

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time First Reading Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8 What we say reveals who we are and what we feel. Responsorial Psalm 92(91):2-3,13-16 It is good to give you thanks, O Lord. Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 The resurrection of Jesus Christ has robbed death of its sting – we give thanks to God for giving us the victory in his Son.	Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Shine as lights in the world, Holding fast to the word of life. Alleluia! Gospel Luke 6:39-45 Our words flow out of what fills our heart – the challenge is that our heart is a store of goodness.
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Service Times & Intentions

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
Tuesday (St Helen's)	4 Mar	10.00am	Kathleen Tollerfield RIP
Ash Wednesday (St Michael's)	5 Mar	7.00pm	People of the Parish
Thursday (St Helen's)	6 Mar	10.00am	Holy Souls
Thursday (St Helen's)	6 Mar	12 noon	Funeral Service for Helen Lucille Wroe
Friday (St Helen's)	7 Mar	10.00am	Funeral Service for Kathleen Tollerfield
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	8 Mar	5.30pm	Maureen and Steve Dennis
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	9 Mar	9.00am	Margaret Bennett RIP
Sunday (St. Helen's)	9 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
22/23.2.2025	£525.60	£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 2nd March 2025

Sunday Year C

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?"

In his best-selling book, *Blink*, Malcom Gladwell develops the theory that often our snap judgements are as effective, perhaps even more effective, than our considered decisions. Gladwell identifies the ability to think on the spot as the *adaptive unconscious*: that part of the brain that makes hundreds of daily decisions in situations where we need to react instantly. To use a computer analogy, our brains are programmed, and when we act, we are accessing all the knowledge and experience we have accumulated. Of course, there are other decisions that benefit from further reflection, advice and research, but usually we are recalling what we already know. Once we become aware of the adaptive unconscious, we see it all round us – in why we have an instant attraction to another person, or an immediate dislike, for example. The advertising industry depends as much on the instant judgement of us, the consumer, as it does on painstakingly building brands. Often, we find it hard to explain our snap judgement, describing our choice as a feeling or instinct when we can't explain it entirely rationally. The central point here is that, just as physically we are what we eat, so our moral and spiritual senses are equally formed by what we consume, and when we speak and react to the world around us, we reveal what is within.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus begins by saying that we cannot give to others what we do not have ourselves, and we cannot guide others when we lack direction ourselves. This would seem to be self-evident but is a necessary message for his listeners – he points to the common human tendency to attempt to correct the shortcomings of others, whilst overlooking our own. We must firstly pay attention to our own self-improvement before imagining we can improve our neighbour. More than any other vice, Jesus robustly criticises hypocrisy as an insidious form of self-delusion which blocks true spiritual growth – and challenges hypocrites to live more honestly, humbly and, perhaps, self-critically. It can be challenging to realise that we reveal ourselves for who we really are by the fruit we bear and in the words we utter. In using vivid visual imagery Jesus is driving home his point. He both warns and inspires, criticises and praises – what is not good is to be avoided, what is helpful is

to be nurtured. In today's Gospel Acclamation we pray to God the Father, "Open our heart, O Lord, to the words of your Son". A good prayer indeed!

Disciples are to model themselves on their teacher, listening to him and let his words find a home in their heart. In this way their heart will be full of goodness, which can then be shared as a gift to all. Even though we do not physically sit at the feet of the Master, hearing his voice, seeing his face and watching his gestures, we can ponder the meaning of what we hear; we have his Holy Spirit to guide us individually and together into a deeper understanding of what he teaches and then, in acting together, we strengthen each other in goodness as the Body of Christ alive in our world. This Gospel passage is good material for an examination of conscience, and a gentle look at our own daily life. How do we conduct ourselves? What kind of things do we say to others? Do we try to be Christ-like? Do we bear fruit for God? This is an exercise we can perform on our own, or with someone of faith whom we trust. The object of the exercise here is not to wallow in our own wretchedness where we feel we've failed, but to stand honestly before the Lord, ask his forgiveness where we need it, and give thanks for his grace.

Returning to the language of adaptive unconscious, our response to situations in life will be instinctive, intuitive, informed – and increasingly second nature: we won't have to concentrate to be good, to bear fruit, to be Christ-like. Practice, combined with grace, will make perfect!

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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 Hoult, 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 repose of the soul of Marguerite Humphries, beloved mother of Fr Damian, and of Helen Lucille Wroe who both died recently. The funeral service for Helen Wroe will take place on Thursday, 6th March at 12noon in St Helen's. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

Changes to Mass times next week

Next Wednesday, 5th March, is Ash Wednesday. There will be one mass at 7.00pm at St Michael's. Fr Declan will also be celebrating mass in each of our Primary schools. The funeral for Kathleen Tollerfield will be at 10.00am in St Helen's, therefore there will be no mass in Goldthorpe that day.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number for 22nd February was 5. The winner in Goldthorpe was T Haigh winning £25. The winner in Hoyland was E Cooper, winning the rollover of £50.

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.

Lenten Prayer Booklets

Available from the back of church and containing all the readings during Lent. Adult and Junior version, with a voluntary donation of £1.

Sick & Retired Clergy Second Collection 22-23 February

Thank you for your generous donations. The Parish raised £250.31.

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.

Safeguarding in our Schools and Communities

Following the devastating death of Harvey Willgoose, at All Saints Catholic High School earlier this month, our thoughts, prayers and condolences are very much with Harvey's family, friends and all within the All Saints Community. The devastation and impact this has caused is simply immeasurable and as Catholics, we need to respond with compassion and care and support for those affected.

Please take time to look at the new posters from the diocese if you have any concerns

CAFOD Family Fast Day

This year's Lenten Family Fast Day will on Friday, 14th March. Envelopes will be available soon. Please consider using the Gift Aid slip if you are a UK Taxpayer, thus enabling CAFOD to benefit further from your generous donations.