

## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46  
There are always people who are excluded, but Christ is the great uniter.

**Responsorial Psalm** 31:1-2,5,11  
You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 10:31–11:1  
There is no action too trivial to offer to the glory of God.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mark 1:40-45

The harshness of the law excluding lepers prepares the way for the mercy of Christ.

## 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

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 11th February 2024

Sunday Year B

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*"You can heal me."*

## Service Times & Intentions

<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
Tuesday (St Helen's)	13 Feb	10.00am	NO MASS
<b>Ash Wednesday</b> (Sacred Heart)	14 Feb	9.00am	People of the Parish
<b>Ash Wednesday</b> (St Helen's)	14 Feb	11.00am	Kathleen Collins, Successful Operation
<b>Ash Wednesday</b> (St Michael's)	14 Feb	7.00pm	Shaun Barrett RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	15 Feb	10.00am	Peter Gilmartin RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	16 Feb	10.00am	Tony Walsh RIP
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>17 Feb</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>18 Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Michael Eaton RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen's)	<b>18 Feb</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Audrey O'Neill 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 7.00-8.00pm

The hospital movement began when Jesus welcomed lepers into his presence and said one word in Greek, which we translate as "I want to."

Medieval pilgrimages led to the development of hospitals. Since people often made pilgrimages because they were unwell, they needed places to stay. So, hospital meant, literally, a place for guests, a word derived from the Latin "*hospes*", meaning "stranger" or "guest". The guest-house owners gradually developed considerable medical knowledge and practical ways of helping sick people to recover.

Christianity and health care have long been closely associated. The World Day for the Sick, which is celebrated today, was instituted in 1992 by Pope St John Paul II. He intended it to be "a special time of prayer and sharing, of offering one's suffering for the good of the Church and of reminding everyone to see in his sick brother or sister the face of Christ".

Appropriately, the World Day for the Sick is celebrated on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes, although this year it is not observed, as it falls on a Sunday. Nevertheless, it makes today a very good day for thinking and praying about healing and health care, and our Bible readings provide us with a focus.

The contrast between the passages from the Old and New Testaments is striking. The "lepers" of the Bible were clearly people with severe skin disfigurements. Whether or not they suffered from leprosy, as "Hansen's disease", the Old Testament law about leprosy was a form of both exclusion and inclusion. At that time leprosy was thought to be highly contagious, so it was, in part, practical. If the skin condition was severe enough, according to the judgement of a priest, the leper was forced to live at the edge of the camp — not completely excluded but travelling on the periphery.

By contrast, in Mark's Gospel Jesus is "moved with pity" for the leper who approaches him, even reaching out to touch him. Then he says a word that we translate as the phrase "I want to."

Christianity didn't invent medicine, or even make great progress in finding cures, although inventive medieval monks and many Christians throughout history have contributed greatly to modern health care. Rather, Jesus brought sick people into

the very heart of Christianity. The hospital is a work of Christ because it reverses the practice of excluding sick people and gathers them into a place of care.

Despite the very real risk of infection, the medieval hostellers kept caring for sick pilgrims, believing that to die in their service assured their own place in heaven. Today, the many Christians working in modern health care – and those who don't – make caring their business. Perhaps we should all take the word "carer" more literally because we are all involved in the business of caring.

So, what is the meaning of caring in this sense? Ways in which we can help include encouraging and praying for medical staff. But "carer" is not just a term for someone who works in health care. It is wider and deeper than that. A carer is anyone whose care is visible in their actions, which is the goal of every Christian. Through caring, we make our faith visible and share it with others. For what is truly in our heart will be truly in our actions.

As carers in this sense, we share our faith, although this doesn't mean trying to press it on other people. Our Lord and his disciples learned to go where they were invited. Evangelisation is always a response, never an imposition. We should trust that our faith is visible through our caring actions. We might say that we need to have faith about faith itself. Faith will find a way.

Like the original medieval hospitals, many places of care are also places of pilgrimage. Whatever help we can offer each other, life will end one day. No one is outside the care of God because God wishes to work through us. This is the message of Lourdes. Sick people are not to be excluded, but through care and compassion for them, we can bring about the healing of humankind.

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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 Hoults, 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 at 12 noon.

### **Dearne Churches Together - Family Morning Wednesday 14th Feb**

Taking place between 10.00am-12 noon at Goldthorpe Pentecostal Community Church, Market Street (next door to Post Office). Crafts and activities for all the family exploring God's Love in Our Lives. Free entry and free refreshments but please book places to help with catering numbers. Tel Julie on 07729 421405 or email: [julie@gpcchurch.co.uk](mailto:julie@gpcchurch.co.uk)

### **Stations of the Cross**

Stations of the Cross will begin on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at Goldthorpe at 2pm (after Rosary) and continue during Lent. All welcome.

### **Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

The season of Lent commences with Ash Wednesday next week. The times of masses in our parish are printed overleaf.

### **`My Day by Day` Lent 2024**

These popular little booklets will shortly be available for you from the back of church. There is also a version for children. They are free for each household but if you wish to make a small donation please do so by using the Repository boxes in church.

### **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 46. The winners were J Bainbridge in Goldthorpe and L Redfern in Hoyland, each winning £25.

### **First Holy Communion Programme 2024**

The next meeting will be on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 6.00pm to 7.30pm in St Michael's Church Hall and is for the children only.

The Mass of Reconciliation is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March in St Michael's Church.

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> February.

(The Hall is behind and to the left of church.)

### **Do you have the gift of being a good communicator?**

The Diocesan Communications group would like to broaden its membership so that it is more representative of people from all over the diocese. The group currently meets monthly for about 60 minutes. If you have any skills or experience in journalism, website development or social media content generation and are willing to share your knowledge and experience we would love to hear from you. Contact Arthi Fernando [communications@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:communications@hallam-diocese.com) for more information or to express your interest in joining the group.

### **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