

The Holy Family	Gospel Acclamation
First Reading Sirach 3:2-6. 12-14 Children are encouraged to honour and care for their parents.	Alleluia, alleluia! Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia!
Responsorial Psalm 128(127):1-2,3,4-5 Blessed are those who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.	Gospel Matthew 2:13-15. 19-23 Guided by God through dreams, Joseph leads his family firstly to Egypt to keep them safe from Herod and then back to Israel to make their permanent home.
Second Reading Colossians 3:12-21 Paul encourages us to actively live lives of love.	

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 28th December 2025

Sunday Year A

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Weekday Cycle II

“And above all these, put on love.”

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	27 Dec	5.30pm	Richard Booker RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	28 Dec	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	28 Dec	11.00am	Barry Cooper RIP
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	30 Dec	10.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	31 Dec	NO MASS	
Thursday (St Helen`s)	1 Jan	NO MASS	
Friday (Sacred Heart)	3 Jan	NO MASS	
Saturday (St Michael`s)	4 Jan	NO MASS	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	4 Jan	5.30pm	Richard Booker RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	5 Jan	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St. Helen`s)	5 Jan	11.00am	Barry Cooper 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 November
14 th December	£471.62	£1634.96

Desmond Tutu once said “You don’t choose your family. They are God’s gift to you, as you are unto them.” Sometimes it might feel as though God has a funny idea about what gifts we might like, and sometimes we might like the gift to come with a receipt so we can take it back to the shop for a refund. However, there is no doubt that our family plays a huge part in forming who we become and how we respond to the world around us. It doesn’t take much thought to see the different influences that family has on somebody: the difference between an only child and a child of multiple siblings; the difference between an eldest and a youngest child; the difference between a child from a traditional “nuclear” family and one with numerous parents and step-parents.

Each of these different situations comes with strengths and weaknesses, challenges and joys. Likewise, the differences are evident in a child from a family committed together in love, compared to one that has broken apart and is filled with indifference. Family isn’t always easy, but it is always formational.

The Holy Family is an incredible model of love. Joseph, although struggling at first with Mary’s news of her pregnancy, finds the grace to accept the truth and leads his family to safety in Egypt. He demonstrates his faithfulness to God and to Mary, and is a model to us all. Mary plays a background role in today’s Gospel. We can only surmise that she demonstrates her trust in Joseph and the Lord as she flees to safety with her family in the middle of the night. As a new mother, she is a model of faith, strength and resilience. Jesus, a model of humility, submits in obedience to his parents even though he is God incarnate. He too demonstrates his faith in his heavenly Father through his obedient sonship. It cannot have been an easy or “normal” family situation, but the three of them, committed in love of one another, become a model for us in our families and as members of the wider family of God.

What do we see when we look at the character of Jesus? We see his love and mercy, his commitment to following the will of his heavenly Father, his self-sacrifice, patience and willingness to challenge injustice. Where were these characteristics formed, honed and sharpened? In his family, through his experiences with his earthly mother and father.

It's easy to hear today readings and reflections and imagine that all we need to do is "be nice to your family," as Jesus, Mary and Joseph are. This would be to miss the depth of encouragement and challenge that the readings and this feast present to us.

Jesus, the living word of God, is spoken into a family and is formed within that family unit. Each of us, no matter what our family situation looks like, has the capacity to bring God's word of love and life into being through our family. For some that sounds like more of a challenge than for others, but for those who think that sounds easy, there is more. Through uniting with Jesus, our family expands, and we have more brothers and sisters from whom we can learn, by whom we can be guided, and to care for and nurture. We can ask ourselves: "Would I respond differently for members of my actual' family in need, than I would for those of my 'spiritual' family in need?" If the answer is yes, what does that say about how I see my place within God's family? And if that wasn't enough, St Francis of Assisi challenges us to see Creation as our family: it too forms and supports us and requires our love and attention.

The Good News of our faith is profoundly challenging and cannot be met with our own strength. We are called to love those who are not in our family. We are called to love deeply and with every breath we have. Thankfully, we have the Holy Spirit to inspire us, guide us and provide for us, and we have an incredible family around us to challenge and support us. We are, each of us, called to bring the Word of God into life in and through our family. This way the kingdom of God is proclaimed in our world and the whole of creation can be united in love with the Trinity, the most perfect model of family.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners, especially Audrey Salmon, Yueh Li-Wu, Kath 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, 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.

Christmas Nativity Raffle

The final total raised for parish funds by the Christmas Nativity Raffle was £284.23. Thank you for supporting the raffle and thanks to the ladies from the Parish Craft Group who knitted the Nativity Sets. The winners were Judy in Hoyland, ticket no. 296-300, Marie-Louise in Goldthorpe, ticket 56-60. The winning ticket in Wombwell was yellow 346-350 and is yet to be claimed. Please check your tickets!

Christmas Offerings

Your offerings at Christmas masses are for our parish priest. Thank you.

A big thank you from Fr Declan for your generosity, as well as all the cards, gifts and good wishes. A big thank you to all those who helped prepare our three churches for the Christmas period, and to those who give their time to the parish in so many ways, throughout the year.

Fr Declan will be taking a break in the New Year, there will be no weekday masses for three weeks, following the Tuesday 30th December mass in St Helen's.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

The Bonus Ball numbers and winners will be announced next week

St Wilfrid's Centre – Director Vacancy

St Wilfrid's Centre is seeking a new Director. Please download the application pack from www.stwilfridscentre.org or contact St. Wilfrid's Centre on 0114 2555 720. Closing date is 4th January 2026

Used Stamps

If you have received Christmas cards in the post, please consider donating used stamps into the box or envelope at the back of each church marked for the Royal National Institute for the Blind. From time to time these stamps are posted on to the RNIB who can use them in their fundraising. Thank you.

Wombwell Community Lunch Club.

As the weather turns colder, why not consider joining The Lunch Club each Thursday at 12noon in St. Michael's Church Hall? It's an opportunity for people of different ages and backgrounds to come together for a meal. Lunch is only £5 and consists of a hot meal and a pudding. The meal is followed by a raffle and bingo.

For more information and bookings, please contact Barbara on 07742 548985

Agewell Wombwell

Agewell meet alternate Wednesdays in St Michael's Church Hall and are looking for new members. It's an opportunity to meet people, have a cuppa in a warm environment, be entertained by interesting guest Speakers and enjoy day trips throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the Agewell group or have any questions, contact Geraldine Pickles 01226 750136 or 07518 486822