13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading 2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16 The prophet Elisha receives hospitality and repays it with the promise of new life.

Responsorial Psalm 88:2-3,16-19 I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

Second Reading Romans 6:3-4. 8-11 By baptism, we come to share in the divine life of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 10:37-42 To be worthy of Christ, we must take up our cross and follow him.

Service Times & Intentions

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Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	1 July	5.30pm	Noreen Brown RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	2 July	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	2 July	11.00am	Paul Rendall RIP
* (ST MICHAEL`S)*			
Monday	3 July	10.30am	Funeral Service for Brian Burns
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	4 July	10.00am	NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	5 July	10.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	5 July	12.30pm	Funeral Service for Vera O`Donnell
Thursday (St Helen`s)	6 July	10.00am	NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	7 July	10.00am	
Friday (St Michael`s)	7 July	7.00pm	Vespers
Saturday (St Michael`s)	8 July	10.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	8 July	5.30pm	Shaun Barrett RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	9 July	9.00am	Jessie Turner RIP
Sunday * (ST MICHAEL`S) *	9 July	11.00am	People of the Parish

SUNDAY MORNING MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT ST MICHAEL`S FOR THE TIME BEING, UNTIL ST HELEN'S IS SAFE TO BE REOPENED

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 2nd July 2023 Sunday Year A Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekday Cycle II

"Anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it."

In one of C.S. Lewis' Narnia books, The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, the rather unlikeable character Eustace Scrubb finds himself transformed into a dragon when he wakes up after falling asleep on a hoard of treasure and dreaming of riches. He soon comes to realise that the worst thing about being a dragon is that he is cut off from the everyday fellowship of his travelling companions. So he longs to be turned back into a human again, and one night, weeping silently alone, he finds himself in the company of Aslan, the Christ-like lion, who tells him that he can be cured if he washes in the nearby well and then peels off his dragon scales. After bathing, he scrabbles away at his skin, but only a few bits flake off. Then Aslan comes to the rescue: he sinks his own claws into Eustace's skin and peels it off in great chunks. Telling the story afterwards, Eustace says to his companions that it was a bit like peeling off a scab: "it hurts like Billy-oh, but it's such fun to see it coming away!" Our attachment to the things of this life can be a bit like that scaly dragon skin. We build up around ourselves an ugly armour of sin - pride, fear, envy, anger - that we hope will protect us from being hurt, but in truth only cuts us off from one another. Even the love of things that are good in themselves, whether it is food or work or money, or even friends and family, if that love is not properly ordered, can become something harmful and destructive. What does it mean for love to be "properly ordered"? It means loving more those things that are more worthy of love. The first of these, of course, is God, who is pure love, the fountain of love, a love that is stronger than death. So when Christ, in today's Gospel, claims that it is he who must be loved more than anything else, he is making a bold claim indeed: we must love Christ as God. Only by making Christ the focus of our lives will those lives be well ordered.

But the reward promised us is remarkable too. If we love Christ more than anything, making of our whole lives a sacrifice in imitation of his own sacrifice on the cross, then we ourselves will become the presence of Christ to our fellow human beings: "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me." Just as bold as Christ's claim to be worthy of the love that belongs only to God is our claim that, by sharing in Christ's mission, in a certain way we share in his very divinity: "and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me". We must be realistic about what this invitation means. As Eustace says, "it hurts like Billy-oh". To let go of everything that separates us from God might well feel like losing our very lives. But our life without Christ is not our real life, it is something fake. As St Paul says in our second reading, "you must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus".

To be "dead to sin" requires great courage. Firstly, we need the courage to look hard at our lives and ask ourselves what are the ways in which we have covered ourselves in a hard and scaly skin of sin. What have I allowed to cut me off from true companionship with my brothers and sisters? Is it pride in my own status or achievements? Is it fear, or anger, that stops me from being truly vulnerable? The next stage is to allow Jesus to really get his claws into us. This means becoming vulnerable to the power of his call, and daring to let him rip off that scaly armour. Today is the day to let go of anger, to laugh at our foolish pride, to be happy for, instead of envious of, people who seem better off than ourselves, to be open and generous with all those we meet.

Then, when we have dared to let in the warmth of divine love, we will need yet more courage, the courage to bear witness to our own transformation – even though as yet it has only just begun. Offering our testimony to Christ's love for all the world, whether aloud or in the silence of deeds, we will bring Christ's rewards to everyone we meet.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Julia Hill, 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.

Second Collection for Sea Sunday 9th July.

Your support and prayers will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in the second collection next weekend, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously. Thank you.

St Wilfrid's Centre Events

Two fund raising events for your calendar.

ST WILFRID'S CENTRE QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT - Thursday 6th July 7.00pm Please see poster for more details

SHEFFIELD FOLK CHORALE CONCERT - Mother of God Church, 260 Abbeydale Rd, Sheffield, Monday 17th July 7.00pm

Tickets are £6, available from www.stwilfridscentre.org or telephone 0114 2555720

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Goldthorpe

Each Thursday evening at Sacred Heart in Goldthorpe, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament between 7.00pm and 8.00pm. Everyone is welcome to come spend a little time in the presence of Our Blessed Lord.

Peter's Pence

This weekend there will be a second collection for Peter's Pence. The purpose of the collection is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 31 Winners were M McAllister in St Helen's and M Burnitt in Sacred Heart, each winning £25. Starting from next month, the Bonus Ball in Hoyland will be suspended until the church can be reopened.

Little Bits of God

This stunning mosaic artwork will soon be in our parish, in the Lady Chapel of St Michael's Church. Open to the public 10.30am till 12.30pm Monday, Wednesday and Saturday and evening sessions 6pm till 8pm Wednesday and Friday. Two stewards will be on hand in the Church whilst open to visitors. Group bookings can be made outside these times via a dedicated email and google calendar, with this advance notice we can arrange stewards for the visiting groups and prepare tea/coffee if requested. For more information about Little Bits of God Mosaic visit www.godwhospeaks.uk

On 5 July, Corpus Christi Parish will host ecumenical Vespers at St. Michael's Church in Wombwell at 7.00pm. This will be the "soft opening" of the mosaic entitled Little Bits of God. All are welcome to come and pray!

Hallam Bridge

There are a few copies of Hallam Bridge, the latest news from Hallam Diocese, at the back of church. You will find a feature about the Little Bits of God on display at St. Michael`s. The file will be available for everyone on the Diocese website: hallam-diocese.com

Padley Pilgrimage Sunday 9th July

The annual pilgrimage to Padley takes place on Sunday 9 July. Assemble at Grindleford Station at 3.00pm for procession to the Chapel. (There is a train from Sheffield at 2.14pm, arrives Grindleford 2.28pm.) Mass at 3.30pm honours the Padley Martyrs: Blessed Robert Ludlam and Blessed Nicholas Garlick.

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