

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



PARISH PRIEST: Fr Declan Brett.

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 26th April 2026

Sunday Year A

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Weekday Cycle II

4th Sunday of Easter

First Reading Acts 2:14a. 36-41
Peter declares that the crucified Jesus is both Lord and Christ.

Responsorial Psalm 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6.
The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Through Jesus' crucifixion we are healed of our sins. He is our Shepherd.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord. I know my sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia.

Gospel John 10:1-10
Jesus has come so that his followers will enjoy an abundance of life.

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	25 Apr	5.30pm	Noreen & Bobby Gibson (RIP)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	26 Apr	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	26 Apr	11.00am	Mary & John Coefield (RIP)
Tuesday (St Helen's)	28 Apr	10.00am	Theresa Lynch (RIP)
Wednesday (St Michael's)	29 Apr	7.00pm	
Thursday (St Helen's)	30 Apr	10.00am	
Friday (Sacred Heart)	1 May	10.00am	
Saturday (St Michael's)	2 May	11.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	3 May	5.30pm	Robert Alan Batty (RIP)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	4 May	9.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Sunday (St Helen's)	4 May	11.00am	People of the Parish

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	£601.14	£ 1939.96

"I am the door of the sheep." John 10:7

In 2017, a burglar climbing through the bathroom window of a house in Greater Manchester, became stuck and needed the fire brigade to rescue him. The police subsequently declared it their easiest-ever arrest – and the media all featured the embarrassingly funny photograph of the trapped burglar!

In today's Gospel, Jesus compares two kinds of people: the shepherd who enters the sheepfold by the gate, calls the sheep and leads them out to fresh pastures, and the thieves and bandits who sneak into the sheepfold, planning to steal the animals. Jesus' listeners recognised this image. In first-century Palestine, sheepfolds were enclosed spaces, often stone-walled, where multiple flocks might be kept overnight. A gatekeeper would guard the entrance, often by lying across the gap, and in the morning each shepherd would call his own sheep. Remarkably, the sheep responded only to the familiar voice, refusing to follow a stranger.

Jesus uses this example to reveal something extraordinary about himself. He is both the shepherd and the gate. As shepherd, he knows his sheep intimately. He calls them by name, leading them not into danger, but into pasture, into freedom, into life. As the gate, he is the way in and the way out. Through him, the sheep find safety, nourishment and belonging.

Today's Gospel is about us, rather than sheep and shepherds. We are the sheep. And Jesus truly knows us: our names, stories, wounds and hopes, the paths we've walked, the burdens we carry, the fears that keep us awake at night. He calls us not as a crowd, but personally, lovingly, by name. In a world where we are often reduced to numbers, usernames or roles, Jesus reminds us that we are not anonymous. We are not lost in the crowd. We are his.

But Jesus also warns us. Some voices do not lead to life. There are thieves and bandits – those who climb in by another way. These are the voices that promise fulfilment but leave us empty, that say our worth depends on our productivity,

that whisper we are not enough, that tempt us to despair, to cynicism and to self-reliance at the expense of grace.

To know the Shepherd's voice, we must spend time with Jesus in prayer, scripture, silence and community. The more we listen, the more we learn to recognise the tone of his love, the quality of his mercy, the rhythm of his peace. And then comes the promise: "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Not just survival. Not just getting by. Abundant life. Life that overflows with grace, with purpose, with joy. Life rooted in the security of being loved and led by the Good Shepherd. This abundance is not measured by wealth or success. It is not the absence of suffering. It is the presence of Christ in all things. It is the peace that comes from knowing we are held, even in the valley of the shadow of death. It is the freedom to love without fear, to serve without seeking reward, to live with open hands and open hearts.

Jesus is the gate. Not a barrier, but an opening. Not a wall, but a welcome. Jesus doesn't trap us so that someone else must rescue us. Instead, through him we enter into the heart of God and are led out into the world to bear witness to love which is greater than we can possibly imagine. So today, let us ask ourselves: whose voice are we following? Which gates are we entering? Are we listening for the Shepherd who calls us by name? To follow Jesus means entrusting ourselves to his care, even when we cannot see the path ahead.

And let us remember that we are not alone. We are part of a flock, a community, a people called and cherished by God. Jesus guards us like the shepherd at the gate, protecting the fold of our families, our Church, our wounded world. He does not abandon us when danger comes; he lays down his life for us. Through his cross he literally becomes the gate, the threshold between death and life, sin and forgiveness, darkness and light. Together, we follow his voice. Together, we walk through the gate that is Christ. And together we discover that in him even the most ordinary pasture becomes holy ground – and even the thief can be rescued and receive a second chance.

1. *Jesus is the gate, the way in and the way out of the sheepfold.*
2. *Jesus tells us that he knows us – truly knows us.*
3. *Together, we discover that in Jesus, even the most ordinary pasture becomes holy ground.*

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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.

St. Michael's Hall

The refurbishment of the hall is almost complete. We are looking for a few volunteers to help with sweeping, dusting, and mopping. Please phone Carl on 07503 210287

Confirmations 2026

Confirmation Meetings will be held in Holy Rood Church Hall on each Tuesday. The next meeting is 28th 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

18.4.26 The winner in Hoyland was no 48 M. Barker winning £25, and there was no winner in Goldthorpe.

Priests' Training Fund

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

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.

Children's Liturgy in Goldthorpe (Sunday 10th May)

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 everybody after our April break.