

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### First Reading 1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19

God called Samuel and he responded in freedom.

### Responsorial Psalm 2,4,7-10

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

Anyone who follows the Lord shares his Holy Spirit.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, alleluia!

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

### Alleluia!

**Gospel John 1:35-42** Andrew, John and Simon Peter came to learn about Jesus through spending time with him.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Sunday Year B

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*“Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, ‘What do you want?’ They answered, ‘Rabbi’ – which means Teacher – ‘where do you live?’ He replied, ‘Come and see.’”*

“I was a menace as a child. Every toy that I was given, I took apart to see how it worked.” Even from childhood, David Burville of the television series *The Repair Shop* was destined to become an organ builder and restorer, when he would dismantle, repair and reassemble precious items.

We are also curious about each other. How often have you listened to someone speaking and tried to work out their accent? Have you ever wondered from what part of your hometown a celebrity originated and whether you might have met them in the supermarket or at the bus stop?

Did Charles Darwin and Abraham Lincoln ever know that they shared the same birthday of 12 February 1809? What might have happened had they spent time together? Anne Frank was only 38 days older than Audrey Hepburn. What might have been the story of the Hollywood actress if she had she met the teenage victim of the Holocaust?

Chatting with a stranger leads to discovery, perhaps unexpectedly finding previously unknown and unsuspected shared links. Such encounters can be thought-provoking. Occasionally, they are life-changing experiences.

We are all amateur detectives, investigating things that we find interesting, but many different magnets attract our energy and concentration. This is what makes life so fascinating and varied.

Today's Gospel tells us of Andrew and John, two Galilean fishermen who were originally followers of John the Baptist. On hearing the Baptist use an unfamiliar expression, they were puzzled. Why did he call Jesus the “Lamb of God”? What did it mean? Why did he describe another young man with such reverence and respect? Andrew and John, like many others, regarded John the Baptist as a prophet sent by God. How could he be secondary in importance to the stranger who asked for baptism? If Jesus was a carpenter from a small town in Galilee, Andrew and John already knew something of his background for, despite their

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>13 Jan</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>14 Jan</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Irving and Stella Bennett RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s)	<b>14 Jan</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Mgr. Peter Kirkham RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	16 Jan	10.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	<b>17 Jan</b>	10.00am	Deceased Members of the Beard Family
Thursday (St Helen`s)	18 Jan	10.30am	Requiem Mass for Kathleen Hardy
Friday (Sacred Heart)	<b>19 Jan</b>	10.00am	Dennis Turner RIP
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>20 Jan</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>21 Jan</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Irving and Stella Bennett RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen`s)	<b>21 Jan</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Annie Elizabeth O`Donovan 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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Goldthorpe** each Thursday 7.00-8.00pmF

different occupations, it resembled their own experience – but the Baptist implied that Jesus had an “added extra”. Curious, they wanted to learn more.

When Andrew and John approached Jesus, they called him “Rabbi”, already sensing that Jesus had something to teach them. They asked where he was staying because their unsatisfied curiosity needed time together, talking about more than fishing and carpentry.

When they separated, Andrew looked for his brother Simon, whom Jesus would later rename Peter. As intrigued as Andrew and John, he also wanted to discover what was different about Jesus – and so Jesus gathered his first three disciples simply by arousing their interest. He didn’t coerce them. They were free to stay with John the Baptist – but discipleship is never forced. Andrew, John and Simon freely chose to follow Jesus – and that freedom made all the difference.

Andrew and John heard John the Baptist describe Jesus as “the Lamb of God”. After spending time with him and making time for each other, their understanding of Jesus took a quantum leap: they described him as “the Messiah”. Their conversation was not focused on the superficial topics, which would have meant that, at the end of the day, none of them learned anything.

When Andrew and John met Jesus, their relationship changed from an encounter of that curious strangers to potentially lifelong friends and disciples of the carpenter from Nazareth. Their transformation from strangers to something far deeper happened gradually. Andrew and Simon Peter could not foresee a martyr’s death. John was unaware that, as Jesus died, he would receive the responsibility of caring for Mary for the rest of her life. Jesus sometimes felt frustrated in teaching the future leaders of the Church. Yet he also knew that having sparked his disciples’ curiosity, they would follow him until, like him, they paid the ultimate price for their fidelity.

“There is no such thing as a stranger: only a friend whom we have not yet met.” Understanding and appreciating another person is a risky process which needs openness and sharing what matters. Can I make the effort to discover the riches that God has placed in another person’s heart? Might a stranger become a friend?

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Paul Goddard, Margaret Thornton, Julia Hill, Christine and Bill Mays, Marie Bray (nee Walsh), Percy Winterton, 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.

### **Tea and Coffee at Goldthorpe**

We all enjoy the refreshments at Goldthorpe after mass on Sundays, and would like to invite more parishioners to be part of the Team providing these - on a Rota basis - from mid-January. The suggestion is 2 or 3 people taking on a month at a time.

Please speak to Margaret or Eddie Goddard, Maureen Greaves or Amanda Campbell if you would like to know more and to be involved. Thank you.

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

The winning number was 41. The winners were M Bennett in Goldthorpe and P Tomlinson in Hoyland each winning £25.

Spare numbers are available in Hoyland. Please see Pat Tomlinson if you would like a number and give yourself a chance to win £25!

### **A Synodal Church in Mission in Hallam**

Come and learn how to continue the synodal journey here in the diocese. A gathering for those who would like to embed the synodal way of working in their parish community over the next year.

Date and time: Saturday 20 January 2024 9:30-11:30am at the Hallam Pastoral Centre

Please book on the diocesan Eventbrite page using the QR Code



### **“Becoming Synodal.”**

*The Diocese is inviting every parish to a “retreat at home” on becoming synodal. This retreat is designed to introduce the practice of synodality, and uses the Diocesan syntheses report as a basis for prayerful reflection.*

*A taster session at the Pastoral Centre will be held for those who are interested in running the retreat in their parish community.*

Date and time: Saturday 3 February 2024 10:00-12:00noon at the Hallam Pastoral Centre



### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Churches Together in Hoyland & District are hosting a Service of Worship for Christian Unity on Sunday 21st January at 3.15pm in St Peter’s Church, Hoyland. Everyone is welcome.

### **Hallam Bethlehem Fund**

Thank you to everyone who signed the big Christmas card at Goldthorpe and made a donation to the Hallam Bethlehem Fund - the sum of £66 was raised, making the total altogether, including our other two churches, £101.30

### **St. Vincent De Paul Society in the Dearne Valley.**

The SVP would like to thank all parishioners for their generous continued support. In the last twelve months we have supported many housebound parishioners with visits and telephone calls. Additionally, we have assisted a growing number of needy families, those without permanent homes, the asylum seekers & refugee families in Hallam, God bless you all. Yours in St Vincent’s name.

If you would like to volunteer or help the SVP in the future, please speak with a Vincentian.

Corpus Christi Parish SVP contact is Liz Salmon.

### **Confirmation 2024**

The Confirmation programme for 2024 will commence on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30-8.00pm at Holy Rood Parish Hall. Parents are asked to attend the first session and to provide a copy of their child’s baptismal certificate. Please see Fr Declan for more information.