

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>
<b>First Reading</b> Isaiah 50:4-7 The true disciple doesn't abandon God despite opposition and so, in turn, is not abandoned by God.	Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b> 21:8-9,17-20,23-24 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?	<b>Gospel</b> Mark 14:1-15:47 An unnamed woman ignores convention and anoints Jesus' feet with expensive perfume and her tears.
<b>Second Reading</b> Philippians 2:6-11 Jesus did not exploit his equality with God.	

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>24 Mar</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Terence Mullins RIP
<b>Palm Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>24 Mar</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Edward (Ted) O'Connor RIP
<b>Palm Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>25 Mar</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
Tuesday	26 Mar		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	27 Mar		NO MASS
Maundy Thursday (St Helen's)	28 Mar	7.00pm	Deceased Members of the Callaghan Family
Good Friday (Sacred Heart)	29 Mar	3.00pm	
<b>Saturday Easter Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>30 Mar</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Easter Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>31 Mar</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Dennis Turner RIP
<b>Easter Sunday</b> (St. Helen's)	<b>31 Mar</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Bridget Wallden-Jones (nee Dempsey) 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

**\*PLEASE NOTE\* Tuesday and Wednesday 26-27<sup>th</sup> March NO MASS**

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 24th March 2024

Sunday Year B

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Weekday Cycle II

*"She has done what she could."*

It's Palm Sunday. People knew that Jesus understood the hardship and injustice they experienced from their Roman overlords and from the rigid legalism and contempt of the Temple authorities. As he entered Jerusalem, the city of David, they called him the "son of David" who was "blessed in the name of the Lord".

The scribes and Pharisees were unhappy to see Jesus. Scared lest his popularity spark an uprising against the Romans, they worried that people might reject their own authority. They also resented his condemnation of their behaviour:

The scribes and Pharisees saw Jesus on Palm Sunday and plotted his death.

Simon invited Jesus to his home as a topic of conversation between himself and his guests. He didn't care that Jesus was hot, tired, dusty and deserved respect.

The unnamed woman, seeing their bad manners, grabbed her best perfume with which to anoint Jesus. She hadn't expected to burst into tears, hadn't thought to carry a towel, and so she dried his feet with her hair. She didn't care what others might say. Jesus understood and accepted her: that was all that mattered.

Today's Gospel readings show two sides of the same story. As Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, the ordinary people celebrated his presence among them whilst, in the background, the authorities criticised and plotted. True, within a few days, because the scribes and Pharisees were experts at manipulating crowds, some would call for Jesus' crucifixion.

In Simon's house, an unnamed woman anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume, washing them with her tears and drying them with her hair. Meanwhile, the "more important" people condemned both her lifestyle and her behaviour.

Both stories describe "them and us" situations. When Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, the scribes and Pharisees condemned the actions of those who welcomed him. When the woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears, she was scorned because of her extravagance and because of the spectacle she had made in "polite society". Jesus was criticised for ignoring convention and letting the woman touch him. He hadn't stopped her actions which had also highlighted Simon's disrespect in not washing the feet of a guest. The fragrance of her perfume

would linger inside the house for several days, reminding Simon of his social sin of neglecting a visitor.

A customer in a jewellery shop looked at a crucifix. "Other people might reject him," she said, "but I wouldn't. If I'd seen Jesus, I would have followed him." She sounded like Peter, who declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you" – and then denied Jesus three times. Yet Peter eventually walked his own Way of the Cross. Was the woman truly Jesus' unswervingly faithful, lifelong disciple? Only she and God know the answer.

Steve's daily prayer had become that of the Good Thief: "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Serving out his life sentence, Steve declared, "If I'd known God, I wouldn't have committed my crimes. I'm so sorry for what happened." Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus initially stayed hidden, scared of other people's reactions. Yet when they recognised the truth of Jesus, they were unafraid and remained faithful to their deaths. Did other Jewish leaders imitate their example?

The crowd who welcomed Jesus on Palm Sunday included some people who, several days later, would call for his death, but there were also faithful followers to whom Jesus meant everything and would later prove it by paying the ultimate price. Did those who called "Crucify him!" later bitterly regret their words?

When the unnamed woman anointed Jesus, she ignored the wagging tongues. Her heart was his forever, regardless of the consequences.

It takes courage to make new beginnings and to move beyond the letter of the law to embrace its God-given spirit. Jesus showed us the possibilities. Where do I stand?

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### **Prayers for the Sick**

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Owen Jenkinson, Tony Wood, Mary Smith, Fr Carl Schaefer, Paul Goddard, Julia Hill, Christine and Bill Mays, Percy Winterton, 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, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss.

### **Requiescant in Pace**

We pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Howitt and of Patricia Burtoft who both died recently. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HOYLAND AND DISTRICT** Good Friday Service outside the Hoyland Common Co-op on Friday 29th March at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome.

### **Hallam Support for LIFE Second Collection 16/17<sup>th</sup> March**

Last weekend's second collection for the cause was missed in Hoyland, so will be taken this weekend. Thank you for your support.

### **Good Friday Collection for the Holy Places in Palestine**

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken in every Catholic Church to support the people and places of the Holy Land.

### **CAFOD Family Fast Update**

Your generosity following the appeal of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March has enable the parish to send £542.43, of which £130 was Gift Aided. Thank you.

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

The winning number was 51. The lucky winner was M McAllister in Hoyland, winning £25. There was no winner in Goldthorpe so next week will be a rollover.

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:-Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

Please send your Booking Forms in as soon as possible so that plans can be made. Booking forms available to download at [www.hallam-lourdes.com](http://www.hallam-lourdes.com). Enquiries **01302 247910** or **07724 650066**. Fare **£879pp - 6 nights Full Board** (excl. Ins.) flying from Leeds Bradford Airport direct to Lourdes.

### **Knights of St Columba Easter Egg Appeal.**

As in previous years, the Knights are asking for donations of Easter Eggs for children who have to spend Easter in Barnsley Hospital. If you can help, please leave your donations at the back of church. Thank you

### **Easter cards on sale at Goldthorpe**

There are a few packs of religious Easter cards for sale in the room at the back of church. 10 cards for £2.50, proceeds to church funds.

### **Volunteers needed – St Gerards and Immaculate Conception, Rotherham**

Would you like to be involved in a group for parents/ carers and children under 5? Caritas Diocese of Hallam needs volunteers to help establish a 'Musical Tots' group to take place at Immaculate Conception Church Hall and St Gerard's Parish Room. This will be a fun group where children can enjoy music and playing instruments, we will also serve some healthy snacks and refreshments. No experience needed!

For more information please contact Janet Kent 07927657462 [jkent@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:jkent@hallam-diocese.com)

### **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