

<p>6th Sunday of Easter First Reading Acts 8:5-8. 14-17 The Holy Spirit is given to those who have accepted Christ and been baptised.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm 65:1-7,16-20 Cry out with joy to God all the earth.</p> <p>Second Reading 1 Peter 3:15-18 Peter says that followers of Jesus must be prepared to suffer, just as Christ our Lord suffered for our salvation.</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel John 14:15-21 Through our love of Christ, we are drawn into the very life of the God who is Father, Son and Spirit.</p>
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Service Times & Intentions

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
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	16 May	10.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	17 May	10.00am	
Thursday (St Helen`s)	18 May	10.00am	
Friday (Sacred Heart)	19 May	10.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday (St Michael`s)	120 May	10.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	20 May	5.30pm	Shaun Barrett RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	21 May	9.00am	Mary Gutowski RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	21 May	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 1.30pm 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 14th May 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday Year A

Weekday Cycle II

"The Father... will give you... [the] Spirit of truth."

Percival Lowell was an American businessman who developed an interest in astronomy. In 1894, he established the Lowell Observatory in a high, remote part of Arizona – ideal conditions for observing the planets. He quickly became highly respected for his work in astronomy, and in particular, for fifteen years, he studied the planet Mars, and was hugely influential in spreading the long-held belief that there was, or had been, intelligent life on Mars – creatures who were responsible for the so-called "canals" of Mars. He said that these canals were red and that they seemed to move. He was, of course, totally wrong. We now know that there are no such canals on Mars. It is thought that what Lowell was, in fact, seeing was not canals on Mars but an image of the shadows of the red veins in his own eyes.

The point is that Lowell was so famous that few people dared contradict him. You can still find old atlases that illustrate these supposed canals on Mars. Lowell had no friend close to him who would speak the truth to him.

In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus asserted that he is "the Way, the Truth and the Life". In his dialogue with Pontius Pilate before he was condemned to be crucified, Jesus said that he came into the world "to bear witness to the truth". Rather cynically, Pilate questioned whether such a thing could even exist: "Truth? What is that?" In so doing, Pilate embodied the spirit of our own age, which is so bedevilled with claims and counterclaims as to what is truth, particularly on social media. Is there such a thing as truth? And if so, how can we recognise it?

Since Jesus is "the Truth", the search for truth is the search for Jesus himself. How do we recognise him? In today's Gospel, we get a clue. Jesus promises to send another Advocate – we might say another friend – the "Spirit of truth", the Spirit who will speak truth to us. Jesus says that we are able to know that Spirit because the Spirit is with us and even in us: a close friend indeed. This is the same Spirit Jesus himself received at his baptism – the Spirit or life of God. This is the Spirit who drove Jesus out to contend with the power of evil in the desert. It was the same Spirit who led Jesus to announce that, filled with the Spirit, he had come to bring "good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new

sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour". For Christians, all truth is rooted in God, in the very nature of God's self. So the truth is essentially whatever aligns itself to God's plan for humanity, whatever lends itself to building up God's vision of life in the kingdom, life lived by the Spirit. The truth is ultimately what sets people free, authentically free.

Jesus told Pilate: "all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice". In today's Gospel, he says something very similar: "If you love me you will keep my commandments." We know that we have heard the truth when our lives are in harmony with the one who is truth itself. When we live by Jesus' commandments, we are living in truth. And his commandment is simple: "Love one another, as I have loved you."

Do I recognise truth? Do I walk in the truth? The answer to that question is not simply a matter of reciting the correct credal statements. It is about the quality of my life: does my life reflect the truth of God? Am I a person who brings good news to others? Am I someone who gives new sight to those who live in darkness – the darkness of grief, loneliness, pain or sickness? Does my life set people free – from guilt, from fear, from oppression? Am I a person who not only helps to alleviate people's poverty but empowers them to live with dignity? Am I a credible witness to the love of God? Does my life speak truth? When we can answer those questions positively, then we are able to give Pilate his answer, and we know that the Spirit – our advocate and friend – is speaking the truth both to our lives and through our lives.

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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 Hoult, 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.

First Holy Communion 13th and 14th May 2023

Congratulations to all those who are receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time this weekend. The Celebration Party will be on Saturday 20th May in St Michael's Parish Hall. Donations of party food will be most welcome!

World Day of Communications

The second collection next weekend is for the World Day of Communications.

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.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 7. The winner in St Helen's was D Smith, winning £25. The winner in Sacred Heart was Paul Goddard, winning £50 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.

Hallam Bridge

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