

<p><b>Christ the King</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> Daniel 7:13-14 The kingdom of heaven is eternal and can never be destroyed.</p> <p><b>Responsorial Psalm</b> 92:1-2,5 The Lord is King, with majesty enrobed.</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> Apocalypse 1:5-8 Jesus, the beginning and end of all things, welcomes us into his kingdom, excluding nobody from his love.</p>	<p><b>Gospel Acclamation</b> <b>Alleluia, alleluia!</b> Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! <b>Alleluia!</b></p> <p><b>Gospel</b> John 18:33-37 Jesus' kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. It is everlasting and founded on truth.</p>
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Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>23 Nov</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>24 Nov</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Private Intention
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen`s)	<b>24 Nov</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Andrew J Marren RIP
Tuesday	26 Nov		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	27 Nov	10.00am	Thomas John Lynch RIP
Thursday (St Helen`s)	28 Nov	10.00am	Deceased Members of the Barrett Family
Friday (Sacred Heart)	29 Nov	10.00am	Gordon English RIP
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael`s)	<b>30 Nov</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Thomas and Catherine Freaney RIP
<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>	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

## 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 24th November 2024      Sunday Year B

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe      Weekday Cycle II

*"Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."*

If we were to play a game of word association, and we chose the word "king", it's likely we'd come up with related words such as "privilege", "wealth", "palaces", "status", "monarch", "sovereign", "power", and so on. Kings, queens, and members of royal families enjoy lifestyles we can only imagine, and they're shown a deference few other members of society are afforded. Kings and queens, then, aren't thought to be like most human beings – if they were, they'd appear "ordinary" and would lose that certain mystery and "otherness" required to maintain their position. It'd seem very odd to bump into a king buying his morning newspaper in the local newsagent's, or to find yourself having your hair done in the same hairdresser's as a queen! Royalty, its trappings and status mean "not being like everyone else" in order to enjoy the privilege and prestige that goes with being a monarch.

This image of what it is be a king, to be "royal", couldn't be in starker contrast to the man mockingly called "the King of the Jews" in today's Gospel: Jesus Christ. How could it be that a king spent his life wandering from town to town, with nowhere to lay his head, never mind owning a palace; who wasn't respected by political and religious leaders, but was despised by them; who, instead of being a pillar of the establishment, upset the establishment so much they had him crucified between two thieves? When we read about how Jesus lived and died it's as far removed as we can get from our idea of monarchy and yet the Church today celebrates the solemnity of "Christ the King". Christ is King, not because he's been invested as such by human beings, but by God. Christ is sovereign of the universe because he's the image, or manifestation, of God, and he created all things; he holds all things together: without him the Universe wouldn't function. He's supreme over all things; the first to rise from the dead; who reconciled the world and us to God; the head of his Body, the Church. Jesus' reign isn't over a country, or even a continent, but over the whole Universe, because he created it. This has implications for how we treat the world, and in the future, how we treat space. The world, indeed, the Universe, belongs to God. It isn't ours to do what we like with it. We must, instead, treat it with the respect it deserves as God's creation, not exploiting it for commercial gain, but sharing its resources for the benefit of all.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is mercilessly mocked as “King of the Jews”, a title given to Jesus by Pontius Pilate as a way of poking fun at the Jewish leaders. The irony is that not only is he king of the Jews, but king, or Lord, of all creation. Jesus' idea of kingship and kingdoms subverts our conventional understanding of these terms: his understanding of them has nothing to do with power – he spent his life avoiding that. It's not about being superior or having immense wealth but, rather, about being of service to our neighbour, putting him or her first whenever necessary. Jesus' kingdom doesn't consist of vast swathes of countryside whilst being a kingdom where justice and peace reign. It's a kingdom for the oppressed, the underprivileged, those without power.

So, Jesus is our king, but we're more than subjects. We're his brothers and sisters, members of a Royal Family: God's family. To see others who are less wealthy, or less privileged, or have a different accent or skin colour from us as being royal, with all the dignity that term implies, means we can't look down on them, because in God's kingdom we all have equal value and worth. Whether we're poor or rich, able-bodied or have a disability, old or young, black or white, God loves us equally.

Over the centuries, history has seen many monarchies, many kings and queens, come and go: their reigns came to an end. Today we celebrate Christ as Universal King, a king whose reign won't end. Above all, Christ wants to reign in our hearts, and if we let him do so, the world can indeed be transformed into a kingdom of justice, peace and harmony. Today we acknowledge that our God, in Christ, does indeed reign supreme!

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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, Owen Jenkinson, Mary Smith, Christine and Bill Mays, Percy Winterton, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Hoult, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

### **Teaching Assistant Vacancies**

The Corpus Christi Federation is seeking to fill three positions, closing date of which is 29<sup>th</sup> November. Please see the posters at the back of church for further information, email [sacredheart@federationcc.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart@federationcc.org.uk) or telephone 01709 892385 to arrange a visit with Mrs Kelly, the Executive Headteacher.

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

The Bonus Ball was 41. The winners were P Tomlinson in Hoyland and M Bennett in Goldthorpe each winning £25.

### **Sick & Retired Clergy**

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

### **Change to Mass**

Please note there will be no mass next Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November.

### **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 20<sup>th</sup> 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:-

November - 24<sup>th</sup> after mass and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> at 5.00pm.

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>. 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!

### **Goldthorpe Christmas Market, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Taking place from noon-5.00pm, in the Town Square (former Horse and Groom site). Dearne Churches Together will be singing carols from 4.15-4.40pm before the Christmas Tree lights Switch-on at 4.45pm All are welcome.

### **Postcards Against the Assisted Dying Bill**

On 29<sup>th</sup> November MPs vote on the Assisted Dying Bill. Postcards from the disability group “Not Dead Yet UK” are available from church, which you can send to your MP asking them to vote against the legalisation of assisted dying.

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

Next 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.

### **Bishop Ralph's Hallam Bethlehem Fund**

From the first Sunday in Advent we are planning to support 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**

Will shortly be available for sale from the back of church.