

<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> Jeremiah 33:14-16 Jeremiah prophesies that the Messianic era is coming, and God will save the people of Israel.</p> <p><b>Responsorial Psalm</b> 24:4-5,8-9,10,14 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> 1 Thess 3:12-4:2 Paul encourages the Thessalonians to live ever more deeply the Good News they have received, remembering that his teaching comes from Jesus.</p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b> <b>Alleluia, alleluia!</b> Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and show us your saving help <b>Alleluia!</b></p> <p><b>Gospel</b> Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 Jesus tells the disciples that the cataclysmic end-times are a sign that the Son of Man brings liberation; they must be on their guard, pray, and be confident before him.</p>
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### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>30 Nov</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>1 Dec</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Kathleen Hanrahan RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen's)	<b>1 Dec</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Thomas and Catherine Freaney RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	3 Dec	10.00am	Anne Chambers RIP
Wednesday (St Michael's)	4 Dec	10.00am	Mary and Jim Fleming RIP and Extended Family
Thursday (St Helen's)	5 Dec	10.00am	Sr. Christa 50 <sup>th</sup> Jubilee, Thickett Priory
Friday (Sacred Heart)	6 Dec	10.00am	Donald Campbell RIP
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael's)	<b>7 Dec</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Julia Hill RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>8 Dec</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Luke Heavey RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen's)	<b>8 Dec</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.  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Goldthorpe** each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm.

### Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe

The Rosary at Goldthorpe will be every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm. The Rosary will be combined with the Marist Way once a month. The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday December 11th.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday Year C

Weekday Cycle II

*"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."*

"Shock and Awe" in one form or another has long been a feature of warfare. An academic definition calling the idea "rapid dominance" from the mid 1990s proposed several elements essential to this military tactic: a thorough knowledge of one's enemy and the state of their deployment; swift, precise attack; excellent operational execution; and keeping complete control of the situation so the enemy has little chance of successful resistance. The result is that the other side is overwhelmed, feels helpless and believes that resistance is useless, and therefore the seeming inevitability of defeat leaves morale low.

The cataclysmic Last Days that Jesus is prophesying certainly evoke this sense of shock and awe – the signs will be of dramatic upheaval in nature, whole nations disrupted, and the heavens shaken. Such is the catastrophic backdrop to the arrival of the Son of Man. That the Church gives us this teaching of Jesus at this time of year is to point us to the second, powerful meaning of Advent: the word "advent" means *coming, arrival* – as in the Our Father's "May your Kingdom come" – in Latin, "*Adveniat regnum tuum*". The first coming referred to is the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, when the Word is made flesh, and we are, of course, preparing to celebrate Christmas. The second is the powerful coming of Jesus in the end times, when he returns in power and glory.

Jeremiah points forward to the time of the Messiah, framing it as the time of the fulfilment of God's promise to Israel that salvation will come – a beautiful prophecy that will console the people in times of tribulation. However bad things seem, God wills the people to be saved, and will act on their behalf. Jesus is direct: a time is coming where there will be massive upheaval, the like of which people have not seen before; but his message is not that the disciples should be afraid, but that they should see such calamity as a sign of the closeness of their liberation. Jesus urges the disciples, understanding this, to stand with confidence. They will remember this in the terrible time ahead, when their Lord will be tortured and put to death, and they will subsequently learn that in his resurrection, the tumult was a sign that their salvation was indeed near at hand.

That Jesus urges the disciples to virtuous living is not so that they will be virtuous as an end in itself, but so that they will be attentive, prepared, not taken by surprise at the return of the Son of Man in glory. They must stay alert, pray for strength – and then stand with confidence.

Paul seeks to inspire the Thessalonians to follow his example of love, loving each other and loving the whole of humanity. This, he explains, is so that they will be prepared for the return of the Lord. Paul has taken the teaching of Jesus to heart and urges attentiveness so that they will be ready to meet their Lord. The community of believers Paul is addressing are already living an authentic Christian life and he encourages them to continue to progress in that life. What can we do to prepare ourselves to meet the Lord? We are attentive to his presence, looking for him where he is to be found. We begin with where we are now: “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I will be in their midst” says Jesus – so he is here amongst us today; our attentiveness to each other is acknowledging him, being attentive to him. Jesus is present in the proclamation of his word – we stand for the Gospel, acknowledging the presence of the Risen Lord. Jesus is present under the form of bread and wine in the Eucharist, a truth we learn from the accounts of the Last Supper and his teaching recorded in chapter 6 of John’s Gospel, where Jesus refers to himself as the Bread of Life. We are attentive to Jesus present in those who are in desperate need, as Jesus taught that: “Insofar as you did this [i.e. offered help] to the least of my brothers, you did this to me”. And we are attentive to the presence of Jesus when we address him and listen to him in prayer. Being attentive to the Lord, we will be prepared and able to stand with confidence before the Son of Man when he returns in glory – and when we are called from this life to the eternal life he has promised.

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### Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially George Beard, Stephen and Tracy Savage, Brian and Margaret Savage, Mary Brankin, Pat Doyle, Owen Jenkinson, Mary Smith, Christine and Bill Mays, Percy Winterton, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Houlton, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

### Sick & Retired Clergy

Thank you for your generous donations. You have raised £289.10 so far for the needy priests of the parish.

### Caritas Annual Appeal Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December

This weekend there will be the Annual Appeal for Caritas Hallam. Caritas Hallam provides a loving service to those within our communities for instance 10,000 hours of counselling was delivered last year which included supporting children and their families in 24 of our schools, 100 referrals for domestic abuse, 15 wellbeing courses, relationship counselling and family therapy across the whole of the Diocese. Caritas is self-funded and has to fundraise in order to generate all its own income, which is why this Parish Annual Appeal is so important.

### Children`s Liturgy at Goldthorpe

During mass on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, two groups for children 3-5 and 6-8. All are welcome.

### Readers and Eucharistic Ministers wanted for St Michael`s

If you would like to join the rota for reading or to be a Eucharistic Minister at 5.30pm mass on Saturdays please give your name and phone number to Fr Declan. We’re looking to create a rota from January.

### Carol Service at Goldthorpe, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

There will be a service of Carols and Readings for all of Corpus Christi parish at Sacred Heart, Goldthorpe at 6.30pm on Friday 20th December. Some carols will be sung by the children of our parish, and some for all of us to join in. It’s anticipated the Service will last about an hour. Singing practice will take place as follows:-

December – 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> after mass and at 5.00pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Do get in touch if you would like to do a reading, please contact Amanda Campbell on 07505 408870. Let`s all enjoy this celebration for the whole parish!

### Carols by Candlelight at St Michael`s Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 6.00pm

You are all invited to share in this wonderful celebration, together with the Salvation Army and their super brass band. The service will be followed by mince pies, tea and coffee. Please come along.

### Children`s Liturgy at Goldthorpe

During mass on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, two groups for children 3-5 and 6-8. All are welcome.

### Bishop Ralph`s Hallam Bethlehem Fund

From this Sunday, the First Sunday in Advent, we are supporting Bishop Ralph`s Hallam Bethlehem Fund by inviting parishioners to sign a big Christmas card in each of our three churches and make a donation instead of sending individual cards. We raised £100 last year.

### Christmas cards, calendars and diaries

Now available for sale from the back of church.

### My Day by Day for Advent

Also available are the My Day by Day Booklets, containing all the readings for Advent. There are both Adult and Junior versions. A voluntary donation of £1

### Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball was 56. The winner in Hoyland was T Giles winning £25. No winners in Goldthorpe so next week it will be a rollover.

### 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