

<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>
<b>First Reading</b> Acts 10:34a. 37-43 God raised Jesus on the third day after his death on the cross.	<b>Alleluia, alleluia.</b> Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed; Let us therefore celebrate the festival of the Lord.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b> 118(117):1-2,16-17,22-23 This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.	<b>Alleluia.</b>
<b>Second Reading</b> Colossians 3:1-4 Our life is hidden with Christ in God.	<b>Gospel</b> John 20:1-9 Mary, Peter and John saw the empty tomb and learned to believe in the resurrection.

**Parish of Corpus Christi**  
Sacred Heart (Goldthorpe), Sacred Heart & St Helen (Hoyland) and St Michael & All Angels (Wombwell)



**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Declan Brett.  
23 Park Street, Wombwell Barnsley, S73 0HQ  
01226 752372  
email: parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com  
Website: <https://corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com>  
Facebook: Corpus Christi Dearne Valley  
Hall Bookings: booking.parishofcorpuschristi@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:  
Sheila Marren 07932 722188 Mary Obodo 07950 162668  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Easter Sunday

Sunday Year A  
Weekday Cycle II

*"He must rise from the dead."* John 20:9

### Service Times & Intentions

<b>Holy Saturday Vigil (St Helen`s)</b>	<b>4 Apr</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>	Deceased Members of the Wildsmith Family
<b>Easter Sunday (Sacred Heart)</b>	<b>5 Apr</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Peter and Trish O`Hanlon RIP
<b>Easter Sunday (St Michael`s)</b>	<b>5 Apr</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	7 Apr	10.00am	WR (Andy) Andrews RIP
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	8 Apr	10.30am	Funeral Service for Peter Hart
Thursday (St Helen`s)	9 Apr	10.00am	Barry Cooper RIP
<b>Friday (Sacred Heart)</b>	10 Apr	10.00am	William Mays RIP
Saturday (St Michael`s)	11 Apr	11.00am	Kamsi Eze RIP
<b>Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)</b>	<b>11 Apr</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	Philip Winfield RIP
<b>Sunday (Sacred Heart)</b>	<b>12 Apr</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Paddy and Miley Connors RIP
<b>Sunday (St Helen`s)</b>	<b>12 Apr</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	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 March
29th March	£516.00	£1939.96

Think, for a moment, of a day when you felt very "down" for some reason or other, and the hours felt bleak and unending – and then, suddenly and unexpectedly, something good happened that set your heart dancing for joy. *That* was a resurrection experience!

At first, on Easter Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene only sees darkness. She goes to the tomb before sunrise, she is also broken-hearted, the worst kind of darkness in anybody's life. Jesus, the light of her world, had died on Calvary. In her agony and despite the memories it holds for her, Mary's love draws her towards the tomb. When she finds the stone rolled away, she tries to make sense of what she sees. The tomb is empty. Someone must have taken the body. In her grief, she can't imagine that God is doing something new, something beyond her understanding.

Mary looks for explanations, not miracles, and runs to tell Peter and the disciples, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter and John run to the tomb, hearts pounding, racing towards a mystery that, despite all that Jesus had said, they are not expecting. John reaches the tomb first but waits for Peter. Despite knowing Peter's earlier denial of Jesus, John respects his leadership, perhaps sensing that God's grace is already restoring and rebuilding the one who had fallen.

Peter enters the tomb and sees the linen cloths lying there and the cloth that had covered Jesus' head rolled up in a separate place. The details matter. The grave clothes are not strewn about as if by grave robbers; they are neatly set aside, as though by someone who no longer needs them. This is not the chaos of theft but the calm of resurrection. God's work, even in its most astonishing moments, bears the mark of peace and order.

Then John enters. "He saw and believed." The Gospel doesn't tell us exactly what he believed at that moment. Neither apostle could yet understand the fullness of the resurrection. John himself writes, "as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead". But he believed something had happened. He saw enough to trust. Sometimes faith begins, not with understanding, but with a glimmer

of recognition and hope that God is working, even when we cannot see the whole picture.

Resurrection faith begins in darkness, in confusion, at an empty tomb – and slowly, our eyes open to new life. The resurrection happened long ago – but resurrection is also our reality now. The proverb declares that “it is always darkest before the dawn”. Like Mary, Peter and John, we’ve stood before the “tombs” of our hopes and dreams, thinking that all was lost. Yet in our darkest moments, God was already rolling away the stone, bringing life out of death. Every sorrow, every loss, every dark night finds its answer in this resurrection dawn.

John’s Gospel invites us to see and believe. But belief touches the mind *and* the heart. It is not just an intellectual exercise. It is a way of living, a trust that changes how we see the world. To believe in the resurrection means not allowing death to have the final word. Love changes everything. The resurrection lets us dare to hope, even in darkness.

Mary’s Easter journey mirrors every believer’s journey from darkness to light, from grief to joy, from confusion to faith. She expects to anoint a dead body and instead encounters the beginning of a new creation. “While it was still dark,” God’s light was already breaking through. The resurrection happens, not when the world is ready, but when God acts. Its first witnesses are not kings or priests, but ordinary people who love Jesus deeply.

We shouldn’t fear what we don’t yet understand because the same God who rolled away the stone from Jesus’ tomb can bring light to our darkness, hope to our despair and life to the wilted garden of our heart. “He saw and believed.” May that be said of us, too – that even when we don’t understand what is happening in life, we see enough to believe. And in believing, we will find the courage to live as Easter people: witnesses of a love stronger than death, bearers of a light that no darkness can overcome.

---

*Reflection by Redemptorists Publications. Used with permission*

### **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 Hoult, Janette Barber, Paddy McNicholas, David Hardy, Hannah Prentiss, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Val Armstrong, Margaret Booker, Norah Preuss.

### **Peter Hart**

Reception into St Michael’s church will be on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> April at 4.00pm. The funeral will be on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am. Please keep Peter’s family and friends in your prayers.

\*There will be no evening mass that day.

### **Easter Offering**

Your offerings on Easter Sunday are for our parish priest. Thank you

### **Confirmations 2026**

Confirmation Meetings will begin in Holy Rood Church Hall on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April at 5.45-7.30pm. The Deanery Confirmation Mass will take place in Holy Rood Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> 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 starting on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April, 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**

**28.3.2026 No. 18.** Winners were J Andrews in Hoyland and J Whitfield in Goldthorpe, each winning £25.

### **Sent to Share the Faith**

On 17<sup>th</sup> April, three Franciscan Friars, Fathers Casey Cole, Tito Serrano and Jason Damon from Charlotte in the USA will be visiting the Diocese to help us to think about how we can spread the Gospel today. They have recently started a mission to reach young adults, spiritual seekers, and those disconnected from the Church through authentic presence, conversation, and compassion. Rooted in the spirit of St. Francis, SEARCH is about walking with others, sharing Christ’s love, and inviting hearts to renewal and healing.

They are hosting two events - the first at the Cathedral specifically aimed at young people and young adults at 1:15pm following midday Mass, the second aimed at a wider audience at St Francis of Assisi beginning with Mass at 6:00 pm.

Bookings are necessary using the Formation & Mission Eventbrite Page on this link or QR code <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hallam-formation-and-mission-46212155433>

Further details from the Formation and Mission team 0114 256 6410.

### **Hallam Bridge**

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

Also available for everyone on the Diocese website: [hallam-diocese.com](http://hallam-diocese.com)