

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4  
A faithful heart will not give up.

**Responsorial Psalm** 95(94):1-2,6-7b,7c-9  
O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts’.

**Second Reading** 2 Timothy 1:6-8.13-14  
You have been trusted to look after something precious.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The word of the Lord remains for ever and this word is the good news that was preached to you.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Luke 17:5-10  
We have done no more than our duty.

## Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Sunday Year C

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

*“The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’”*

Luke 17:5

Nobody knows for sure whether the bedtime stories of old have been replaced by mobile phones or the internet, but we still like stories and even need them in whatever form they come. Stories are as old as humanity: think of Adam and Eve in the garden, or Noah and the flood. In many parts of the world there’s a storyteller who tells tales to entrance and entertain the listeners. It’s not all that long ago in the countryside of Ireland that folk would gather around the storyteller in the evening as he sat by the turf fire and amused and delighted his listeners.

There’s one story that goes like this. In the days when priests didn’t have to give a sermon on the readings of the day, Fr Brendan, the parish priest of St Brigid’s church – known locally as St. Bridy’s – was a good man but somewhat fierce. The Gospel one Sunday was from St Luke about the Pharisee and the tax collector. “Two men went up to the Temple”, began Fr Brendan, and then launched into a criticism that only a few men turned up at Mass. Fr Brendan realised there was quite a good mileage in this text, so he used it again the next week. “They went to the Temple to pray”, he said, “but you sit there whispering to one another about who’s got a cow for sale, or what the price of wheat is.” The next week he compared the Pharisees’ almsgiving to the meagre collections at St Bridy’s. The following week he took the tax collector’s appeal for mercy as a comment on the few numbers who went to confession. And so on, each week for a year he used this passage as a peg on which to hang his criticisms. When it was time for the same Gospel passage to be read again, Pat, sitting in the congregation, turned to Sean next to him and whispered, “It was a sad day for St Bridy’s when those two fellows went up to that Temple”.

What has this to do with today’s readings you may well ask. I hope we shall see. At first sight, Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel seem to be harsh. Is he recommending that a worker who’s tired out by a day’s ploughing in the fields should then have to wait hand and foot on his master, who’s been sitting around doing nothing all day? It seems quite out of character of the compassionate and caring Jesus. But it has a different ring if we note that Jesus begins his story by saying in effect to his disciples “Which one of you wouldn’t behave like this?” Is he belittling them? Rather, we could

## Service Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael’s)	<b>4 Oct</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Martin and Kitty Hampstead Intentions
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>5 Oct</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Trisha O’Hanlon RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (St Helen’s)	<b>5 Oct</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen’s)	7 Oct		NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael’s)	8 Oct		NO MASS
Thursday ( St Helen’s)	9 Oct		NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	10 Oct		NO MASS
<b>Saturday Vigil</b> (St Michael’s)	<b>11 Oct</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Barry Pierrepont RIP
<b>Sunday</b> (Sacred Heart)	<b>12 Oct</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b> (St. Helen’s)	<b>12 Oct</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Fr John Cashman RIP

**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
20/21 September	£418.85	£1629.96

rather say he is warning them. He has chosen them but they still need to learn. We remember other accounts in the Gospels where the disciples are arguing among themselves about who is greatest in the kingdom. Or when Jesus shows them a little child and tells them to stop being silly. Or the time when the mother of James and John comes to Jesus asking for top-management jobs for her two boys. In today's reading, Jesus reminds them, that as servants, they are only doing what they are meant to do. In other words, they are not to become proud or puffed up. All they have and can do depends on God's kindly grace that is given them.

And this is where Fr Brendan's Pharisee and tax collector come in. The Pharisee is praying to himself, "I am not like the rest of men, especially this tax collector". He's done it all on his own, there is no humility in him. Jesus himself tells lots of stories in his parables in which he uses images of kings and stewards, wealthy men and their servants, and of course we must all know by heart the words he uses to praise the servant who does what his master asks, "Well done, good and faithful servant". But at the Last Supper, St John tells us that something has changed. Jesus says to his apostles: "No longer do I call you servants... but... friends." The parable of the two men may not have been a good day at St Bridy's, but it is for us. If we become like the tax collector and place our trust in God alone, we may hope one day to hear Jesus say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

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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 Hoult, Michael Bennett, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

### **Marist Way and Rosary at Goldthorpe**

The Rosary at Goldthorpe will be every **Wednesday** at 1.30pm. The Rosary will be combined with the Marist Way once a month. The next Marist Meeting with Rosary is on Wednesday October 15th.

### **Annual Mass Count**

Please continue the mass count this week and next. Thank you.

### **Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland**

Bonus ball winners will be announced next week

### **Agewell Table Top Sale Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 1-3pm**

To take place in St Michael's Church Hall. Tables £10 each. Please contact Jeanne Hayworth on 07581 486822

### **CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](https://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.



### **Free six-week Online Wellbeing Course for Women**

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

### **Faith in Action: Support SVP in South Sudan Today**

This month, we invite you to support the vital work the SVP, a charity committed to serving some of the world's most deprived communities with essential help and support.

The SVP in South Sudan works tirelessly to provide a home to 30 boys who were living on the street, vocational training to hundreds of young adults, balanced meals to over 700 infants, free healthcare to rural families, and much more. Against a background of continuous conflict, widespread food insecurity, and a growing humanitarian crisis, the SVP in South Sudan is a beacon of hope; the light of Christ in the darkness.

Please give what you can and be assured that 100% of your donation goes to SVP South Sudan.

Contact your local SVP member Liz Salmon or text 07873 407866, or visit the website <https://fundraising.svp.org.uk/SouthSudan>

### **Mass of Thanksgiving for All Volunteers**

Bishop Ralph will be the principle celebrant at the mass at Immaculate Conception, Rotherham S65 3BA on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 11am. The National Jubilee Icon will be on display, refreshments will be served after Mass.

### **St Wilfrid's Centre**

St Wilfrid's Centre is advertising for a Welfare Worker to join the team. The new worker will be facilitating the Women's Group. If you are interested in supporting vulnerable, isolated, socially excluded and homeless adults please go to the website; [www.stwilfridscentre.org](http://www.stwilfridscentre.org) for the job description and application form or contact St Wilfrid's Centre directly 0114 2555 720. Closing date for applications: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025.