

<p>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>First Reading Isaiah 58:7-10 Isaiah reminds us of the importance of compassion. He tells us how important it is not to look away from other people when they are hungry or homeless, but to share whatever we have with them.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm 112(111):4-8a,9 A light rises in the darkness for the upright.</p> <p>Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 St Paul says that he doesn't rely on clever words or great knowledge to persuade people. He speaks instead of his love of Jesus Christ. Even though he experiences anxiety and fear, Paul puts his trust in God.</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 5:13-16 Through our actions we are to show others what it means to love. We are to be the lamp that stands on the table giving light, and the salt that flavours and seasons. Through our contributions we are to bring hope, joy and love to our neighbours and to society.</p>
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Service Times & Intentions			
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	7 Feb	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	8 Feb	9.00am	Christine and Catherine Haigh RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	8 Feb	11.00am	Holy Souls
Tuesday (St Helen's)	10 Feb	10.00am	
Wednesday (St Michael's)	11 Feb	7.00pm	Noreen and Bobby Gibson RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	12 Feb	10.00am	Very Rev. Canon Joseph Taylor
Friday (Sacred Heart)	13 Feb	10.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday (St Michael's)	14 Feb	11.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	14 Feb	5.30pm	Sr. Rosemary, Thickett Priory 60 th Birthday
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	15 Feb	9.00am	Michael and Louie Leeman RIP
Sunday (St. Helen's)	15 Feb	11.00am	People of the Parish

Rosary is at 1.30pm each Wednesday in Goldthorpe.
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 January
1 st February	£432.03	£1722.91

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 8th February 2026

Sunday Year A

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"...it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house."

Josephine Bakhita was born in the Darfur region of Sudan in around 1869. As a child of about seven she was kidnapped and enslaved. The trauma she experienced made her completely forget the name she had been given and she was named Bakhita ("fortunate") by her kidnappers. She was bought and sold many times, often being beaten. "During all the years I stayed in that house," she said, "I do not recall a day that passed without some wound or other. When a wound from the whip began to heal, other blows would pour down on me."

In 1883, she was sold to an Italian vice consul in Khartoum, and eventually she was given to the Michieli family. They travelled home to Italy and Bakhita became nanny to their daughter. A few years later, on 29 November 1889, a court ruled that she was a free woman.

She chose to join a Religious Order in Italy and was baptised Josephine. She was known for her charisma and became responsible for welcoming visitors to the convent. During the Second World War she offered comfort and hope to the community when the town was bombed. But the pain of her enslavement and mutilation never left her. Even as she was dying, she begged, "Please, loosen the chains. They are heavy."

In the year 2000, St Pope John Paul II made Josephine Bakhita a saint. He said, "The trade in human persons constitutes a shocking offence against human dignity and a grave violation of fundamental human rights." Josephine Bakhita is now the patron saint of survivors of human trafficking.

In today's reading Jesus teaches that his followers are to be salt and light to the world. The first reading, from Isaiah, also speaks about how, when you bring food to those who are hungry, "Then shall your light break forth like the dawn".

This teaching is about bringing hope and compassion to the world through our actions. Not so that we will receive praise, honour or glory, but so that others may come to know the love of God. As St Francis of Sales said, "Do not speak of God to those who don't ask. But live so that, sooner or later, they will ask."

The late Pope Francis, in a homily, said that the purpose of the salt is "to give flavour to the lives of others," not to keep for oneself. He also asked the question, "What

must a Christian do in order for the salt not to run out?" He explained that prayer is what lights up Christian life. "You can do many works of charity... but if you do not pray, it will be dark and dimly lit."

The way that the salt is tasted, and the light seen, is through our contributions to the community. In essence, we commit all our efforts to make the world a better place. It is painful to hear the stories of how people like St Josephine Bakhita were treated – kidnapped, enslaved, beaten and traumatised. But this is not just a historical reality; it remains an everyday experience of horror for many people. Migrants and victims of trafficking face unimaginable pain as they seek a safe place to live. Yet even when they reach seeming safety, they still face racism, prejudice, hatred and discrimination. The community where Josephine Bakhita became a religious sister welcomed her and she was able to contribute to society. Whom are we turning away when we refuse to welcome migrants, refugees and survivors of trafficking? Why are our hearts so closed? Each of these people is a child of God, with inherent dignity, just like Bakhita. Through our love for others, especially for all those who are hated and excluded, we may experience mockery and hatred in our turn. We turn to God in prayer, asking for the courage to face difficulties and to stand alongside all those who are in pain.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners, especially A Sick Person, 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 Mays, Percy Winterton, Carole Dyson, Bernadette Hoults, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, 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 February 11th.

World Day of Prayer – Friday 6th March

There will be a World Day of Prayer at 2.00pm in Goldthorpe. The theme of this year's service, prepared by Nigerian women, is taken from Matthew 11: 28-30 'Come to me and I will give you rest'.

Anyone who would like to be involved in any way - readings, singing, preparing materials - is warmly invited to a meeting in the Parish Room at Goldthorpe at 2pm on Thursday 12 February. Thank you, Amanda Campbell

Hallam Bridge

There are a few copies of the latest edition Hallam Bridge, the news from Hallam Diocese, at the back of church.

The file will be available for everyone on the Diocese website: hallam-diocese.com

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

31.1.2026 No. 11.

D Butterworth in Hoyland and M Burnitt in Goldthorpe, each winning £25. Spare numbers are available in Hoyland and in Goldthorpe. Please see Pat Tomlinson in Hoyland or Fay in Goldthorpe if you would like a number. All money raised is for church funds and you also have a chance of winning!

. 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

Dearne Churches Together – Family Fun Day Wednesday 18th February

There will be a Family Fun Day on Wednesday 18th February, 11.00am-1.00pm at Goldthorpe Pentecostal Community Church, Market Street. The theme for the day is Wisdom.

There will be crafts, activities and games for all the family, and lunch provided. Please contact Julie Turner on 07729 421405 or email julie@gpcchurch.co.uk to book your place.

40 Days for Life in Sheffield

40 Days for Life in Sheffield: From 18th February, the 40 Days for Life invites you to join other Christians in praying and fasting for an end to abortion in our community. Come and join us to peacefully witness for the sanctity of human life. If you'd like to join, please sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/en/broomhall or call Rachel 07368297872.

Parish Administrator

Marion is looking to step down from her role as Parish Administrator in the near future. If there is anyone who would be interested in the role, please either speak with Fr Declan, or send an email to parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com

Help with Counting

The Parish has to have at least two people to help with counting the various collections each week. We are looking for volunteers, so if you would like to help for a couple of hours about once a month, please contact Marion in the parish office, speak with Fr. Declan or drop an email to the parish office.