

<p>7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>First Reading 1 Sam 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23 David does not raise his hand against his enemy even though he has the power and opportunity.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm 103(102):1-2, 3-4,8,10,12-13 The Lord is compassion and gracious.</p> <p>Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 We, who are earthly beings, will be modelled on Christ when we are in heaven.</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel Luke 6:27-38 We are called to love our enemies and to follow in God's ways of compassion, forgiveness and generosity.</p>
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Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	22 Feb	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	23 Feb	9.00am	Christine and Catherine Haigh RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	23 Feb	11.00am	Tommy Hopkinson RIP
Tuesday	25 Feb		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	26 Feb	10.00am	Pope Francis Get Well Soon
Thursday (St Helen's)	27 Feb	10.00am	Peter Durkan RIP
Friday (Sacred Heart)	28 Feb	10.00am	Rev James Leavy RIP
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	1 Mar	5.30pm	Noreen and Bobby Gibson RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	2 Mar	9.00am	Margaret Bennett RIP
Sunday (St. Helen's)	2 Mar	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.

COLLECTIONS

Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for January
15/16.2.2025	£428.15	£1777.91

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



PARISH PRIEST: Fr Declan Brett.

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Sunday 23rd February 2025

Sunday Year

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate... Give and there will be gifts for you."

Two children were squabbling over a toy. Although it belonged to the older sister, she had not been interested in it until her younger brother picked it up and started having fun with it. She started pleading for him to share, but when he refused, the conversation soon became insulting, with both children saying hurtful things to each other. Finally, the argument turned physical with pinching, hair-pulling and punches, before an adult had a chance to intervene. Both children ended up crying, nursing their hurt feelings and minor war wounds.

This is a pattern that is reflected throughout the world. We all know how hard it is to love the person who has wronged us. In our pain, when we feel we have been treated unjustly, we sometimes lash out, and so the cycle continues. What may have started as a minor incident escalates as each person involved tries to give the other what they feel they deserve. But this is not something that just happens in our homes, with our friends and families, or even just in our local communities. How much worse it is when this pattern of behaviour is found at the highest levels, amongst people and groups who wield real power in our world – when conflict breaks out between nations, when violence and oppression become an everyday part of life for some groups, while others try to cling on to what they feel is theirs.

Today's passage in Luke comes shortly after Jesus has chosen his twelve apostles. He goes on to teach them and the large crowd that gathers, reminding them of how God's way is not the same as the human way of viewing things. God's concern is not for those the world holds in great esteem, but for those who mourn, who are hungry, who are rejected for loving him. They will be happy.

Today's Gospel is a continuation of this message that the one who believes is called to live differently. It is easy to love those who love us – who treat us with kindness and respect. But what about those who treat us badly? Jesus asks us to love our enemies. To pray for those who persecute us: to avoid judging and condemning, to be compassionate and to give generously. We are reminded that we are made in God's image and it is for us to strive to be as God is, in the way that we treat others. We are not expected to be perfect, but to try our best. We are told to lend to others

without hope of return, to give more than is asked of us. It is hard to let go of what we have worked for, to share with someone who we do not feel is worthy.

So how do we put this into practice each day amid our busy lives? Loving our enemies is not about letting others walk all over us, and simply accepting their bad treatment of us. But we can show our strength by doing what is unexpected. When we love someone, we have their best interests at heart.

Jesus invites us to show those who treat us badly that there is another way to live, even when they have hurt us. We are reminded that we can take time to stop and reflect rather than reacting in anger or frustration; that we can give generously rather than jealously guarding what is ours. When we find ourselves in a position of power, as David does over the sleeping Saul in today's first reading, can we resist the urge to take advantage of the situation? When we encounter someone who is different to us, or behaves in a way that we disagree with, can we accept them as a fellow human being made in the image of God, rather than judging or condemning them?

By following Christ's example of love and compassion for people from all walks of life, we can start to break patterns of judgement and exploitation in our families, our workplaces and our local community. Showing kindness and generosity to someone who is least expecting it might make them think twice before they next lash out or take more than their fair share.

