

5th Sunday of Easter	Gospel Acclamation
First Reading Acts 14:21-27 Paul and Barnabas give encouragement and hope to the fledgling churches of Asia Minor and Greece and tell them of the marvellous success of the spread of the Gospel.	Alleluia, alleluia! A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, That you love one another, just as I have loved you. Alleluia!
Responsorial Psalm 145(144):8-9,10-11,12-13b I will bless your name forever, my God and king.	Gospel John 13:31-35 “Love one another just as I have loved you.”
Second Reading Revelations 21:1-5a God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.	

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	17 May	5.30pm	Craig Potter Get Well Wishes
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	18 May	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	18 May	11.00am	Colin Barker RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	20 May	10.00am	Private Intention
Wednesday (St Michael's)	21 May	10.00am	Eileen Mary Moxon RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	22 May	10.00am	Requiem Mass for Robert Batty
Friday (Sacred Heart)	23 May	10.00am	Sheila Durkin RIP
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	24 May	5.30pm	Mary Gaskin RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	25 May	9.00am	Deceased Members of the Burnitt Family
Sunday (St. Helen's)	25 May	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 April
10/11th May	£875.51	£1729.96

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



PARISH PRIEST: Fr Declan Brett.

23 Park Street, Wombwell Barnsley, S73 0HQ

01226 752372

email: parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com

Website: <https://corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com>

Facebook: Corpus Christi Dearne Valley

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Sheila Marren 07932 722188

Mary Obodo 07950 162668

Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 18th May 2025

Sunday Year C

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

“Love one another; just as I have loved you.”

In the prison camp of Auschwitz One, there is the cell of St Maximilian Kolbe where he was imprisoned and ultimately murdered by lethal injection. The story is well known. In July 1941, when three prisoners appeared to have escaped from the camp, the Deputy Commander of Auschwitz ordered ten men to be chosen to be starved to death in an underground bunker. When one of the selected men, Franciszek Gajowniczek, heard he was selected, he cried out, “My wife! My children!” At this point, Kolbe volunteered to take his place. Gajowniczek later said: “I could only thank him with my eyes. I was stunned and could hardly grasp what was going on. The immensity of it: I, the condemned, am to live and someone else willingly and voluntarily offers his life for me – a stranger. Is this some dream?”

St Maximilian Kolbe survived the starvation and kept faith through prayer and hymn-singing. When all his fellow prisoners had died, he remained alive. As the Nazis wanted the cell for other men, they killed him by lethal injection. As St John Paul said, “Maximilian did not die but gave his life... for his brother.” He was cremated on 15 August 1941, the feast of the Assumption. In the darkness of that place, a candle in his cell can burn brightly with hope.

Before his death, at the Last Supper, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and taught them about the new commandment of love. He pointed them towards his sacrifice on the cross when he would pour out his life so that all people might be saved. To love unto death is the greatest act of love possible. In St John's Gospel the death of Jesus on the cross is not a failure but a triumph of love; a triumph through which he is glorified.

St Maximilian reveals such love in Auschwitz. Franciszek, who was saved, wondered if he was seeing a vision. He could not believe his eyes. His testimony and that of the martyrs, women and men through the ages, bear witness to the power of the commandment of love. All the great and little acts of love swell up into a great tidal wave which brings joy to countless people each day. If only all these acts of love could be counted! Only God sees the full picture of all the joy and grateful thanks. I can imagine God chuckling with delight.

This promise of the triumph of love gives hope to live another day and hope for the future. Love creates an eschatological hope, a hope for the future and the promise of eternal life, which is only fulfilled at the end of time. The second reading describes the fulfilment of this hope at the end of time in a beautiful image of marriage. The new Jerusalem, the new city of God, is likened to a bride coming to meet her groom who is Christ. Love abounds. At the end of time, we shall live eternally in a new life with a resurrected body with God and know love, joy and delight. There will be no more grief, no sadness, no mourning or death. This will pass away into oblivion. Only the joy of seeing the love between the bride and groom will endure.

