

In John's first letter John tells us something we might find difficult to accept. He says, "he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen". We might think, "That's a nice pious thought, but John doesn't know the sort of brother that I have to put up with". Please don't look around at one another. Our relation to other people can be a problem. One way of tackling it might be moving from a straight line to a triangle. The straight line is when our relationship is just between the two of us and it may be difficult. The triangle comes in when we pray to God for the other person and not about him or her, and we would hope he or she would pray for us. So, our relationship is changed; it is mediated by God. It might take time, but it will be moving in the right direction. If you have time today or during the week, I'd recommend reading the First Letter of St John for yourselves. I think you'd be encouraged by it.

Today is the World Communications Day, a time for us to reflect how we use or are affected by technological developments. Pope Leo has chosen as its theme, "Preserving human voices and faces". In essence this means that the developments in social communications pose new challenges for the defence of human dignity, justice and labour. And whatever their possibilities, new technologies, to quote the Vatican document, "cannot replace the uniquely human capacities for empathy, ethics and moral responsibility". Many years ago, a satirical magazine had a photo of a row of empty chairs in a waiting room. The caption read, "Pass it on: the robots took over at midnight." Our role is to resist the robots and focus on people. Perhaps we could put a sign saying "God is love" over our computer screens or as a screensaver, and on our phones too. It could remind us that there are too many workhouse masters online, ready to use their canes on vulnerable people.

- 1. Some people will use Christian words and slogans to try and mask their wickedness.*
- 2. Jesus embraces all of us with his love.*
- 3. Without the human face of love and compassion, social communications can be used as instruments of deceit.*

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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 Hoult, 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 19th May at 5.45-7.30pm. The Deanery Confirmation Mass will take place in Holy Rood Wednesday, 24th June at 7.00pm.

Rachel's Vineyard

Hurt by Abortion? Abortion impacts families and the wider community. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is a life-affirming charity that offers a healing ministry to anyone hurt by abortion. Contact Rachel MacKenzie on rachel@rachelvineyard.org.uk

Marist Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 4 July

Save The Date! The coach is booked for Saturday 4 July for our annual Marist Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham with our Cudworth Marist friends. Details of cost and pick-up points will be given on the newsletter later in May, and there will be sign-up sheets in all 3 churches.

Bonus Ball - Goldthorpe and Hoyland

9.5.26 The Bonus Ball was number 5. E. Cooper in Hoyland and T Haigh in Goldthorpe each won £25.

Diocesan Consultation Meeting

As well as the consultation meetings taking place across our dioceses, there is also an opportunity for all the clergy, religious, and lay faithful in all three dioceses to contribute to this consultation.

I encourage the faithful within our dioceses to devote time and prayerful reflection upon these questions before your parish reps attend the June meeting, so that the Holy Spirit may guide us through this important process of consultation and discernment.

To assist in this, we will be hosting several informal chats via zoom about our shared responses as a parish. The link to the zoom meeting will be published on the Parish Facebook page and the Corpus Christi WhatsApp group. The one hour session will be on Thursdays at 7pm: Starting from 14th May for 4 weeks. All are welcome. Please join if you can.

Lourdes

Sue McDonald, youth director, has spaces on the flight for youth this year. Schools are not participating but they were open to allowing those who were finishing exams (yr11&yr13) to attend.

I would love to fill these spaces to be able to assist the pilgrims and give our young people an experience of being a smaller group of young people for this year. Please see the Corpus Christi Facebook page for more information.