

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 66:18-21
God intends to gather people together from all nations and cultures.

Responsorial Psalm 117:1,2
Go into the world and proclaim the good news.

Second Reading Hebrews 12:5-7. 11-13
God disciplines his children to help them grow.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.
No one comes to the Father except through me.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 13:22-30
Jesus encourages his followers to enter his kingdom by the narrow path.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 24th August 2025

Sunday Year C

Twenty first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	23 Aug	5.30pm	Fr Brian Davies RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	24 Aug	9.00am	Private Intention
Sunday (St Helen's)	24 Aug	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen's)	26 Aug		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	27 Aug		NO MASS
Thursday (St Helen's)	28 Aug		NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	29 Aug		NO MASS
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	30 Aug	5.30pm	Owen Jenkinson Illness
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	31 Aug	9.00am	Private Intention
Sunday (St. Helen's)	31 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
16/17 August	£425.53	£1762.91

Cassandra's birthday party was in full swing. The local bar's function room had filled up nicely and pockets of people were swelling the corners or the room. Linda, Cassandra's aunt, had held court from the moment people began to arrive, choosing the perfect table, which offered viewing opportunities for the entrance, the bar and the dance floor. It would be nearly impossible to escape Linda's scrutiny. Her audience would receive a candid "who's who" every time newcomers appeared. Linda was marvelling at the little children bouncing about the dance floor when Kathryn arrived. Linda reared up in her seat, looking aghast. Her head swung from side to side to make sure she had the attention of everyone at the table. "Well!" she exclaimed in as close to a stage whisper as was possible over the music. "That one has a nerve showing her face here!" Delighted to see perplexed looks from those around her, she launched in and shared every detail of Kathryn's latest misdemeanours to a chorus of tuts and gasps followed by not-so-subtle glares in the newcomer's direction.

Rising from her seat, Linda excused herself and trotted over to Cassandra to make her protest. "Aunty Lin," Cassandra interrupted, holding up her hand. "Let me stop you right there! Firstly, it is my party and I can invite whom I want." She continued. "Secondly, I am assuming you have been listening to the stories that have been doing the rounds. I can assure you that they have grown more than a few arms and legs in the telling." Linda bristled, but before she could speak, Cassandra said, "Linda, let me finish! Eighteen months ago, when I was going through that rough patch, you only came to see me once: to get something to whisper to others. Kathryn visited several times to support me through it all. She has far more of a right to be here than you ever will."

In our Gospel, Jesus is asked a question about salvation. In response, he challenges the assumptions of his hearers about who will have access to heaven. Their question focuses on numbers, yet Jesus' answer is more personal: we may be wondering who else is getting in, but a more fruitful question could be: "Am I so sure that I am getting in at all?"

Jesus then uses the image of someone seeking entry into a house only to find the door closed to them. The visitor protests, claiming a shared history with the householder, but to no effect: the door remains shut. The repeated answer from the householder inside, "I do not know where you come from", suggests that the caller who seeks entry does not share the same perspective as the owner.

Jesus does not leave it there. He goes on to say that the rejected person will witness people coming from all kinds of places and being allowed entry. You can almost feel the seething envy of the onlooker and their outrage at witnessing their sworn enemies from across the borders seemingly swanning in unchallenged. Perhaps Jesus implies the question: are you so sure you are bosom buddies with God?

The invitation this week could be to check our assumptions about others. The mercy of God, revealed in Jesus, is far wider than our narrow minds and vast intolerances. God's mercy could scandalise us unless we are willing to expand our horizons.

We often draw up boundaries and make assumptions about other people's merits. Linda at the party would have been surprised to discover the high regard Cassandra had for Kathryn. Her hierarchy of worthiness was shredded as a shocked Linda discovered that her notions of warmth and hospitality did not match Cassandra's. Do our beliefs match those of Jesus?

For each of us, treading the "narrow path" will depend on whether we know intimately, and thus recognise, the footprints of our Redeemer. Such a narrow path involves a broadening of the mind and heart. By closing the door of our hearts to others, wherever they may come from, whatever their situation, we could likewise find the door to the kingdom slammed in our faces. The narrow path of mercy is found and walked with a broadened heart and mind.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Ian Coombs, 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 Hault, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

CAFOD: Response in Gaza

Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at cafod.org.uk. Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to [pray for peace](#) in the Middle East. Your Coppers for CAFOD, collected over the past few months and totalling £70, have been forwarded to CAFOD this week.

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.

Pilgrimage of Hope September 2025

The Pilgrimage will be 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. Boxes will be placed in church for your prayer requests for the pilgrims to take with them on their journey. 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>

Tea and Book Sale with SVP 13th September

From 3.30pm-5pm and again after Mass until 7.30pm. Taking place in the Baptistry at the back of St Michael's Church, Wombwell. Join us for a cuppa and find out what your SVP are doing in this area. There will be a nearly new book sale with all proceeds for the benefit of those we assist. Please come along and support your local SVP All Welcome.

World Youth Day Gratitude from Amelia.

I would like to say thank you to all the parishioners at Corpus Christ whose generosity through the raffle and other kind donations made it possible for me to attend World Youth Day in Rome. It was an incredible, once-in-a-lifetime experience - memorable, moving and truly unforgettable - that would have not been possible without your support. I am genuinely grateful to everyone who contributed either privately, through the raffle and other donations. Your generosity provided a unique opportunity in helping me to get there. Thank you sincerely, Amelia

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number was 37. No winners in either Hoyland or Goldthorpe, so next weekend will be a rollover of £50.

National Day of Prayer for Survivors

You are all invited to join Bishop Ralph in a service of Love and Prayers on Wednesday 10th September at 7.00pm in St. Theresa's Parish Hall, 311 Queen Mary Road, Sheffield S21EA

Free Wellbeing Course for Women - six weekly sessions from Thursday 28th August at 6.30-7.30pm online.

Join us to explore;

Emotional Self-care – Emotional self-care allows us to take time for the benefit of our health and well-being.

Thinking about putting your own needs first - building your resilience.

Being more assertive and setting boundaries – so that you can communicate better and more effectively at home and work.

Stress and relaxation techniques – learning new skills for a more relaxed you.

Build resilience and recover from trauma – To move forward in your life.

To book a place or find out for information contact Janet Kent

07927657462 jkent@hallam-diocese.com