

3rd Sunday of Easter	Gospel Acclamation
First Reading Acts 3:13-15. 17-19 God glorified Jesus by raising him back to life.	Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!
Responsorial Psalm 4:2,4,7,9 Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord	
Second Reading 1 John 2:1-5 True love of Jesus means listening to him and obeying his word.	Gospel Luke 24:35-48 Jesus appears to the disciples hiding in the Upper Room and, instead of condemning their Good Friday cowardice, offers a greeting of peace.

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	13 April	5.30pm	Shaun Barrett RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	14 April	9.00am	Christine and Catherine Haigh RIP
Sunday (St Helen`s)	14 April	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	16 April	10.00am	Michael Tomlinson RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	17 April	10.00am	Terry Mullins RIP
Thursday (St Helen`s)	18 April	10.00am	Karen Nowak RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	19 April	10.00am	David McNicholas RIP
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	20 April	5.30pm	Audrey Salmon 90 th Birthday
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	21 April	9.00am	Ethel O`Connor RIP
Sunday (St. Helen`s)	21 April	11.00am	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.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Goldthorpe each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 14th April 2024

Sunday Year B

Third Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

"Peace be with you."

It's beautiful and broken. Using stones and fire as their tools, Ancient Egyptians created the huge, 1200-ton, granite monument, now known as the Unfinished Obelisk. Before its completion, the huge stone, bigger than Cleopatra's Needle in London, broke, and 7–10 years of hard work were abandoned. How did the workmen feel? Had they wasted their time in Aswan or did they just shrug their shoulders and move to the next project, unaware that, 3500 years later, visitors from across the world would marvel at their achievements? Aswan's granite quarry had supplied many Ancient Egyptian monuments, but centuries of labour were almost forgotten as desert sand covered the site. The Unfinished Obelisk was only discovered in 2005 because someone wanted to build a house and, in laying the foundations, found previously unsuspected and immensely important archaeology. As a result, the hot, back-breaking work of our anonymous ancient ancestors now enriches modern lives in ways that they could never have imagined. The broken stone is a beautiful, living witness to commitment, skill and perseverance despite hardship. Its very brokenness was also its healing.

Today's Gospel opens in the Upper Room. The two disciples who met Jesus at Emmaus tell their companions – who were still in hiding – the good news of Jesus' resurrection. One of the Emmaus returnees, Cleophas, was apparently St Joseph's brother. So why, on Good Friday, was he missing from his nephew's crucifixion and his sister-in-law's side? Why did his wife stand with Mary at the foot of the cross and help with Jesus' burial – and he didn't? Why did he and another disciple head off to Emmaus, leaving his wife and the other women to complete their heartbreaking anointing of Jesus' body? Was he embarrassed? Did he feel guilty? Was he too upset – but what about the care he should have shown – and apparently didn't – towards Mary, the mother of Jesus?

Most of today's Gospel focuses on Jesus' unexpected visit. The disciples had fled from Jesus in his hour of greatest need. Afraid for their own safety, they ran away. They didn't visit Jesus' tomb, but instead hid in shared grief, fear and shame. They knew their cowardice and betrayal. When the women returned from Calvary and the tomb, did they voice their opinions of the men's behaviour, or did they find them too crushed

to need to say anything? When Jesus appeared in their midst, the disciples thought they saw a ghost. They deserved his anger but he didn't criticise them or make them feel any worse than they already did. He didn't condemn their weakness or highlight the women's courage. Instead, Jesus surprised them with a greeting of peace and a request for food. Their brokenness wasn't terminal. Jesus started the healing process. Throughout Jesus' public ministry, he nurtured his disciples, giving of himself in ways beyond their understanding and expectations. His followers often muddled along, following Jesus because they recognised that, in their limitations, they needed him. Following Good Friday, the disciples felt broken, but they couldn't turn back the clock and undo the flaws they had discovered in themselves. Jesus had died and they had done nothing to protect him.

