margaret Bennett RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	19 Mar	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	21 Mar	10.00am	
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	22 Mar	10.00am	Holy Souls
Thursday (St Helen`s)	23 Mar	10.00am	Barry Cooper RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	24 Mar	10.00am	Gordon English RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	25Mar	11.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	25 Mar	5.30pm	Enid Finean RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	26 Mar	9.00am	Paul Galvin RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	26 Mar	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.

The Rosary is every **Wednesday** at 1.3pm in Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe

Sunday 19th March 2023 Sunday Year A

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) Weekday Cycle II

"The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him."

Setting out on a journey, the first thing many people do is enter a postcode into the satnav or into a phone. The route is quickly calculated with a few alternatives and a time of arrival is given. Although it looks very clear, we know that when we set out there are many events that can happen that may delay the journey or even make it impossible. There is always a gap between the plan and the reality, which we can never predict.

Life is even more unpredictable. There are so many matters that are out of our hands: the complexity of relationships, sickness, accidents, death, to name but a few. What we know, in faith, is that God loves us and sent God's Son to walk with us, and that the Spirit will guide us every day and night. As we make our Christian journey, the Holy Spirit is the helper who deepens our loving friendship with Jesus and guides our decisions as well as giving us courage. The Holy Spirit is our teacher, like Jesus in the scriptures, and leads us to see God more clearly, love God more dearly and follow God more nearly.

The Gospel account of the healing of the blind man shows how the man grows in his understanding of the identity of Jesus. The blind man returns from the Pool of Siloam with sight. He can see the beauty of the world for the first time and recognise faces. His neighbours are astonished. Who is this man who has healed him? The man tells them that it was "The man called Jesus." Who is Jesus? The Pharisees tell the blind man, who has now been given sight, that Jesus cannot be from God. The man tells them that he realises Jesus is a prophet. More people dispute with the man and ask whether he was truly blind or just pretending, and they also ask his parents. Then they drive him away. Jesus finds the man and asks him if he believes in "the Son of Man". The man looks at Jesus and says, "Lord, I believe." By talking to Jesus, the man has come to a deeper understanding and knows that Jesus is not only a man, not only a prophet, but also the Lord. He is the Messiah who has been sent by God, the one of whom the prophets spoke. He comes with authority from God. He is the Son of God. The man has come from darkness to

new sight. He has also made a deeper journey in faith from understanding that he was cured by “the man called Jesus” to knowing and believing that he was healed by the Son of God. He has come to walk in the light as a follower of Jesus. We, too, have been given the gift of faith and walk in the light as followers of Jesus.

The Spirit of God is at work in today’s first reading. We hear of Samuel finding the young shepherd David, who is chosen by God to become king. He is a surprising choice, the youngest and least in his family. This reading helps us understand more about Jesus, who is from the House of David, born in Bethlehem. He is a shepherd and king of God’s kingdom, not of this world.

Who do I say Jesus is? The readings show us how the Holy Spirit leads to a deeper faith. Jesus is a man, a prophet, a shepherd, a king, truly God and truly human. They prepare us for the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We are invited to trust in him as a shepherd and walk with him in growing friendship as he accompanies us through life.

Today, we give thanks for the gift of our families. Families are full of surprises and life is often a pathway of many ups and downs, struggles and joys, challenges and periods of calm and peace. The psalm invites us to trust in the Lord, who is our shepherd and will lead us to rich pastures. We can find consolation in knowing that it is God’s will to lead us to “fresh and green... pastures”, “restful waters”, “the right path” and “a banquet” and to live in “the Lord’s own house”. May we know the love of the good shepherd.

Reflection by Redemptorists Publications. Used with permission

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 Hault, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, 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.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 3rd March

Thank you for your donations to CAFOD’s Family Fast Day. So far you have raised a staggering £633.38! This will be sent to CAFOD very soon so if you still wish to donate, please use one of the envelopes, or donate online at [cafod.org.uk/give](https://www.cafod.org.uk/give) .

Diocesan Annual Appeal for LIFE

This weekend there will be a second collection in support of the LIFE charity whose three aims are to speak out against the injustice of abortion, to offer help and support to pregnant mothers and their children, and to share the pro-life message.

More information can be found by visiting the LIFE website www.lifecharity.org.uk or TEXT TO TALK 07860077339 or National Helpline 08088025433

Craft Group

The Craft Group meet once a fortnight on Thursday morning in the Parish rooms at Wombwell from 10.00am until 12.30pm. The next meeting will be on the 30th March. All are welcome, and please feel free to come to knit, sew, crochet and natter, or just for a cuppa

Knights of St Columba Easter Egg Appeal.

As in previous years, the Knights are asking for donations of Easter Eggs for children who have to spend Easter in Barnsley Hospital. If you can help, please leave your donations at the back of church. Thank you.

First Holy Communion Programme 2023

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th March from 6.00pm to 7.15pm in St Michael’s Church Hall and is for the children only.

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.

‘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 next one is on Wednesday 22nd 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

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>

Anointing of the Sick

Fr Declan will now need more time to respond to call outs, so please do not leave it to the last minute if you have concerns about a loved one.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 49. The lucky winners were P English in Goldthorpe and A Palfreyman in Hoyland, each winning £25

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