

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Eccles 27:30-28:7
Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

Responsorial Psalm 102:1-4,9-12
The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9
The life and death of each of us has its influence on others.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Gospel 18:21-35
Peter asks how many times he must forgive someone who wrongs him. Jesus replies, "Not seven, but ... seventy-seven times".

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 17th September 2023

Sunday Year A

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"How often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me?"

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	16 Sept	5.30pm	Nora and Terry Fox RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	17 Sept	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s))	17 Sept	11.00am	Andrew J Marren RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	19 Sept	10.00am	Brian McAllister RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	20 Sept	10.00am	Shaun Barrett RIP
Thursday (St Helen`s))	21 Sept	10.30am	Requiem Mass for Phil Ward
Friday (Sacred Heart)	22 Sept	10.00am	
Saturday (St Michael`s)	23 Sept	10.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	23 Sept	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	24Sept	9.00am	John Gilliver, on being recorded as an Acolyte
Sunday (St. Helen`s)	24 Sept	11.00am	Michael Tomlinson 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

- **PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO ROSARY ON 20th SEPTEMBER**

"I am in trouble – can you lend me £200 just to get me into next month, when I will be able to repay you?" These words are so common. In families, there may be one brother or sister who always needs that extra bit of money. Someone we know may approach us and ask for some money. It may be to help a business venture. Many of these requests are genuine, the money is repaid, and a friendship is deepened. At other times it might end in anger and frustration because the promises are never kept. Sometimes there is the person who really needs professional help with managing money, perhaps because of outstanding loans, because they are being hounded by a loan shark, or because of a business deal that has gone wrong. Tragically, wills are notorious for causing family arguments and can lead to a conflict that causes bitterness and resentment in a family, which can last for years. Money is both necessary and dangerous.

Monetary transactions that go wrong can cause resentment, anger and deep hurt. Sometimes the people who generate such hostile and dangerous feelings about money problems are those closest to us, the very people we love. Such passions can lead to vengeance and even murder. Only forgiveness can prevent such a vicious spiral developing.

Jesus warns his followers about the power of money to become a master over us. The parable we have just heard is both encouraging and challenging. The king calls a servant to account who owes him an extraordinary amount of money – ten thousand talents. This is the equivalent of sixty million days of work, or sixty million denarii – an impossible amount of money to repay. The king now threatens to reclaim what he can salvage and have the servant and his family thrown into slavery. When the servant pleads for mercy, the king forgives him and releases him from his debt. He retains his dignity and that of his family. He walks away a free man who can hold his head up high. Freed from such a debt, he finds a man who owes him one hundred denarii, only one hundred days of work, something that would be manageable to repay over time. Unable to pay the debt, the servant shows him no mercy and has him thrown into prison, and so destroys his family. We may ask why he was so hard of heart and so merciless. He had received

forgiveness and debt-relief but could not forgive his fellow servant the small amount he owed him. Was he a man so corrupted by money that he always counted the last pennies from all who owed him money?

Jesus teaches us that God the Father is like the king. He is rich in mercy and forgiveness; he forgives our trespasses and the debt of sin. When we plead for mercy, he is generous, full of compassion and loving. The psalmist sings, "How precious is your mercy, O God!" The embrace of God welcomes us and is offered to all who seek God's refuge. God welcomes home the sinner and embraces a son or daughter who was lost. Sometimes we can find ourselves like the servant, who is small-minded and exacting of others. It might be concerned with money or failing to overlook minor faults. It is a failure to mirror the mercy shown us by our compassionate and merciful God.

Whenever we pray the Our Father, Jesus' prayer for us, we ask God the Father to forgive us as we forgive those who trespass against us. We are invited to open our hearts and be ready to forgive others. When we cannot forgive another person, the hurt eats away at us; we are trapped; it affects all our relationships. From forgiveness comes freedom. To be free we have to learn to forgive others as we have been forgiven by God. If we are unable to forgive another person, we can ask for the gift to want to forgive.

Confession in the sacrament of reconciliation is the most wonderful gift where we meet the mercy of the Father and begin the hard journey to receive the grace to forgive others. It might be easy to forgive once, but only God's grace can help us forgive seventy-seven times. Today's readings also invite us to reflect on our attitude to money and the place it has in our hearts.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Christine Wall, Ethel O'Connor, 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.

Requiescat in Pace

We pray for the repose of the soul of Phil Ward who died recently. Phil will be taken into St Helen's Hoyland on Wednesday 20th September at 7.00pm. at St Helen's The requiem will be at 10.30am the following day. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

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.

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

Photographs from Marist Pilgrimage, 1st July 2023

Keith Osborn, the photographer from the Marist pilgrimage, is working on putting the photos into little booklets for us and Amanda Campbell hopes to have them at mass for the weekend of 23/24 September.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball last Saturday was number 56. The winner in St Helen's was T Giles winning £25. There was no winner in Sacred Heart., so next week will be a rollover. There are spare numbers in St Helen's. Please see Pat Tomlinson if you are interested in joining.

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. For more information about Little Bits of God Mosaic visit www.godwhospeaks.uk

`Evening of Culture` on Tuesday, 19th September at 7.00pm

Including a talk by local sculptor, Richard Watts, and the writer Leonie Martin, guest singer Rachel Hague, guest organist Joshua and the Wombwell Music Group. You are all welcome to come and enjoy the entertainment. Refreshments are available afterwards.

Catholic Education Service 9/10th September

The second collection last weekend raised £119.42. Thank you for your generosity.

Second Collection Home Mission Sunday 16/17thSeptember

Each year we celebrate Home Mission Sunday, when the Bishops invite parishes to pray for the mission of the Church in England and Wales. There will be a second collection this weekend to support the work of evangelisation

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