

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23
“There are no pockets in a shroud.”

Responsorial Psalm 90(89):3-4,5-6,12-13,14,17

O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-5. 9-11
Christians should not categorise people: “Christ is all, and in all.”

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 12:13-21

A rich man planned to enjoy his wealth but he'd not prepared for his death.

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 3rd August 2025

Sunday Year C

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

“Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	2 Aug	5.30pm	Patricia Cassidy RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	3 Aug	9.00am	Christine and Catherine Haigh RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	3 Aug	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen's)	5 Aug		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	6 Aug		NO MASS
Thursday (St Helen's)	7 Aug		NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	8 Aug		NO MASS
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	9 Aug	5.30pm	Tony Wood RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	10 Aug	9.00am	Private Intention
Sunday (St. Helen's)	10 Aug	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.

Rosary at Goldthorpe is every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm.

COLLECTIONS

Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for July
26/27 July	£573.35	£1762.91

Why do we sing? We willingly let a song lead us beyond our surroundings and circumstances. Yet, whether happy, sad, thoughtful, peaceful or prayerful, our life is also a unique song, making us who we are. St Francis of Assisi happily called himself “Gods troubadour” as he walked through the woods of Umbria, singing and using two twigs as an imaginary violin. Sick, blind and approaching death, he sang about Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Brother Fire, Sister Water – and even Sister Death. They all spoke to Francis of our amazing God. He would have enthusiastically agreed with St Bernard of Clairvaux, who declared: “What I know of the divine science and holy scripture, I learned in the woods and fields”. The natural world taught Bernard to say, “Jesus to me is honey in the mouth, music in the ear, a song in the heart.”

During the Covid lockdown, we found hope in socially distanced walks. Florists and garden centres donated flowers to stressed health workers and carers. Farmers, market gardeners and neighbours shared their home-grown fruit and vegetables. Joe Wicks led daily fitness classes on television and online. Musicians gave open-air performances at care homes. Online Mass from churches across the world helped us to pray together. Although separated from others, millions of people rediscovered community and were ingenious at finding ways to look after each other. Despite the sorrow and the restrictions, we sang – and we cared.

Today, we hear of a thoroughly selfish rich man who gloats in his wealth and doesn't spare a thought for others – including his family. He ignores the workers who ploughed his land, sowed his seed and cultivated the crop. He disregards the poor people forced to slave away in the heat of the day to harvest and store the rich man's crop in exchange for a pittance. Neither does he consider the carpenters and builders who will construct the barn to store his grain or the carters who will load it onto carts and donkeys to sell on the market. We have a picture of someone whose only thought is for himself. It doesn't occur to him to thank God, never mind those who worked on his farm. An unexpected act of kindness to his workers and their families could have made a difference to their lives. A prayer of thanksgiving to God would have been quick and easy – and yet the rich man's thoughts are only of his own

comfort. Yet if he has forgotten God, God hasn't forgotten him. God is planning to meet him that night even if the landowner isn't ready for the occasion. There's a proverb: "There are no pockets in a shroud." The rich man's priorities are back to front: his wealth can't follow him into the next life. St Augustine said, "love God and *then* do what you want" – but perhaps the landowner didn't care?

"I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing" was a song The New Seekers released in 1971. It included the words:

I'd like to teach the world to sing in perfect harmony

I'd like to hold it in my arms and keep it company.

This song of togetherness, joy, peace and celebration sold 96,000 copies in one day, eventually selling twelve million worldwide and one million in the UK, where it rose to number one in the charts. By contrast, the rich man in today's parable could easily write his own version of "Me, Myself and I". As an obituary, the lyrics wouldn't make pleasant reading: "My heart's become too cold to break." What a tragedy!

Today we celebrate the jubilee of young people. They have an ability to find pleasure in each other's company, and can generously volunteer for amazing projects that would scare older people who might see the risks and the personal cost. For sure, they can also face challenges that were unknown in pre-Internet days, but this is even more reason why we should listen to their song, support them and accompany young people as they discover the meaning of life, love and laughter. Perhaps together, we can sing:

I'd like to see the world for once all standing hand in hand

And hear them echo through the hills for peace throughout the land.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially John Bainbridge, 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 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 soul of Trish O'Hanlon and of Pauline Coldwell who both died recently. Overnight Repose for Pauline will be at St. Michael's church on Monday 11th August at 4.00pm, followed by the funeral service on Tuesday, 12th August at 1.45pm. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

SVP Summer Raffle

Tickets are available from Liz Salmon in each of our three churches. With the purchase of each £1 ticket, you will be supporting the work of SVP groups or Support Centre within our community as well as the work of the national Society. £5000 for 1st, £1000 for 2nd and £100 x 15. Tickets are available from Liz Salmon in each of our three churches Contact Liz on 07877030827 or you can buy them online at www.svp.org.uk

Fr. Declan

Please keep Fr Declan in your prayers as he recuperates from his hip operation. We thank those priests who will be covering the weekend masses in our three churches. Please note that for the next few weeks, there will be NO weekday masses. If you need a priest in a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. Damian on 01226 284961 or 07791554214.

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.

Pilgrimage of Hope September 2025

The northern Pilgrimage of Hope from Leeds Cathedral to St Barnabas' Cathedral in Nottingham via St Marie's Cathedral in Sheffield and the Chapel of the Padley Martyrs. Calling at St Michael's on Sunday 7th September, starting with prayers and a shared table. On Monday morning, we will gather for prayers at 8.00am followed by breakfast. Pilgrims will continue their journey from about 9.00am, walking to St. Marie's cathedral in Sheffield. Our parishioners are most welcome to join the pilgrimage. Further information can be obtained from <https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/new-st-mark-s-way-north>

Food Collection

Please continue to donate **NON-PERISHABLE** food items to help feed children during the school holidays. Please leave at the back of church. The Salvation Army Food Bank (Straight Lane, Goldthorpe) are also very happy to receive donations on Mondays. Alison Sykes, the Salvation Army envoy, shared that particularly needed are cereal, long life milk, tinned hot dog sausages and snacks like crisps.

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

New Sunday Missal

The new version of the Sunday Missal is now available from church. Cost per missal is £19.95

Dearne Churches Together Summer Fun Day - Wednesday 6 August

The second DCT Summer Fun Day will take place 12 noon - 2pm at Carrfield Field, Highgate Lane, Bolton. Bring your own picnic, fruit and drinks provided. Free games, crafts and activities for all the family. Please contact Julie Turner on 07729 421405 or email julie@gpcchurch to book your place so we have an idea of numbers attending.

St Michael's Church Cleaners Required.

If you can spare an hour or so of your time, please speak with Martin Hamstead. The number of cleaners has dwindled over the years and any extra help would be much appreciated. Thank you.