

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 19th April 2026

Sunday Year A

Third Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

3rd Sunday of Easter

First Reading Acts 2:14. 22-33
Peter helps the Jewish people recognise Jesus as the Holy One of God.

Responsorial Psalm 16(15):1-2a,5;7-8; 9-10;11.
O Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21
The death and resurrection of Jesus were part of God's eternal plan. His glory is at last revealed.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us.

Alleluia.

Gospel Luke 24:13-35
Two travellers, encountering a stranger on the road, come to realise that they are in the presence of the risen Lord.

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	18 Apr	5.30pm	Audrey Salmon 92nd Birthday
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	19 Apr	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	19 Apr	11.00am	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday (St Helen's)	21 Apr	10.00am	Thanksgiving for 9 Years of Priesthood
Wednesday (St Michael's)	22 Apr	7.00pm	
Thursday (St Helen's)	23 Apr	10.00am	
Friday (Sacred Heart)	24 Apr	10.00am	
Saturday (St Michael's)	25 Apr	11.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	25 Apr	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	26 Apr	9.00am	
Sunday (St Helen's)	26 Apr	11.00am	

Rosary is at 1.30pm each Wednesday in Goldthorpe.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation – Saturday 10:30 at Wombwell and upon request.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Goldthorpe each Tuesday 7.00-8.00pm.

Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for March
5 th April	£367.88	£ 1939.96

"Their eyes were kept from recognising him." Luke 24:16
Looking into the face of a newborn baby is a lovely experience. The fascination is often mutual: newborns seem instinctively drawn to gaze into people's faces. Human survival depends on our ability to distinguish one from another. Some are better at it than others. A condition called prosopagnosia, or face-blindness, leaves a small percentage of people unable to tell faces apart, even those of their immediate family. At the other extreme are the so-called "super-recognisers" who possess the uncanny gift of remembering every single face they have ever seen! The abilities of most of us lie somewhere in between. The average person can pick out friends and loved ones in a crowd, but tends not to notice unfamiliar faces.

Recognition depends not just on appearance, but also upon a person's voice and mannerisms. Just as important is the context in which we encounter them. "I'm sure I know that face!" people are often heard to say as they struggle to recall a name. Meeting someone we know in a place we do not expect to see them can easily befuddle the brain. Fatigue or distractedness may further reduce the ability to recognise someone we know. Our attention might be drawn elsewhere, or our minds taken up with something. It is quite possible to walk absent-mindedly past a friend and not notice them at all.

Jesus had to get used to not being recognised in those first days after Easter. Even those who knew him well were no longer sure who he was. Perhaps his appearance had changed. More likely, the disciples were too exhausted, mentally and emotionally, to grasp that this was actually Jesus. Mary, one of his closest friends, mistook him for a gardener.

As for Cleopas and the other disciple who encountered him on the road to Emmaus, they could hardly be called "super-recognisers". Today's Gospel describes them quitting Jerusalem, the scene of the crucifixion, despondent and embittered. God had let them down, they thought. Preoccupied, they hardly

noticed the fellow traveller walking beside them. When he tried to join in their conversation, they reacted impatiently.

Only gradually did it dawn upon them that this stranger was Jesus. They had warmed to him as he explained the scriptures, helping them grasp that their Master's death and resurrection were meant to be. Still unaware of his identity, they invited him to stay. Only then, in the breaking of the bread, did they recognise who he was. Meals can have that effect of turning strangers into friends. Jesus had become suddenly familiar in this intimate setting. He was alive! Recognising his presence brought them alive, too. The two who left Jerusalem so dejectedly, now sped back to the city to spread the good news.

Many are the encounters on life's journey. People pass us by; all-too-soon, they disappear. We may wish we had let them into our conversation more or offered warmer hospitality. Not all fellow travellers make pleasant companions, of course, but today's Gospel calls us to be "super-recognisers", who see the face of Jesus in everyone we meet. Each time a fleeting encounter is allowed to become something more, we are inviting in the risen Lord and asking him to stay. Feeling let down, however, can close people's eyes and hearts until they no longer acknowledge one another at all. You may sympathise with the two disciples who failed to recognise anything special about the stranger at their side. They did not want to know him. That road from Jerusalem to Emmaus was the road of disillusion. It led from ardent devotion towards loss of faith; further still, perhaps, to despair. Jesus will always overtake any disciple on that road and help them re-trace their steps. Faith is restored and deepened by a personal encounter with the Risen Lord. He re-kindles cold hearts to believe again, to love again. Do not be slow of heart, he is saying to us now: trust in God's eternal purposes.

Jesus will undoubtedly appear to us today, whether or not we are predisposed to recognise him. Some kind word or gesture from those around us will surely reveal his love. Whenever two or three come together in his name, Jesus promises to draw near. He was standing close as we listened to his Word; he is inviting us now to receive him in Holy Communion. Don't let him pass by. Invite him to stay!

Summary

1. Recognising someone we know is harder when we encounter them in an unexpected place. So-called "super-recognisers" remember every face.
2. The couple on the road to Emmaus failed to realise that their fellow-traveller was Jesus. Recognition dawned only slowly, with the breaking of the bread.
3. We are called to be "super-recognisers": to see the face of Jesus in everyone. He makes himself known in many ways, but especially in the Eucharist.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners, especially Phil Harrison, 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 Hault, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss, Nancy Preston.

Confirmations 2026

Confirmation Meetings will be held in Holy Rood Church Hall on each Tuesday. The next meeting is 21st April at 5.45-7.30pm. The Deanery Confirmation Mass will take place in Holy Rood Wednesday, 24th June at 7.00pm. The Catechists will be Lee Redhead and James Green. Please speak with Fr Declan if you wish to be confirmed this year.

Offertory Envelopes

New Offertory envelopes are now available at the back of church, for those who require them. If you haven't had envelopes before and wish to use them, please send an email to the office, telephone or ask Fr Declan. You can, of course, Gift Aid your donation if you are a taxpayer, thus helping the parish further.

Red Mission Boxes

Please bring in your Red Mission Boxes, or just the money from your box. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider using Gift Aid, so make sure your name is on the box and on any donation that you bring to church. This allows the Missio Co-ordinator, Anne Damms, to log your donation and therefore claim the Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and for your continued prayers for missionaries around the world.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

4.4.26 no ? Winners were ? in Hoyland and ? in Goldthorpe, each winning £25.

Priests' Training Fund

Next Sunday there will be a second collection for the Priests' Training Fund

Christopher Martin Headd

The Funeral Service for Christopher Martin Headd (known as Martin) will be at St. Helen's Church at 11 am on Tuesday 21st April, followed by interment at Kirk Balk Cemetery.

Nathalie Waring

The Funeral Service for Nathalie Waring will be Wednesday 29th April, at 1 pm at St. Michael's Church. Her body will be brought in the evening before at 4pm.