The Gospel promises us our ultimate reward in heaven if we live like this, but we can also perhaps start to reflect God's kingdom more closely here on earth. We may start to see a wave of God's love, being shared throughout our world, passed from one person to the next.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Audrey Wood, Paula and Jimmy Stewart, Justin Philip Collins, 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.

Requiescant in Pace

We pray for the souls of Kathleen Tollerfield and Mary Elizabeth Wade who both died recently. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

The funeral service for Mary Wade will take place at Holy Rood, Barnsley, on Tuesday 25th February at 10.00am.

Kathleen Tollerfield will be taken into St Helen's, Hoyland on Thursday 6th March, followed by the requiem on Friday 7th March at 10.00am.

Singing at Parkside Care Home - Wednesday 26 February @ 2pm

Dearne Churches Together are leading some hymn singing at Parkside Care Home, Wombwell at 2.00pm on Wednesday 26th February. Just 30-40 minutes and then a cup of tea. Do please consider coming along, we had such an enjoyable time in January. All are welcome. Contact Julie Turner on 07729 421405

Deanery Confirmation Programme 2025

The sessions run from Thursday 27th February in Holy Rood Parish Hall at 6.30-7.30pm for ten weeks, with a three week break for Easter (10th -24th April). Parents are required to attend the first session with candidates to receive an overview of what is involved and to sign consent forms for the use of photographs at the Confirmation Mass. Each candidate will need to provide a photocopy of their baptism certificate. The programme will be based on material developed by the Diocese of Salford which can be viewed at www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/sacraments/confirmation/ The programme will be led by Deacon Paul Green, who can be contacted at paul.green05@btinternet.com Please come along to the meeting to discuss the future of the parish.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number for 15th February was 1. The winner in Goldthorpe was T Swindells, winning the rollover of £50. There was no winner in Hoyland so next week's will be a rollover.

World Day of Prayer, Friday 7th March

The Goldthorpe World Day of Prayer Service will be held at 2.00pm on Friday 7th March at the Pentecostal Community Church on Market Street. The service, created by women of the Cook Islands, shares the theme 'I made you wonderful'. All are very welcome to attend and to join in this international prayer service with other local church communities. Contact is Julie Turner: 07729 421405.

Sick & Retired Clergy Second Collection 22-23 February

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Sick & Retired clergy to help ensure all of our priests who are not able to say mass anymore, or who are not able to look after themselves, who have given their lives to serve God and to serve us, are cared for at their time of need.

Catholic Association for Racial Justice

Thank you for your generous donations. The Parish raised £106.14.

Messy Family Project

Calling all overwhelmed and busy parents! Come join us for a faith-filled weekend at St Vincent's Mission Hub! Mike and Alicia Hernon, of the famous Messy Family Project, are coming all the way from the USA, to lead couples during an exclusive workshop, on the Four Disciplines of a Family! The main event is on **Saturday 15th March (11-3pm)** (Childcare is available on a pre booking basis only). There will also be a Date Night for married couples on **Friday March 14, (7:30-9:30pm)** with cheese and wine and a talk from Mike and Alicia, on How to Keep Your Love Alive. The evening will end with Eucharistic Adoration. <https://stvincentsmissionhub.org/events-and-info>

Hallam Bridge

There are a few copies of the latest edition Hallam Bridge, the news from Hallam Diocese, at the back of church.

The file will be available for everyone on the Diocese website: hallam-diocese.com

We Dare to Say

A five week resource based on the petitions of the Our Father during this Jubilee Year. Beginning Saturday 9th March on rotation in each Church. 10am till 12 noon. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions, We Dare to Say Booklets are available at the back of Church. Session are on 8th March at Goldthorpe Parish Rooms, 15th March at Hoyland, 22nd March at Wombwell, 29th March at Goldthorpe, 5th April at Hoyland. All are very welcome.