

<p>5th Sunday of Easter First Reading Acts 6:1-7 Trusting in the Holy Spirit, the Church grows in number.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm 32:1-2,4-5, 18-19 May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.</p> <p>Second Reading 1 Peter 2:4-9 Christ is the cornerstone of our faith.</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the father except through me. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel John 14:1-12 Jesus tells his disciples not to be troubled. He will show us the way.</p>
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Service Times & Intentions

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
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	9 May	10.00am	John James Mitchell and Patrick O`Donovan RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	10 May	10.00am	Shaun Barrett RIP
Thursday (St Helen`s)	11 May	10.00am	Callaghan Family
Friday (Sacred Heart)	12 May	10.00am	Danny Barry RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	13 May	10.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	13 May	5.30pm	John Cutts RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	14 May	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	14 May	11.00am	Colin Barker 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

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 7th May 2023

Sunday Year A

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Builders will be familiar with the term "cornerstone" or "keystone". In building terms, the keystone or cornerstone is what keeps the structure from collapsing. It forms the bedrock and core of the building and the soundness of the whole structure depends on it. In the ruins of many large Middle Eastern cities, despite past earthquakes, one can still find certain ancient buildings standing. This is due to the fact that the keystone was so well placed, and in times when cement and mortar were not in use, this was a major feat of architecture.

In today's second reading, we are given a picture of Christ as the keystone, as the foundation of our faith and the one who builds a spiritual house for God using "living stones". As members of the body of Christ, we are those living stones, and Christ is our foundation. Christ is the "precious cornerstone" for us as believers and we are "a chosen race", and "a people set apart". Today's Gospel goes on to reassure us that Christ himself will prepare a place for us, close to the Father, and to remind us that whoever believes in Christ will "perform even greater works" than Christ himself.

Our world is troubled by many things and so are our hearts. Life does not present us with constant joy. Jesus' words at the beginning of today's Gospel offer us comfort. He says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Jesus himself knew what it felt like to be troubled. He knew disillusion and despair. Prior to Jesus' betrayal, and again in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus uses the word "troubled" to describe how he feels. At these times Jesus is troubled deeply, or as he himself says, his "soul is troubled". Even Jesus, the cornerstone of our faith, had to call on the Father in his moments of doubt and struggle. Jesus had to live his faith with the weight of the world bearing down on him, as we ourselves do. Honesty in our relationship with Christ and his Father are vital to keeping the foundation of our lives and our faith secure amid the earthquakes of life. If we seek to follow Christ faithfully, we can be reassured that he understands what life is like for each one of us.

So who is this Jesus we are seeking to follow? As the Gospels relate it, we believe in Jesus, a human being like us who walked the earth; who suffered loss, both of friends and family, during his lifetime; who was a friend of those who were poor

and marginalised; a healer of those who were sick; and a person of deep compassion. If this is the Jesus we follow, these realities will be part of our life of discipleship here on earth. Jesus points the way when he says: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." Jesus' "Way" is the way of love and compassion. Jesus' "Truth" is that he, the Son of God, is our brother and is alive in our suffering brothers and sisters. The "Life" we are being offered in today's Gospel is one where we will no longer be troubled, where we will see the Father and inherit eternal life. Jesus has gone to prepare a home for us. In this going is the suggestion that the life we live now is not the fullness of life for which we are destined. There is another, fuller life for those who believe, who love, who offer the goodness of God to others. This life in Christ is one we get glimpses of here on earth when we do the work of God, and find ourselves at one with God's ways. In moments of joy and union with our God and with one another, we see the promise of this new life which Christ offers to us. Our readings today offer us an invitation to look at what is key or foundational to our lives. Were you to be asked, what is the most important thing in your life today, how might you respond? It might involve those you love, those you care for and possibly what you own. It may be worth spending some time this week asking how key your faith and your relationship with Christ is to your daily life. If it is key, how do you express this? If Christ is "the Way, the Truth and the Life", how is that reflected in your life?

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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 Houlton, 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.

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.

Priest's Training Fund

Thank you for your generous donations to the PTF last weekend. The Parish raised £351.16 so far.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 59. The winner in St Helen's was M Harrison, winning £25. There was no winner in Sacred Heart so next week will be a rollover. Spare numbers are available, please see George Burnitt in Goldthorpe or Pat Tomlinson in Hoyland.

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.

Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe

The Rosary at Goldthorpe will be every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm. The Rosary will be combined with the Marist Way once a month. The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday May 10th.

First Holy Communion 13th and 14th May 2023

The rehearsal for next weekend's First Communion masses will be on **Thursday 11th May at 5.00pm** in St Michael's Church Hall and is for parents and children. The Celebration Party will be on Saturday 20th May in St Michael's Parish Hall. Donations of party food will be most welcome.

Hallam Bridge

There are a few copies of Hallam Bridge, the news from Hallam Diocese, at the back of church.

The file will be available for everyone on the Diocese website: hallam-diocese.com

Offertory Collection

If you regularly contribute to the offertory each week, either by using an envelope or loose cash, please consider changing to Standing Order payment instead. Bank charges have increased considerably and the amount of coin paid in is restricted, as banks seem to be pushing us towards a cashless society. Paying by Standing Order will reduce these bank charges. Fr Declan can give you a Standing Order form. Thank you.

Red Mission Boxes

Please bring in your Red Mission Boxes at your earliest convenience. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider using Gift Aid and make sure your name is on the box that you leave, or empty your own box and bring to church, making sure your name is on your donation. This allows the Missio Co-ordinator to log your donation and therefore claim the Gift Aid. The Mission boxes in St Michael's look like a red brick wall! Please take one! Thank you for your support and for your continued prayers for missionaries around the world.

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