

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Amos 8:4-7
The Lord will not forget any exploitation of the poor.

Responsorial Psalm 113(112):1-2,4-6,7-8,
Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-8
We should pray everywhere and for everyone.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 16:1-13
You cannot serve God and money.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 21st September 2025

Sunday Year C

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"No servant can serve two masters."

Luke 16:13

There is an ongoing debate about charities and the developing world. No one questions the need to respond to disasters such as earthquakes, famine and tsunamis. The only problem there is how best to organise the aid that is given. It can be too little too late, or not what is required. The main argument is more about the aid that is given to the developing countries as an ongoing government strategy or by specific charities. Does the aid just address a particular need, or does it try to enable those in need to develop ways of dealing with that requirement by themselves? NGOs, or nongovernmental organisations, are more able to avoid this pitfall because they have their own personnel involved and listen to the needs as described by the people on the spot. Government agencies are tied to official channels, which means aid can be diverted into other channels, or understood as a permanent funding to bail out specific problems. Both groups come under fire for spending too much on their own administration. That is why groups sometimes bypass major charities. By channelling aid directly through trusted personal contacts, needy projects can receive practically all the donated funding.

Sadly, the developed world may be ambivalent about providing aid that enables a country to compete on a more equal stage with themselves. Our seeming acts of generosity may be more generous to ourselves by keeping poorer countries in debt and still dependent on their richer friends.

Today's parable is not the easiest to understand. As usual, we look to the conclusion to find out what moral the parable is preaching. The difficulty here is that there are two conclusions. The first says: "make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings". But the second says: "You cannot serve God and money." Neither of the protagonists in the parable is offered to us as a model. We have a harsh rich master and a devious steward. The master himself praises the steward for the way he escapes the disaster of being sacked. He praises his prudence or astuteness, and the comment then follows that the children of light are not similarly endowed. The

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	20 Sep	5.30pm	Tony Wood RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	21 Sep	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	21 Sep	11.00am	John and Mary Coefield RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	23 Sep		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	24 Sep		NO MASS
Thursday (St Helen's)	25 Sep		NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	26 Sep		NO MASS
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	27 Sep	5.30pm	Anthony Wood RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	28 Sep	9.00am	Maria and John Gilliver 40 th Wedding Anniversary
Sunday (St. Helen's)	28 Sep	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 Tuesday 7.00-8.00pm.

Please note the change to Tuesdays instead of Thursdays.

COLLECTIONS

Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for August
13/14th September	£615.61	£1629.96

question is left open as to whether we should be similar, so is Jesus being ironic in the first conclusion?

The second conclusion is much more in line with the teaching that is offered in the two parables that bookend today's story. Just before we have the parable of the prodigal son and immediately afterwards comes the story of the rich man and Lazarus, the poor man at his gate. Their themes are reconciliation and sensitivity to those in our midst who are needy. The difficulty in today's story is that it does not really show us what serving God entails. The other stories do. The father welcoming his wastrel son is being neither prudent nor astute. Dives, the rich man, knows very well that Lazarus is at his gate but does nothing about it. The message is much clearer.

One interpretation of our Gospel story is that we should apply the qualities shown by the unjust steward to our church life. How do we manage money? Are we prudent? Are we astute? Churches have properties, and they are neither established nor maintained without money. The money comes as much from those who are poor, as from those who are rich, so we are particularly invited to use our assets for the benefit of those who are poor, whether at home or abroad. There is a tendency, however, to repeat the patterns we discussed earlier in relation to charity giving. There is a concern among churches in the developed world that parishes are losing parishioners and have insufficient priests to staff them. One approach to this is to try and apply cascade-down projects which will hopefully inspire a new sense of mission and evangelisation. This top-down thinking, apart from being very expensive, does not always consider the present reality of parish life. For example, parishes in the West are now Catholic in a new but more real sense, in that they are made up of so many different ethnic groups. How do we adapt or respond to the different cultures and needs of such groups, all of whom are offering us such a marvellous mixture of growth and inspiration? To do that, we must first listen to them.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Kitty Hamstead, Marie Gilliver, 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.

Education Sunday 14th September

Thanks to your generosity last weekend, the parish raised 157.89 for the appeal.

Home Mission Sunday

Each year we celebrate Home Mission Sunday, when the Bishops invite parishes to pray for the mission of the Church in England and Wales. There will be a second collection this week to support the work of evangelisation.

Annual Mass Count

Commencing this weekend and for a further three weeks, the number of attendees at each of the weekend masses will be recorded for the Diocesan Statistics.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number was 10. The winners were S O'Neill in Hoyland and L Conway in Goldthorpe, each winning £25.

Date Night @ The Hub - Keep Your Love Alive

Fri 26th Sep 2025 7:00pm-9:30pm. St Vincent's Mission Hub, Sheffield, S1 4DE. Join us for an uplifting evening of prayer and praise, followed by cheese and wine! Date Night@The Hub, is here to offer couples (married or engaged) dedicated time with each other and the Lord! Amidst the busy pace of marriage and family life, we know how hard it can be to make time for our spouses and time for prayer. Date Night is here to help couples carve out time for the important rather than just the urgent, with the opportunity for Mass, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, followed by wine and cheese. The evening will begin with 7pm Mass followed by a Holy Hour from 7:30pm with Confessions available. The evening will conclude with a wine and cheese. Tickets are £10 each and available at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stvincentsmissionhub/1816075>

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal Friday, 3rd October

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, not forgetting to use the Gift Aid slip if you are a UK tax payer, thus enabling CAFOD to benefit further from your generous donations. Or donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10, or use the QR code to donate.



Red Mission Boxes

Please bring in your Red Mission Boxes at your earliest convenience. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider using Gift Aid and make sure your name is on the box that you leave, or empty your own box and bring to church, making sure your name is on your donation. This allows the Missio Co-ordinator to log your donation and therefore claim the Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and for your continued prayers for missionaries around the world.

Free six-week Online Wellbeing Course for Women

Commencing Friday 10th October at 5.45-6.45pm. Please see poster for more details.