

4th Sunday of Easter

First Reading Acts 2:14. 36-41

A call to repentance, and a radical new way of thinking and behaving. Peter declares that the Holy Spirit is promised to all whom God calls.

Responsorial Psalm 22:1-6

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

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:20-25

Peter calls us to turn back "to the shepherd and guardian of our souls". We are called to do what is right, even if it means suffering.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 10:1-10

Jesus is the shepherd and the gate of the sheepfold, guarding and protecting the sheep.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 30th April 2023

Sunday Year A

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

"I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	29 Apr	5.30pm	John Corrigan RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	30 Apr	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	30 Apr	11.00am	Mary and John Coefield RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	2 May	10.00am	NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	3 May	10.00am	NO MASS
Thursday (St Helen`s)	4 May	10.00am	NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	5 May	10.00am	NO MASS
Saturday (St Michael`s)	6 May	10.00am	NO MASS
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	6 May	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	7 May	9.00am	Matthew Deakin RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	7 May	11.00am	Andy Andrews RIP

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 1.30pm in Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe

The Church observes the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on the Fourth Sunday of Easter each year, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In his message for this day in 2022, Pope Francis said that when we speak about vocations, we are speaking about making God's dream come true. The Pope reminded religious and clergy that they are called to be protagonists of the Church's mission; to be guardians of one another and of creation; to welcome God's gaze; to respond to God's gaze; and to build a loving world. "As Christians, we do not only receive a vocation individually; we are also *called together*," the Pope said. "We are like the tiles of a mosaic. Each is lovely in itself, but only when they are put together do they form a picture; each of us shines like a star in the heart of God and in the firmament of the universe." At the same time, he reflected, "We are called to form constellations that can guide and light up the path of humanity, beginning with the places in which we live."

Pope Francis said that when we speak of "vocation", it is not just about choosing this or that way of life, or devoting one's life to a certain ministry, or being attracted by the charism of a religious family, movement or ecclesial community. The Pope said, "Each vocation in the Church, and in a broader sense in society, contributes to a common objective, namely, that of celebrating among men and women that harmony of gifts that can only be brought about by the Holy Spirit." Addressing priests, religious, consecrated women and men, and the lay faithful, Pope Francis appealed to the entire Church to work together, inspired by God's love.

All four Gospel writers use the metaphor of Jesus as shepherd. John explains that the life and work of Jesus demonstrate God's love for everyone. Just as the sheep recognise the shepherd's voice, so we know the voice of Jesus when he calls us. This kind of love resembles the love the Father has for Jesus. It is a love that binds us at once to the Father, to Jesus and to each other. The gate guards against all that threatens the well-being of the sheep. Jesus emphasises that sheep recognise the voice of the one who cares for them. They follow their shepherd and will not follow a stranger whose voice they do not know.

“Life” or “eternal life” in John’s Gospel is not just about life after death. It is life that begins here and now; it is knowing the one true God and Jesus Christ whom God has sent. It is knowing the voice of the good shepherd who truly cares for us. It is life in community, finding security and nourishment as part of the flock. It is life that abounds in meaning and value, and endures even beyond death. For John, Jesus reveals the presence of God. The thief comes to kill and destroy, but Jesus comes to offer life in abundance.

We may reflect on those places in our Church where we still need “good shepherding” or where the “shepherding” has left us in need. Some issues cry out for our Church’s response, like ending violence and militarism, protecting the natural world, and helping women and young people play fulfilling roles in the Church and in society. Today’s image of the good shepherd also challenges us to apply the image to the wider world. Does not the image of the good shepherd challenge our international institutions to show a special care for those in need – those who are poor and powerless, migrants and refugees, vulnerable children and minorities? Does it not challenge our nation and its institutions to a more sincere respect for human rights? A world that makes real the loving care of the good shepherd must work to put an end to all kinds of abuse that God’s people currently endure.

The Pope concluded his message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations in 2022 with an appeal to the entire Church to work together, inspired by God’s love. “Let us pray, brothers and sisters, that the People of God, amid the dramatic events of history, may increasingly respond to this call,” the Pope said. “Let us implore the light of the Holy Spirit, so that all of us may find our proper place and give the very best of ourselves in this great divine plan!”

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Christine and Bill Mays, Marie Bray (nee Walsh), Peter Gillott, 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.

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.

MARIST PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM - SATURDAY 1st JULY

A date for our diaries! The Marist pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 1st July and our coach is already booked. Usual pick up points at Wombwell and Goldthorpe, price to be £20 adults/ £10 children. Sign-up notices will be displayed in all three churches towards the end of May.

Masses next week.

Please note there will be no weekday masses next week.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 46 The winners were J Bainbridge in Sacred Heart and L Redfern in St Helen’s, each winning £25. Spare numbers are available, please see George Burnitt in Goldthorpe and Pat Tomlinson in Hoyland.

Priest’s Training Fund

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as ‘Good Shepherd Sunday’, after the Gospel of the Day. The day also marks the World Day of Prayer for Vocations within the Church. There will be a second collection for the Priest’s Training Fund, supporting those who offer themselves for the priesthood within our Diocese.

SVP Appeal

In their effort to help the most vulnerable, the SVP are appealing for donations of body lotions for Asylum seekers and Refugees, especially for men. Any donations can be left in the box at the back of each church. Thank you.

Annual Service for Survivors of Abuse

You are invited to the Diocese of Hallam Annual Service for the Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse. Taking place on Tuesday 9th May at 7.00pm in Blessed Trinity Catholic Church Hall, Wickersley. Refreshments will be available afterwards, but please confirm your attendance for catering purposes to ipearson@hallam-diocese.com See poster in church for more details.

Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe

The Rosary at Goldthorpe will be every **Wednesday** at 1.3pm. The Rosary will be combined with the Marist Way once a month. The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday May 10th.

Second Hand Book Sale - Sunday 21st May

After 9.00am mass at Goldthorpe there will be a Second Hand Book Sale in the Parish Room - all proceeds to be split between CAFOD and parish funds. Suggested book prices will be Hardback £1, paperback 50p, but any donation will be very gratefully received. Please leave any book donations be left in the room at the back of church by Sunday 14th May.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Doncaster

There will be two events, one on Saturday 12th May and one on Saturday 3rd June, both starting at 12 noon. Please see the noticeboard for further details.

First Holy Communion Programme 2023

The rehearsal for the First Communion on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th May will be on **Thursday 11th May at 5.00pm** in St Michael’s Church Hall and is for parents and children.

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