

## 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### First Reading 1 Kings 19:9. 11-13

God was not in the great wind, the earthquake or the fire, which were the traditional manifestations of God's presence, but in the silence.

### Responsorial Psalm 84:9-14

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

### Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

Paul's concern is that his Jewish brothers and sisters should learn to accept Jesus and his teachings.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings of the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace be in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.

### Alleluia!

### Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus calls to his disciples in the midst of the wild and restless sea. When they see him walk on the water they acknowledge that he is the Son of God.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 13th August 2023

Sunday Year A

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'"*

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>12 Aug</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Enid Finean RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>13 Aug</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Maria Deaken RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (ST MICHAEL'S)	<b>13 Aug</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>The Assumption</b> (Sacred Heart) (St Michael's) (St Michael's)	15 Aug	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Souls People of the Parish
Wednesday (St Michael's)	16 Aug	10.00am	
Thursday (St Michael's)	17 Aug	10.00am	
Friday (St. Helen's)	18 Aug	7.00pm	Decease Members of the Foody Family
Saturday (St Michael's)	19 Aug	10.00am	
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>19 Aug</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>20 Aug</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Nick Goddard RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen's)	<b>20 Aug</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Shaun Barrett 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

In August last year, more than eight thousand people crossed the English Channel in small boats from mainland Europe, attempting to reach Britain. Even in the summer such crossings can be precarious. The small boats are often in poor condition and overcrowded. In November 2021 a boat capsized, taking thirty-one lives, after the passengers desperately called for help for six hours. The dinghy floundered in choppy waters without rescue.

The 2019 film *The Flood* gives insight into the fears of passengers in a small boat on a rough sea. Asylum seeker Haile, from Eritrea, is in a boat full of refugees crossing the Mediterranean. It is buffeted by large waves and springs a leak. Despite the frantic efforts of the passengers to shovel the water out with their hands, the boat sinks. Haile survives but we later see him on a beach in Italy littered with life jackets, remnants from many similar journeys. Several thousand refugees are killed crossing the Mediterranean and seas around Western Europe every year, and thousands more face a perilous journey as the water lashing around their unseaworthy inflatable boats threatens to end their lives. Throughout Haile's trials in the water and on land he has faith in God. During his time in a refugee camp in northern France, waiting for an opportunity to travel to England, we see Haile seeking comfort in prayer at the makeshift church in the camp.

Today's Gospel tells a story about fear of drowning and faith in God. It comes on the heels of the feeding of the five thousand but it was the miracle of Jesus walking on the water that, more than any other, convinced Jesus' disciples that he was indeed the Son of God. The story unfolds on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had suggested the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side while he prayed alone, but they were not able to cross with a storm battering their boat. Peter and the disciples spent nearly the whole night struggling to get across before Jesus showed up. They were terrified, and were reassured only when Jesus walked to them across the water, pulling Peter out of the water on the way. When Jesus got into the boat, the wind ceased.

The story demonstrates that Jesus is Lord of the wind and sea, and also compassionate in serving others. It helps establish the identity of Jesus. Jesus proves himself able to take command of the elements, something only God can do. This is the first time Jesus is called the Son of God by the disciples, a statement that builds on what they had said earlier about him: "Whatever kind of man is this? Even the winds and the sea obey him." Here they answer their own question: "Truly, you are the Son of God."

Christian groups such as Seeking Sanctuary and various Justice and Peace commissions have documented the plight of refugees forced to undertake perilous journeys by land and sea. Other groups reach out to seafarers who can suffer from loneliness, depression, spiritual deprivation and exploitation on the seas. Stella Maris chaplains and volunteers, for example, visit hundreds of thousands of seafarers and fisherfolk every year. They listen and chat, they arrange Mass on board ships, they offer practical help in a crisis and bring free Wi-Fi on board so that seafarers can call home.

Jesus is shown to be kind and merciful in today's Gospel, but he also has the power to defy the laws of nature. Sometimes turbulent places are also "thin places", where God breaks through. It is the nature of faith to be willing to throw oneself into a disorderly world and hope to encounter Jesus there. And, as Peter discovered, Jesus extends life-giving stability amidst chaos and danger. He has compassion for people fearing for their lives. The story prompts reflection, about who Jesus is and about the nature of faith. Just as Jesus puts out his hand and holds Peter, he can also grasp us by the hand when we sink into our own seas of worries at times. Often we fear the difficult experiences of life such as illness, loss of loved ones, and financial hardships, only to discover that these experiences can bring Jesus closer to us. It is our mission to reach out to others who are suffering and fearful, just as Jesus did.

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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 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.

### **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be as follows:-

Sacred Heart Goldthorpe 9.00am

St Michael's Wombwell 11.00am and 5.30pm

### **Mass Offerings**

There are plenty of Masses available for your intentions, especially for weekday masses. Please use one of the specially printed envelopes from the back of church.

### **Reopening of St Helen's Church Hoyland**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August is the feast day of St Helen. After over two months of restoration work, St Helen's Church will be reopening on that day with a celebration of mass at 7.00pm, to which Bishop Ralph has been invited. You are all welcome to attend and take a look at the work that has been undertaken in making our church a beautiful place to give praise to God.

### **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.

### **Flower Festival 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> September**

St Michael's Church are holding a Flower Festival with the theme 'Care for Creation'. If you are interested in having a display, please see Liz Salmon. Please see the poster at the back of church.

### **Little Bits of God**

This stunning mosaic artwork, displayed in the Lady Chapel of St Michael's Church, is now open to the public, 10.30am till 12.30pm Monday, Wednesday and Saturday and evening sessions 6pm till 8pm Wednesday and Friday.

More volunteers to welcome visitors are required. Please add your name to the rota at the back of church.

An 'Evening of Culture' is being planned for Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm. It will include a talk by the sculptor, Richard Watts, and the writer Leonie Martin, who will read her own poem about the Little Bits of God Mosaic, which she was inspired to write after her visit to St Michael's.

For more information about Little Bits of God Mosaic visit [www.godwhospeaks.uk](http://www.godwhospeaks.uk)

### **Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland**

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 2. There was no winner in Sacred Heart so next week will be a rollover of £50. The Bonus Ball in Hoyland is suspended for the time being.

### **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
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