

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Isaiah 22:19-23  
Should he open, no one shall close; should he close, no one shall open.

**Responsorial Psalm** 137: 1-3. 6-8  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

**Second Reading** Romans 11:33-36  
All that exists comes from the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us that they are reconciled.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Matthew 16:13-20  
Peter says to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Declan Brett.

23 Park Street, Wombwell Barnsley, S73 0HQ  
01226 752372

email: [parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com)

Website: <https://corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com>

Facebook: Corpus Christi Dearne Valley

Parish Safeguarding Representative:  
Sheila Marren 07932 722188

Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 27th August 2023

Sunday Year A

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven."*

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>26 Aug</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>27 Aug</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Kitty Bainbridge RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s))	<b>27 Aug</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Andy Andrews RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	29 Aug	10.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Wednesday (St Michael`s )	30 Aug	10.00am	Colin Barker RIP
Thursday (St Helen`s))	31 Aug	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday (Sacred Heart)	1 Sept	10.00am	
Saturday (St Michael`s)	2 Sept	10.00am	Mary Lacoux Illness
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>2 Sept</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Shaun Barrett RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>3 Sept</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen`s)	<b>3 Sept</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Nico Sikorski 2 <sup>nd</sup> Birthday

**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

Many saints and other religious figures speak of a moment in their lives when they became aware of what God wanted from them. For Mother Teresa, now St Teresa of Kolkata, this happened on a train journey in India in 1946. As a Loreto nun she had been teaching in India since taking her vows in Ireland, following the inspiration of St Thérèse of Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries, whose unfulfilled desire had been to work as a missionary. Mother Teresa had chosen Teresa as her religious name in honour of St Thérèse and committed herself to India as her missionary home. The conviction that came to her on her train journey was that she now needed to devote her life to those who were poor by living in India among them. In retrospect she felt she had no choice in making this decision. She could have continued on her journey to the safety of her convent life, but she now felt that this "calling within a calling" was what she must listen to and follow.

The rest of her life was spent in carrying out the vision of how this living and working among those who were poor should be carried out, and by the time she died in 1997 her Missionaries of Charity numbered over four thousand sisters and spread throughout the world. Her own spiritual life was a journey of dryness and darkness, very similar to her inspiration St Thérèse and also St Teresa of Avila. She remained faithful to the end and is now canonised in recognition of her faithfulness and unceasing dedication to those who were poor.

The disciples of Jesus had many moments of decision-making in their time spent with Jesus. To start with came their spontaneous response to his calling, and at the end there was their betrayal of him before his crucifixion. The moment described in today's Gospel comes halfway through their journey with him. Jesus has talked with them, healed and performed other miracles, and now he turns to them to see what they have learned from their experience. Jesus is talking about the idea of a church and what such a gathering might be, so it makes sense that down through the ages the Church has used this text to affirm the leadership of St Peter and his successors as bishops of Rome.

But the content of the questions and answers is also more personal. To the general question as to what people are saying about Jesus, the disciples select the

celebrities from their tradition, Elijah, John the Baptist or Jeremiah the prophet, all of whom are known as announcers of a new age. When Jesus makes the question more personal, it is Peter who makes the leap and is able to declare him to be “the Christ, the Son of the living God”. For this leap Jesus confirms Peter as the rock on which he will build his Church. Yet, as we shall see in next week’s Gospel, Peter then gets it wrong when Jesus outlines what being the Christ means and calls Peter “Satan” for trying to turn him away from his destiny. How do we deal with this combination of the good and the bad in ourselves?

Neither St Peter nor St Teresa of Kolkata found the paths they had chosen in their moments of illumination easy to follow. As we have observed, St Peter was immediately rebuked by Jesus for misunderstanding the Messianic role and he would eventually follow his master to death by crucifixion. Mother Teresa was attacked by different social groups, whether because of her support of Catholic teaching on abortion and contraception or for her seeming to ignore much modern thinking on medicine and care. She was also troubled by an inner dark night of the soul.

If we follow in their footsteps we too will find ourselves confronted by challenges that come from both outside ourselves, whether personal or social, and from within, the conflicting struggle to decide at times which road is the right one to take. Good spiritual direction and prayer helps. St Peter had St Paul chipping away in his ear from time to time, and Mother Teresa was assiduous in her regular prayer, confession and reception of spiritual direction. Christ does not leave us alone in our pursuit of his will, which will involve challenges to our understanding as well as our strength and commitment.

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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 Houlth, 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.

### **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.

### **Music in Sacred Heart Goldthorpe**

You may have noticed recently that Mass at Sacred Heart has had musical accompaniment, as a small group of parishioners at Goldthorpe have created a music group to restore music to Mass and practice some singing. If anyone would like to become further involved and/or contribute their own musical prowess, please speak to Joshua, Lee or Franklin after Mass for further information.

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

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 8. The winner in Sacred Heart was G Bailey, winning £25.

Now that St Helen’s is open after lengthy repair work, the Bonus Ball in Hoyland will recommence on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August. Please see Pat Tomlinson if you need to pay, or if you wish to join in with a chance to win £25.

### **Little Bits of God**

If you have not yet visited this stunning mosaic artwork, displayed in St Michael’s Church, you have until the end of September. 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 local 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)

### **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.

### **Safeguarding Representatives Required**

The Parish is looking for a couple more Safeguarding Representatives, ideally so that there is one in each of our churches. If you are interested, please have a word with Fr. Declan, or contact Sheila Marren, who is currently our sole Safeguarding Representative. Her contact number is 07932 722188.

### **St Wilfrid’s Centre Charity Auction 25<sup>th</sup> September**

St Wilfrid’s are constantly finding ways of fundraising for their vital work in helping the homeless, vulnerable and socially excluded. Their next big fund raising event is a Charity Auction. Please see the poster at the back of church for further details, or visit [www.stwilfridscentre.org](http://www.stwilfridscentre.org)

### **Goldthorpe Booksale Update**

Following the recent booksale in Sacred Heart, a further £40.70 has been raised for parish funds from the sale of books online. Thank you to all those involved in organising this event.

### **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