

3rd Sunday of Lent

First Reading Exodus 17:3-7
The people doubted the presence of the Lord among them, but Moses followed the Lord's instructions, leading them to the rock of Horeb. Moses struck the rock, and the people drank the water that came from it.

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 Romans 5:1-2. 5-8
Christ died for us, revealing God's love for us despite our weakness.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God
Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God

Gospel John 4:5-42
Jesus surprised his followers by speaking to a Samaritan woman, but many believed because of her testimony, and many more believed because of Jesus' word.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 8th March 2026

Sunday Year A

Third Sunday of Lent

Weekday Cycle II

"We have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world." John 4:42

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	7 Mar	5.30pm	Liz Salmon and Family
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	8 Mar	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	8 Mar	11.00am	Maria Teresa Fazardo RIP
Tuesday (St Helen's)	10 Mar	10.00am	People of the Parish
Wednesday (St Michael's)	11 Mar	7.00pm	Holy Souls
Thursday (St Helen's)	12 Mar	10.00am	
Friday (Sacred Heart)	13 Mar	10.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday (St Michael's)	14 Mar	11.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	14 Mar	5.30pm	Anne Watts RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	15 Mar	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St. Helen's)	15 Mar	11.00am	Our Grandmother Ela RIP

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 February
1 st March	£501.33	£1639.96

We often hear expressions conveying the idea that what we see is not necessarily a true reflection of reality. "Don't judge a book by its cover," is one; "the tip of the iceberg," is another. When we're talking about a person, we might say "still waters run deep". These expressions remind us of the danger of assuming that things are as they seem, basing judgement on hearsay, prejudice or superficial observation, or missing the true value of something because we notice only its surface.

Many of us have probably heard childhood stories that illustrate this. The "ugly duckling" was not a duckling but a young swan. The "frog" who disgusted the princess was actually a prince. The frightening "beast" in *Beauty and the Beast* turned out to be a kind and gentle person. Without diminishing the value that lies in diversity and individuality, we may discover that the "other" – with whom we thought we shared nothing in common – turns out to be more like us than we thought. This is especially the case when we try to move beyond prejudice and first impressions and look at our deepest needs, our shared humanity as children of God, and our call to evangelise as members of the Church.

Today's Gospel is a rich source of ideas that help us to understand and reflect upon our oneness as God's people and the universality of God's offer of eternal life. Weary from his journey, Jesus is taking a break beside a well when a woman from Samaria approaches to draw water. He asks the woman for a drink, and she is surprised that Jesus, a Jew, would ask a "woman of Samaria" for a drink. The Gospel even provides an explanation for this: "For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans."

This lack of relations between Jews and Samaritans had deep historical and religious roots. The woman to whom Jesus spoke was herself aware of it, mentioning the difference in belief between her people and the Jews concerning where people should worship. Yet Jesus' request is unusual for other reasons, too. It would have been unusual at that time for a man to speak in public to a woman, and especially to a woman who would have been considered a sinner. (This woman already had five husbands and was living with a man who was not her husband.) Jesus therefore

breaks down several barriers when he asks the Samaritan woman for a drink: barriers that are religious, social and ethnic. In his response to the woman's pointing out the religious divisions between Jews and Samaritans, Jesus reveals the universality of his message. True worship is not dependent on origins or place, but on spirit and truth. What follows in today's Gospel is a story of dialogue between two "others", delving beyond the surface of tangible traditions and differences towards truth. The Samaritan woman moves from being a person who, viewed superficially, people might expect Jesus to ignore – because she is a woman, a Samaritan, and a sinner – to one who is invited by Jesus to labour with him, evangelising among her people through her testimony.

Today's Gospel challenges our expectations concerning who might reveal God's word in our lives. The people of Jesus' time would not have expected the Samaritan woman to be the person to lead others to Jesus. Closer to home, too, perhaps there are people in our lives whom we do not recognise as evangelists in our world because they do not wear a collar or hold an official title in our church. In their book *Talking about Jesus: our call to everyday evangelisation*, Jim McManus and Bill Horton write about "faithful parishioners, who are missionary disciples," who may say very little, but whose whole life proclaims the Lord non-verbally. These are the "women and men full of faith and inner peace," who encourage everyone and have become great witnesses in their local church and community. Every parish has such people. Perhaps our family, school or place of work has such people. And each of us has the capacity to be like them. Perhaps today's Gospel also challenges us, therefore, to consider how we ourselves might be modern-day evangelists, sharing Jesus' message of eternal life through our words and deeds in the world. By accepting this call, we play our part in helping others see beyond the water that quenches thirst only temporarily, to the water Jesus brings that wells up to eternal life, just as the woman in today's Gospel did.

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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, Anthony and Carole Dyson, Bernadette Hoult, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

Confirmations 2026

Confirmation Meetings will begin at Holy Rood on 15th April and will run for eight weeks until 3rd June. Bishop Ralph will be present for the Deanery Confirmation Mass on Wednesday, 24th June at 7.00pm in Holy Rood. Please see Fr Declan if you wish to be confirmed this year.

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Friday 27th February

Please remember to return your envelopes. Don't forget to consider using the Gift Aid slip if you are a UK Taxpayer, thus enabling CAFOD to benefit further from your generous donations.

Sick & Retired Clergy

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Sick & Retired clergy to help ensure all of our priests who are not able to say mass anymore, or who are not able to look after themselves, who have given their lives to serve God and to serve us, are cared for at their time of need. The Diocese have retired priests with various individual care needs, with care costs rocketing. Please help to cover these ever-rising costs by giving what you can. This appeal is our opportunity to serve them in God's name.

Stations of the Cross at Goldthorpe

A chance to do something extra during Lent? Stations of the Cross at Sacred Heart every Wednesday at 2.00pm
AND at St. John and St. Mary Magdalene Anglican church (our friends across the road) every Friday at 6.00pm All are welcome.

Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe Sunday 8th March

There will be Children's Liturgy during 9.00am mass at Goldthorpe for any children who have NOT YET made their First Holy Communion. As usual, two groups: 3-5 year olds with Amanda and 6-8 year olds with Maureen. We are looking forward to seeing you all

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

28.2.2026 No. 23

Winners were M Smith in Hoyland and M Booth in Goldthorpe, each winning £25.

There are still available numbers in both churches. Please see Pat Tomlinson in Hoyland or Faye Handley in Goldthorpe, to try your luck and in doing so, support our parish.

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

Parish Administrator

Please spread the word that Fr Declan will need a new Parish Administrator at the end of March. This is a paid position and would suit someone who needs a few hours of work per week. Marion is looking to step down from her role after over fourteen years. 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.

Lenten Day of Recollection, Saturday, 21st March 11am-3.00pm

Everything is connected – how do we care for our common home?

At St Vincent's Church, 40 Pickmere Road, Crookes, Sheffield, S101GY. The Speakers are Bishop John Arnold, Bishop of Salford, spokesperson for the Bishops Conference on the Environment, and President of Pax Christi. Dr. Maria Exall, Honorary Fellow at the Centre for Catholic Social Thought and Practice in the Department of Theology and Religion at Durham University. The event is free. Tea and coffee will be available, but please bring your own packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided. Please book your place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hallam-formation-and-mission-46212155433>