

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Numbers 11:25-29
Moses rejects any claim to ownership of God's work and prays that the Holy Spirit be with all his people.

Responsorial Psalm 18:8,10,12-14
The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart

Second Reading James 5:1-6
St James invokes judgement on the selfish rich who exploit the poorest of the poor.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-4

Christ speaks the most severe of all his words. What is at stake is our redemption and the safety of the little ones of his kingdom.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 29th September 2024

Sunday Year B

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better cast into the sea."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	28 Sep	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	29 Sep	9.00am	Courtney Lanier Burke RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	29 Sep	11.00am	Josie Leach RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	1 Oct	10.00am	Rev. Mgr. Peter Grant
Wednesday (St Michael's)	2 Oct	10.00am	Josie Leach (Hallsworth) RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	3 Oct	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday (Sacred Heart)	4 Oct	10.00am	Amelia's 18 th Birthday (22.9.24)
Friday (St Michael's)	4 Oct	1.00pm	Requiem for Tony Wood
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	5 Oct	5.30pm	Nora and Terry Fox RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	6 Oct	9.00am	Kathleen Hanrahan RIP
Sunday (St. Helen's)	6 Oct	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.

The Rosary at Goldthorpe is every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm.

Nelson's Column is one of the landmarks of London. The 18-tonne statue of the admiral is more than five metres tall and stands on top of a 56-metre granite column in Trafalgar Square. It is taller than the column of Trajan in Rome, but, to the chagrin of some, shorter than Napoleon's column in Paris! Something of the history of warfare is in that statue. Nelson has lost his right arm to cannon shot. His ship's surgeon had to amputate his arm to save his life. The other wound is not obvious as we look up at the statue: he has lost the sight of one eye but not the eye itself. This happened at the first of his great victories, the Battle of the Nile in 1798. Nelson was fortunate to survive amputation. Many did not because of shock or subsequent infection. Surgery advanced in the coming centuries, but so, tragically, did the development of weapons used in the conduct of war. Amputations continue to this day. There are those who refuse to be defeated by such life-changing injuries. The Invictus Games serve as an example. First held in 2014, these international events involve injured servicemen and women. The word "Invictus" means "unconquered", chosen as an embodiment of the fighting spirit of those who refuse to be defeated by their wounds. To their number, we must add all who take part in the Paralympic Games.

Such are the tragic wounds of war. We are engaged in a more fundamental war: that between good and evil, between Christ and the arrogant claims of Satan. It is a war for the redemption of all humanity. Today's Gospel calls us to the sacrifices we must carry out in our lives. We are to cut out whatever holds us back from the true following of our Saviour. This is painful, but necessary for salvation. It demands courage. Christ uses very powerful metaphors, so serious is what he requires of us. He also speaks of hell. This is not "Sheol", the place of the dead, to which he descended after his death. It is "Gehenna" which, in Our Lord's Jewish culture, was the destiny of those who completely reject God and his mercy. Christ speaks also of the damage that can be done to the faith of the "little ones" – be they children or adults – who are especially dear to him. As a mother has love for the weakest of her children, so does Our Lord for these who are the least in his Church; he does so with all the fulness and

tenderness of his divine love. He also speaks with the righteous anger that comes with that love. Our Saviour knows the effect of scandal on the most innocent and vulnerable of believers. He uses the images of the grimmest punishments for what is done to those who have his protective love. In contrast, those who show the humblest act of kindness to the little ones are blessed by Christ. This Sunday's Gospel passage begins with a call to tolerance as opposed to the apostle John's angry claim to ownership of the power of the name of Jesus.

There are several messages in today's readings, and they all call upon the authenticity of our bond with Christ. He asks us to cut out of our lives any sin that may hold us back from true service of his kingdom. This demands courage: it is painful but necessary for true discipleship. His words are stern, but even more stern is his righteous anger against those who damage or undermine the faith of the "little ones" who are dear to him. Unrepented scandal deserves the fate of the damned. Christ takes sin seriously, so seriously that he is on his way to Jerusalem to suffer and die for our redemption. We cannot be passive or casual about the insidious power that sin can have over us, and its effect on those to whom we are called to show a special protective love. The Letter of St James calls us to the same hunger and thirst for justice. The fire of the Holy Spirit is to be in our minds and hearts, and not some insipid faith that demands so little of us. We heed the cry of Moses: "If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!" Each day we pray for the same Holy Spirit, not the spirit of timidity and fear but of all that makes of us a prophetic people, speaking and acting as servants, not self-appointed owners of God's kingdom. There is no place for such elitism among the Catholic people. The "little ones" teach us otherwise.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Stephen and Tracy Savage, Brian and Margaret Savage, Mary Brankin, Pat Doyle, George Burnitt, Owen Jenkinson, Mary Smith, 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, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss.

Tony Wood

The requiem for Tony will take place on Friday, 4th October at 1.00pm in St Michael's, Wombwell.

Annual Mass Count

Please continue to count the number of attendees at each of the weekend masses until 13th October, thank you.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The winners will be announced next week

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal Friday 4th October

This year's Family Fast Day is next Friday. Envelopes for your donations are available in our churches Please consider using the Gift Aid slip if you are a UK Taxpayer, thus enabling CAFOD to benefit further from your generous donations

First Holy Communion Programme 2025

The Holy Communion programme will be starting in October. Meetings are held once a month with the children in the run up to Holy Communion Mass taking place mid-May 2025. Any children in Y3 or above are eligible. Parents are asked to register their children before 14th October. Registers and contact details will be available in all 3 churches.

Second Hand Book Stall, Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe

Taking place this Sunday after mass with proceeds divided between Parish Funds and supporting the 2025 first Holy Communion programme. No more donations of books are currently needed, but please come along and support the sale. Hardbacks £1, paperbacks 50p.

Volunteering Vacancies with the Diocese

The Diocese is seeking new volunteers for three very different roles. Would you consider being the Diocesan Environmental Lead? Or do you have an interest in Archives? Do you have the experience to contribute to the Diocesan Buildings Committee? If any of these roles sound interesting, please take a look on the Vacancies page on the Diocesan website for more information. <https://hallam-diocese.com/job/volunteering-opportunities-in-the-diocese/>

St Wilfrid's Centre Quiz and Chips Night Thursday 10th October

Another very popular and enjoyable event, open for everyone. Please visit www.stwilfridscentre.org or see the very bright pink poster at the back of church for more details.

Barnsley Deanery Youth Mass, Sunday 6th October 2.00pm

You are warmly invited to join Bishop Ralph at Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe, for this special youth mass. Refreshments will be available afterwards. Please see the poster for further details.

Free Wellbeing Course for Women

A free six-week course for a happier and more relaxed you. Starting for six weekly sessions from Monday 28th October 6-7pm online. Come and join us for these relaxed, friendly and supportive sessions!

To book a place or find out information contact Janet Kent 07927657462

jkent@hallam-diocese.com or see poster at the back of church .

Meet Thy Neighbour Friday 4th October

Goldthorpe Salvation Army are hosting this free event, from 2-8.00pm, at the Anglican Church Hall, Lockwood Road, Goldthorpe. Food is available from 4-5.00pm – to be cooked in the `Wonder Bag`! Why not come along and make some new friends in the community? All are welcome

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