

## 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Job 7: 1-4. 6-7  
Life is a burden for the melancholy who have no hope.

**Responsorial Psalm** 146:1-6  
Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23  
To preach the Gospel is a duty, even if it's one that is not chosen.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mark 1:29-39  
He cured many who were suffering.

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Sunday Year B

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"He cured many who were suffering."*

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>3 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>4 Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	For the Intentions of Fr Shryane
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>4 Feb</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Fr Denis Norman RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	6 Feb	10.00am	Tina Giles
Wednesday (St Michael's)	7 Feb	10.00am	Shaun Barrett RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	8 Feb	10.00am	NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	9 Feb	10.00am	Jim & Mary Fleming RIP
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>10 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Concannon and Hampstead Families RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>11 Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Ethel O'Connor RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen's)	<b>11 Feb</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish

**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 7.00-8.00pm

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO MASS AT ST HELEN'S ON THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

If you've ever come into contact with a charity or other organisation that works with people who are really down on their luck – people who are suffering from homelessness, say, or unemployment, or drug and drink problems – then you will have heard tales of how it's not just the experience of physical suffering that is so hard, but how troubled they have been, often feeling as if they have no hope left. But you often hear remarkable stories of transformation – of how those who have fallen by the wayside have been picked up by an organisation and helped to have their lives turned around. Even more extraordinary are the stories of those who, with help, have not only rebuilt their lives and rediscovered hope, but have then volunteered to help others. It's like a reverse domino effect: once one is built up, others are too. A community is formed where once people felt isolated, worn down by life, and are now healed.

This account from Mark's Gospel is typical of many of the stories of Jesus' ministry. It is the Sabbath and Jesus has been to synagogue with James and John, and then they went on to Simon and Andrew's house. They would have followed tradition by resting for the rest of the Sabbath, until they discover that there is someone in need – Simon's mother-in-law, who is sick. So, Jesus puts scruples to one side and focuses on what matters and attends to the woman. She is only the first of many to call for his help that day. By sundown, the end of the Sabbath, practically the whole town is crowding into the house.

Nobody of faith is turned away, but eventually there comes a time when even Jesus needs a break. It's worth noting how often we are told in the Gospels that Jesus takes times to pray. Prayer is as much a part of his life as action, before he again fulfils his mission by preaching. There is one line in this Gospel that could easily be overlooked but is deeply significant because it confirms how the impact of Jesus means conversion: when Simon's mother-in-law is cured of her fever, she doesn't relax, or run to tell people all about it. It is her moment to wait on the others – to serve them, just as Jesus had served her.

The verses from Job, heard as part of the readings, suggest a sense of isolation, of feeling that life offers no purpose, no meaning and is overwhelming. Those are

sentiments that could equally be expressed by people today. Job's world seems very small: he doesn't look out to others, nor is there a sense of God being there to sustain him.

Mark's Gospel is very different. Even on a quiet Sabbath day, this world is teeming with people: Jesus and his apostles, Simon's mother-in-law, the crowds who flock to Simon's house. Jesus is at the centre of a community. There is not the same isolation. But it is Jesus who makes a difference, turning to each person who needs him, one by one.

Like those who follow him in Mark's Gospel, we too can have our lives transformed by Jesus. Conversion requires trust, though, and like those who came to Simon's house at the end of the Sabbath day, trusting that Jesus would cure them, so we must be ready to offer him our trust if we are to undergo our own conversion.

A cure of a physical ailment may take a moment and last a lifetime, but conversion is not a one-off. Like a physical cure, it is about one's life changing for good, but it also requires our constant engagement. Conversion is a relationship, a mutual exchange between God and ourselves. God's love is there for us – but are we willing to reciprocate?

We glimpse an insight into what full engagement – that conversion – means from what happens to Simon's mother-in-law. Jesus overturns the Sabbath order to cure her of fever that day, and what he gives to her inspires her to in turn give to others as she waits on them.

Conversion brings us to God, just as the encounter of Simon's mother-in-law with Jesus brought her to God. But sustaining our conversion needs prayer, just as Jesus also needed prayer. And that prayer will also help us build our relationships with our communities. Converted to Jesus, ready to serve others, we will, unlike Job, be able to cast aside our melancholy and our eyes will indeed see joy.

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Tony Wood, Mary Smith, Fr Carl Schaefer, Paul Goddard, Margaret Thornton, Julia Hill, Christine and Bill Mays, Percy Winterton, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Hault, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Justin Phillip Collins, Hannah Prentiss, Pat Hermitage, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss.

### **Terry Mullins RIP**

The funeral service for Terry Mullins will be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February in St Michael's Church.

### **Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe**

#### **Rosary at Goldthorpe**

The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Please note there will be no Rosary meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Hallam Bridge**

There are a few copies of the latest edition Hallam Bridge, the news from Hallam Diocese, at the back of church. This latest edition features our parishioner, Audrey Salmon receiving her Papal Award in recognition of her service to the Church.

The file is available for everyone on the Diocese website: [hallam-diocese.com](http://hallam-diocese.com)

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

The winning number was 16. The winners were R Whitfield in Goldthorpe and M McAllister in Hoyland, each winning £25.

### **Catholic Association for Racial Justice**

Thank you for your offerings for last week's second collection. The parish raised £170.65

### **Confirmations 2024**

This year's programme continues with the next meeting on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February from 6.30-8.0pm in Holy Rood Parish Hall.

### **World Day of Prayer – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

This year's service has been prepared by the women of Palestine, the theme is "I beg you, bear with one another in love". The local service for Goldthorpe will be held at St Peter's Church Barnburgh, 2pm on Friday 1st March. Anyone who would like to be involved with the readings at the service is invited to attend a first meeting at Barnburgh Church Hall at 2pm on Friday 16th February.  
(The Hall is behind and to the left of church.)

### **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