The testimony of love gives heart to us and to all the disciples of Christ in the Church. It inspires us onwards to keep running the race to the finish. We are also encouraged to be faithful in the call to love. When Paul and Barnabas tell others of the power of love, it gives new heart to the disciples and attracts new ones to follow Christ. They visit the Greek towns of Pisidia, Pamphylia and Perga. The names of these towns begin with a capital letter Π (pi) in the Greek alphabet. It looks like a gateway; two pillars and a crossbar. We can imagine the apostles taking the Gospel message through the gates into the cities and bringing this joyful news to others. The hope of eternal life gives us courage to be faithful and keep loving, even when it costs dearly. There is no situation which is hopeless. There is no love which will not be rewarded. No action is too small to have eternal significance. If we viewed life in this way, then we would rejoice and be glad. This joy will attract others to Christ. Joy is always powerfully attractive and infectious.

Reflection by Redemptorists Publications. Used with permission

Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Ruth Campbell, Ann Stones, 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 Hoults, 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

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Robert Batty who died recently. The requiem will take place at 10.00am on Thursday 22nd May in St. Helen's.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Betty Marren who died recently. The funeral service will take place at 12.15pm on Tuesday 27th May in St Helen's.

The Requiem mass for Fr Terry Boyle will take place on Wednesday, 28th May 10.30am at St Francis of Assisi, Norman Lane, Eccleshill, Bradford BD2 2JU

Dearne Churches Together Family Fun Day, Wednesday 28th May

Taking place during the half-term holiday at Goldthorpe Pentecostal Community Church, 11.00am-1.00pm. Our theme is Jesus's miracles of healing. If you can help with catering, or any other enquiries, please contact Julie on 077729 421405 or julie@gpcchurch.co.uk

St Peter-in-Chains Chequer Road, Doncaster DN1 2AA

You are all welcome to St Peter-in-Chains to celebrate a special Jubilee Mass and Anointing of the Sick, on Saturday 31st May at 12 noon. Refreshments are available after mass. Later that same day, the Marian Youth Group, for all young people of the Diocese, will be meeting for Rosary and Social at the Shrine of Our Lady, from 3.00-4.30pm

Marist Pilgrimage to Walsingham, Saturday 5th July

A 45 seater coach has been booked. Please see the poster at the back of church for Wombwell and Goldthorpe pick-up times and sign up if you would like to go. We request that payment be made by the weekend of 14/15 June to guarantee your seat on the coach. Contacts: Amanda Campbell (07505 408870), Pam Kershaw (07867 505966), Theresa Swindells (07724 228327).

May Devotions at Cudworth

We are warmly invited by Fr Stephen and friends at Cudworth to join their May Devotions at 2pm on Sunday 18th May at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Address is Prospect Street, Cudworth, S72 8JS

Priest's Training Fund second collection 10/11th May

Thank you for your generous donations. The sum of £309.01 was raised.

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 Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice (<https://www.bluebellwood.org>) and 'Let the Children Live' (<http://www.letthechildrenlive.org>). The 'Pilgrim cross' is in church now. Please support this special Pilgrimage of Hope with prayer and generosity.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number was 18. The winners were J Andrews in Hoyland and J Whitfield in Goldthorpe, each winning £25.

Raffle Tickets

The parish will be raising funds to help Amelia attend this year's Youth Event in Rome. Raffle tickets will soon be available, prizes are a M & S food hamper, a booze hamper and some £20 Morrisons vouchers. Please look out for them on sale in our three churches. Amelia is most grateful for any support the parish can give her.

Abortion: Impact and Tragedy. Let's talk about it!

Please join us for the Pro-Life Mass at 10.00am and the 'Abortion: Impact and Tragedy. Let's talk about it!' on Saturday 7th June at the Mother of God Church, Abbeydale Road. Celebrant will be Bishop Ralph Heskett. Guest Speakers are Isabel Vaughan Spruce (Director of The March for Life UK), Rachel MacKenzie (Rachel's Vineyard) and John Edwards (St Collette's Pregnancy Centre). Light lunch and refreshments provided.