But we're like that, aren't we? It's easier to see our brokenness than our loveliness and yet, to Jesus, it's that loveliness which he sees first. He knows the cracks that we try to hide even from ourselves, knows that they can hold the clue to recovery and wholeness. The ancient Egyptians working on the huge obelisk didn't see the tiny cracks which would eventually grow and potentially destroy their efforts. Yet those cracks would highlight something beautiful: brokenness needn't destroy. New and unimagined beginnings are possible.

Someone who is unaware of their own imperfections doesn't learn from experience and can be very insensitive towards others. Their brokenness cannot be healed because they can't see the flaws – and so small cracks grow bigger. Some of the world's most beautiful people are those who have learned humility, compassion and understanding through their own difficult experiences. Their struggles have opened their eyes and hearts to the goodness in others. They have room for growth. There's room for Jesus.

The disciples were very different people after meeting the post-resurrection Jesus. He offered them the possibility of a fresh start and so they started to grow through their weaknesses. Their brokenness became something beautiful and a lasting example of healing and new beginnings. Jesus' invitation to his disciples is offered to us. Let's celebrate our own brokenness and the loveliness which Jesus can repair and make even more beautiful.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Jan Dexter, Anne Callaghan, Owen Jenkinson, Tony Wood, Mary Smith, 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 souls of Shaun Logan, Margaret Howitt and Patricia Burtoft. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers. The requiem mass for Margaret is at St. Peter in Chains, Doncaster at 10.00am on April 23rd.

Novena of Masses at Walsingham Shrine

Parishioners are invited to pray for their intentions and the need of the Parish between 10th and 18th April.

First Holy Communion 2024

The next meeting will be on Monday 15th April from 6.00pm to 7.15pm in St Michael's Church Hall and is for children and parents.

The First Communion Masses will take place on 18th and 19th May. Help is needed with Tea and Coffee after Mass on 18th May. 2 or 3 volunteers to help with serving, setting up tables and washing up please.

The following weekend is the First Holy Communion Mass and Celebration Party at 5.30pm at St Michael's church. Baking is needed for the party - Sweet cakes, Buns, Tray Bakes. Donations of Cakes/Buns can be dropped off at 4pm on Saturday 25^h May.

There is a list for Volunteers at the back of each Church. Any help gratefully appreciated. Many Hands Make Light Work!

Annual Mission Appeal for the Missionary Society of St Paul (MSP)

Next weekend, Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Ogunnaike, MSP of the Missionary Society of St. Paul (MSP) will make a Mission Appeal. The MSP is a religious congregation working in different parts of the world, committed to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ and the salvific work of God the Father in the Holy Spirit. The MSP invites you to support their mission appeal. There will be a retiring collection at all the Masses, or you can use your smartphone to donate using the QR code below.



Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland The winning number was 33. The lucky winners were P A Dyson in Hoyland and A Campbell in Goldthorpe, each winning £25.

Corpus Christi Parish - Family Fun Day, Saturday 15th June 1-4pm. St Michael's Church Hall. Wombwell

Please join us for lots of fun and games. Donations of wine, whisky, beer, shampoo, as long as it's a bottle! Please bring to Church on the weekend of 1st June.

Donations of small packets of sweets/chocolates (**individually wrapped**) Please bring to Church on the weekend of 8th June.

Do you have or know anyone with a popcorn or candyfloss machine to have a stall at our Fun Day in June? Are you a performer, singer, dancer, musician or part of a group? Would you like to be part of our Family Fun Day?

Asking for volunteer for stall holding, setting up, clearing up after event, baking. BUT most importantly we are asking you all to come along and join in the fun! All proceeds to Corpus Christi Parish funds.

There is a list for volunteers at the back of each Church. Any help gratefully appreciated. Please contact Liz 07877030827 or Amanda 07505408870 if you can help in any way. **Thank you.**