

2 nd Sunday of Easter	Gospel Acclamation
First Reading Acts 5:12-16 Signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles who bear courageous witness to the Risen Lord.	Alleluia, alleluia! You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia!
Responsorial Psalm 118(117):2-4,22-24,25-27 Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures for ever	Gospel John 20:19-31 Jesus said to Thomas, "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."
Second Reading Rev. 1:9-13. 17-19 John is the faithful witness for Jesus Christ, the Living One who holds the keys of death.	

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	26 Apr	5.30pm	Marley and Lyndon Whitney belated 25 th Wedding Anniversary
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	27 Apr	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	27 Apr	11.00am	Mary and John Coefield RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	29 Apr	10.00am	Pope Francis RIP
Wednesday (St Michael's)	30 Apr	10.00am	Jack Barry RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	1 May	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday (Sacred Heart)	2 May	10.00am	Josephine Mary Topps RIP
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	3 May	5.30pm	John Cutts RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	4 May	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St. Helen's)	4 May	11.00am	Peace for the People of Ukraine

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 March
12/13th April	£613.65	£1774.96
19/20th April	£1089.23	

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 27th April 2025

Sunday Year C

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

Weekday Cycle II

"Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Perhaps you've met people who are disappointed or angry with God, who say that they've stopped believing in God. They might say something like, "I prayed that my mum would get well, but she died. So, what's the point?"

It's hard to hear that, but it's so important to remember that we can't argue people into believing. Gentle listening and sharing about the joy and peace that our own faith brings us is probably a better way. When Thomas has trouble believing, Jesus shows him his wounds and gently encourages him, "doubt no longer but believe". People who are hurting need a listening ear and the reassurance that Jesus can transform their suffering and wounds and bring meaning into what seems senseless. We too need not be surprised when doubts arise within us. Thomas Merton says *"Faith is not the suppression of doubt. It is the overcoming of doubt, and you overcome doubt by going through it. The person of faith who has never experienced doubt is not truly a person of faith."* Somehow or other, we need the doubts in order to trust and then make the leap of faith!

In many ways, we are the people that Jesus is referring to when he says "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." Obviously, we do not see the Risen Lord in the same way that Thomas and the other disciples experienced him. We rely on other experiences, like prayer, the sacraments, scripture, the testimony of other people, and the long, long traditions of the Church. In fact, our Gospel passage tells us that the signs of Jesus "are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name. Hearing the Word of God and opening our hearts to its message leads us to faith in Jesus who promises us life in its fullness.

People with honest doubts – ourselves included – are not doing anything wrong. We don't have to have absolute certainty about our faith, although those times when we do feel deep confirmation in our faith are times of grace and are real gifts from God. In today's Gospel we see the movement of grace in Thomas, who moved from stubborn doubt to a deep, tender, and wholehearted belief. In fact, Thomas' profession of faith is among the clearest expressions of the divinity of Jesus Christ in all the Gospels. "My Lord and my God!" is the culmination of Thomas' journey from

the pain of disillusionment, disappointment and bereavement to the serenity of faith and trust.

In our times of doubt, what we most need is someone who will walk with us in our doubts and suffering, a companion who represents the Risen Lord who walked with the crestfallen disciples on the road to Emmaus. Our faith is a relationship, not a formula, or an ideology, or a set of propositions which can be proved beyond doubt. Pope Benedict tells us that "*being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.*" Our faith, then, is a relationship with Jesus Christ who came to share our human reality, who healed people and preached the Good News to the poor, who lived a life of love, generosity and joy, who died for our sakes and now is risen.

In Christ's risen body, the wounds of the passion were still to be seen, and today wherever there is woundedness, Christ is present. He invites us to do the same, to witness to the power of faith in him by touching the wounds of the body of Christ in the here and now. We can trust that when, in a spirit of faith, we touch our own wounds and the wounds of other suffering people, the Spirit of the Risen Lord will transform all suffering, giving it meaning and hope.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Carl Potter, 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.

2025 Jubilee Year Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

There are places still available on the 2025 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Ralph and accompanied by diocesan Clergy, from 27th June - 3rd July 2025 but if you wish to travel, please apply before Easter so that the organisers can make the arrangements for the charter aircraft. Fare £899. Full Board. Direct flight from Leeds Bradford Airport. Please email lourdesoffice@hallam-diocese.com if you intend to travel. Booking Forms can be downloaded from www.hallam-lourdes.com.

Singing at Parkside Care Home Wednesday 30th April

Dearne Churches Together will be leading some hymn singing from 2.00pm in Parkside Care Home, Wombwell. Just 30-40 minutes singing, followed by a cup of tea. All are very welcome to join us. Contact Julie Turner on 07729 421405 or email julie@gpcchurch.co.uk.

First Holy Communion 2025

The children will be making their First Holy Communion on Sat 10th May at 5:30pm in St. Michael's, followed by a party in the hall for children, families and parishioners. Practice with children and parents in St Michael's church on Thurs 8th May at 5pm.

Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe - Sunday 4th May

There will be Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe during 9.00am mass. There will be the usual two groups - 3-5 years old with Amanda Campbell and 6-8 years old with Maureen Greaves. Both of us are DBS checked and we follow the programme approved by the Diocese. Looking forward to seeing you! Maureen and Amanda

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number for 12th April was 31. Winners were M McAllister in Hoyland and M Burnitt in Goldthorpe. The number for last weekend was 33. Winners were P A Dyson in Hoyland and A Campbell in Goldthorpe. All winners receiving £25.

Pilgrim Cross-Cycling Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The unique Pilgrimage of Hope will see a group of diocesan pilgrims on bicycles. They plan to carry small wooden crosses in their backpack, whilst pedalling and praying along the routes to Walsingham. In preparation for the pilgrimage, 'Pilgrim Crosses' plan to visit the Churches across the Diocese up to the Cycling Pilgrimage itself in July.

Prayer petitions received at the foot of the 'Pilgrim Cross' from parishioners will be taken to Walsingham and offered at the Jubilee Mass. Charitable donations are welcome. Donations received by the sponsored cycling pilgrimage will be shared between two children's charities. 'Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice' (<https://www.bluebellwood.org>) and 'Let the Children Live' (<http://www.letthechildrenlive.org>).

Please look out for the 'Pilgrim cross' visiting your church in the coming weeks and support this special Pilgrimage of Hope with prayer and generosity.

Requiescant in Pace

We pray for the repose of the soul of our Pope, Francis, who died on Easter Monday.

A Requiem Mass will be held at Holy Rood next Wednesday at 7.00pm

A Diocesan Book of Condolences has been opened on-line for the people of Hallam to record messages of remembrance and prayers for Pope Francis. It can be accessed via the link below, or the Hallam diocesan website (Hallam-diocese.com) or through the diocesan social media channels.

<https://hallam-diocese.com/pope-francis/>

We pray also for the repose of the soul of Fr. Terry Boyle, former parish priest of St. Helen's, Hoyland and Holy Rood, Barnsley, who died on Tuesday.