

Christ the King First Reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3 David is anointed King over Israel. God tells him that he will be the shepherd of God's people. Responsorial Psalm 122(121);1-2,4-5 Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. Second Reading Colossians 1:12-20 Paul proclaims that Jesus is God and that all created things exist because of him. He proclaims that they also are fulfilled in Jesus united in peace with God.	Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia! Gospel Luke 23:35-43 Jesus is crucified as the "King of the Jews". One of his final actions is to offer hope through saving the criminal crucified beside him.
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Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	22 Nov	5.30pm	Deceased members of the Beard Family
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	23 Nov	9.00am	Trish O'Hanlon RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	23 Nov	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	25 Nov		
Wednesday (St Michael's)	26 Nov	7.00pm	Esther Nicholson RIP and David Mulvenna RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	27 Nov	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday (Sacred Heart)	28 Nov	10.00am	John and Maria Gilliver 40 th Wedding Anniversary Intention
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	29 Nov	5.30pm	Esther Nicholson RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	30 Nov	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St. Helen's)	30 Nov	11.00am	Dennis Damms 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.

Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for October
16th November	£385.41	£1862.91

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 23rd November 2025

Sunday Year C

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Weekday Cycle II

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Luke 23:42

How many films can you think of in which it seems everything is lost and the main characters of the story are going to be defeated, only for a last-minute rescue? There are so many and, even though part of us is expecting it, we continue to rejoice when the day is saved and the cavalry come over the hill.

A few classic examples include Han Solo coming to the rescue of Luke Skywalker at the end of the original *Star Wars* film, just when it looks as though Darth Vader is going to thwart the heroes' plans. Or when the children and grownups are trapped by the Velociraptors at the end of *Jurassic Park*, only to be saved by an unlikely hero – the T-Rex. Again, in *The Lord of the Rings*, in the climactic battle at the fortress of Helm's Deep, when the good forces are about to be overrun by the army of evil Orcs, the wizard Gandalf and the calvary of once-banished Riders of Rohan appear with the sunrise over the crest of a hill to save the day. Or finally, in the *Avengers* movies, when it looks as though Thanos (the big villain) is about to destroy all the forces of good, the once-destroyed army and heroes appear just in time to tip the battle and eventually enable good to triumph. The list goes on and on, but deep within our being is the sense that Good must triumph – that is the way things should be.

In the Gospel today we hear the remarkable last-minute saving of the criminal crucified alongside Jesus. We know nothing of his story except this last-minute reprieve.

How do we feel about them being saved at the last moment? If we knew that with our last breath we could confess our sins, say sorry and be forgiven and welcomed into the eternity of heavenly joy with God – how would we live? If our answer involves doing things which we would consider as sin, we have missed the point of God's wisdom, guidance and commandments. Sin brings death, to us and to others: it hurts everybody, is addictive and its nature is camouflaged in lies of desire. We are encouraged and challenged to love others, simply because it is the best thing for us. We are called to live in the kingdom of God now, here on earth, today, because that is what will truly bring us joy, peace and satisfaction.

If we have ever felt jealous of last-minute conversions, like that of the crucified criminal in the story, we find ourselves like the vineyard workers in the parable,

grumbling about how all the workers are paid the same regardless of how much work they do. Or we find ourselves in the character of the older son in the parable of the prodigal, again complaining about the Father's mercy without realising all that we have. These are not good places to be!

Jesus is our king; as disciples we must submit to his rule and authority. There is something in our human nature that resists this, unless we accept the esteemed status of the ruler and the wisdom and justice of the rules. In Jesus we have the perfect king, and his rule is absolutely wise and just. Remarkably, we are invited to rule with him as part of the Body of Christ. The challenge, then, is to serve and shepherd others, to recognise that as kings, like David, we have a duty to care for them. We are to be the ones who appear when it seems the battle is lost. We are called to be heroes in other people's stories. We are called to bring words and actions of mercy, forgiveness, peace, security, compassion, grace and love into people's lives – even if it costs us our own.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners, especially Yueh Li-Wu, Sean Fay, Kath and Tony Lees, Kitty Hamstead, Maria 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 Houlton, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

Requiescant in Pace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Deacon Richard Booker, who has lived in New Zealand for many years, and Jane Norris from Hoyland. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.

Holy Souls

November is the month when we especially remember those who have died. If you would like a mass for your loved ones who are no longer with us, the Holy Souls lists and envelopes are now available from church. Masses for the Holy Souls will then be said throughout the coming year.

Christmas Items for Sale

Christmas Cards, Calendars, Advent Calendars and Diaries are now in church, all at reasonable prices. There are also "My Day by Day" for Advent, priced at £1, or .50p for the Junior editions.

Service of Love and Prayers for Survivors of Abuse

A reminder that the service will take place on Wednesday 26th November at 7.00pm in St Theresa's Parish Hall, 311 St. Mary's Road, Sheffield, S2 1EA

Dedication of Sanctuary Lamps

If you would like to dedicate a sanctuary lamp for a loved one, please see Fr Declan. This month dedication in St. Michael's is for Barry Pierrepont.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball number was 25. The winner in Hoyland was H Grayson, winning £25. There was no winner in Goldthorpe, so next week will be a rollover. Spare numbers are available in Hoyland and in Goldthorpe. Please see Pat Tomlinson in Hoyland or George Burnitt in Goldthorpe if you would like a number. All money raised is for church funds and you also have a chance of winning!

Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham Monday 8 December

The coach is now booked for our day Pilgrimage to Walsingham on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Prices are £25 Adult and £10 Child, usual pick-up points in Wombwell and Goldthorpe. Please see the Sign-up List at the back of each church and add your name to secure a place. Payment must be made by weekend of 29/30 November.

Carol Service at Goldthorpe – 3.00pm, Sunday 14th December

Practices for the Goldthorpe Carol Service will be held at Sacred Heart church weekly between now and Friday 12th December, led by our organist Joshua. Fridays at 5pm, & Sundays after mass (10.15am onwards), approx 1 hr practice. We will be learning some new carols as well as practising some old favourites, so do please come along if you would like to Have a Sing - everyone is welcome.

St Wilfrid's Carol Concert – 6.30pm, Wednesday 17th December

The Carol Concert will be held at Mother of God Church, Abbeydale Road. All are welcome to attend. There will be refreshments in the hall after the service as well as a chance to purchase handcrafted Christmas goods made at the Centre. All purchases will be **cash only**. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Also, St Wilfrid's Centre has a Reverse Advent Calendar on their website and a PDF to download. Each day from December 1st to the 25th is marked with easy-to-get items or small donations of money for you to add to a box or a bag. Once completed please drop off your collection after the 5th January at the Centre. Each item donated will help towards their work supporting vulnerable adults in our community.

Christmas Carol Service at St Michael's, Sunday 21st December at 6pm

Come and celebrate the birth of Christ in St Michael's with well-loved carols, accompanied by the Salvation Army Band.

Christmas Nativity Raffle

The Craft Group have been busy knitting three Nativity sets, to be raffled for church funds. Tickets are on sale from the 1st Sunday of Advent for two weekends. The draw will be on 3rd Sunday of Advent, £1 per strip.

Changes to Masses from First Week in Advent

On Tuesdays, starting on 9th December, there will be 10.00am mass at Hoyland, and also, on Saturday mornings, 11.00am mass in St. Michael's.