

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5-6a. 7-12
King Solomon has his priorities right: instead of power and self-interest, his focus is on living and acting wisely.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 119
O LORD, how I love your law!

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30
All things work together for those who love God, for those who are called according to God's plan.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52
The kingdom of heaven is hidden treasure, the pearl of great price. We are called to be whole-hearted and joyful in our commitment to it.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Sunday 26th July 2026

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday Year A

Weekday Cycle II

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.' Matthew 13:44

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	25 July	5:30pm	Audrey Salmon, (RIP)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	26 July	9.00am	Audrey Salmon (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen's)	26 July	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen's)	29 July	10.00am	NO MASS
Wednesday (St Michael's)	29 July	7.00pm	Michael Hanrahan (RIP)
Thursday (St Helen's)	30 July	10.00am	NO MASS
Friday (Sacred Heart)	31 July	10.00am	NO MASS
Saturday (St Michael's)	1 Aug	11.00am	NO MASS
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	1 AUG	5:30pm	Audrey Salmon (RIP)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	2 AUG	9.00am	Canon John Galvin (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen's)	3 AUG	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.

Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for June
19 th July	£369.79	£ 1,864.96

If your house was on fire and you had only a minute or two to get out, what would you bring with you? Of course, you'd take the people – family, children, grandchildren, anyone who needs help getting out of danger, family pets. They're all far more important than possessions, or even photos and other things of sentimental value. They're more precious than money, jewellery, passports, documents... all those can be replaced. It's when we're faced with life-and-death situations that what's truly important becomes very clear and we hopefully have our priorities right.

In today's Gospel Jesus is calling his disciples to get their priorities in order. When the kingdom of God really becomes our way of life, it changes how we see everything else. We stop clinging so tightly to things that, in the end, don't last. Sadly, for some people, the good news of Jesus Christ is heard in a superficial way, not as something that is life-changing. This was true in Jesus' time, too, which is why Jesus often spoke about how we can become side-tracked by the pursuit of things that do not last. He says, 'Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth... for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' Matthew 6

The Gospel we've just heard is very short and goes straight to the heart of things. Jesus doesn't explain the kingdom of God at great length. Instead, he tells two very simple stories. Someone stumbles across a treasure in a field. Another finds a pearl of great value. In both cases, once they realise what they've found everything else falls into place. They let go of all of life's unnecessary 'extras', because they know they've found what really matters. The man in the field and the merchant with the pearl don't hesitate. They don't sit down and weigh it all up. They act, and they act with joy, because they know they've discovered something priceless.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote that, 'Christ uses these words to refer to himself: he, who is in our midst, is the "Kingdom of God," only we do not know him... He himself is the treasure; communion with him is the pearl of great price.' Every day, we're called to communion with Jesus Christ. We do this through our prayers and by our fidelity to whatever way of life God has called us. When we gather for the Eucharist we are invited to a deep, intimate communion with Jesus Christ in the bread that is broken and in the words of scripture that are fulfilled in our presence as a community of believers. It's so easy for things to become routine or to lose their flavour through habit – sometimes familiarity can breed contempt! The Gospel images of the treasure and the pearl of great price are reminders to us that we need to be careful not to take our relationship with Christ for granted, but rather to treasure it greatly as giving deep meaning to our lives.

This Gospel fits so well with today, the World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. Many older people have already learned the lesson of what is truly important, often the hard way. Life has a way of teaching it. Illness, loss, or simply the passing of time, strip life back to its essentials. And when that happens, people discover what they really value.

Talk to grandparents and they'll tell you: it's not the house, or the car, or the bank balance. It's the people. It's the family. It's the faith that carried them when things were tough. That's the hidden treasure Jesus is talking about. It's not flashy. It's often quiet. But it's real. Grandparents are great carriers of that wisdom. They've seen enough of life to know that chasing after everything leaves you with very little in the end. Many of them pass on the faith not by lectures but by example: the Rosary said quietly, the Mass never missed if it can be helped, the nightly prayer for children and grandchildren. They may not call it theology, but it's deep Gospel wisdom. Perhaps Jesus is gently asking us: 'What would you rescue from the burning house of your life? What do you hold on to as if you couldn't live without it? And is that really what will matter when everything else is gone?'

Summary

1. Some events in life make us realise what is truly important.
2. Christ himself is the treasure; communion with him is the pearl of great price.
3. Older people are carriers of wisdom; life has taught them what truly gives meaning to life.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners, especially Phil Harrison, A Sick Person, 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, 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, and Brendan Pells.

Bonus Ball

18.7.26 The winning number was 10. L. Conway was the winner in Goldthorpe. S. O'Neill was the winner in Hoyland. Both won £25.

Recently Deceased

The Requiem for **Canon John Galvin** will be at Holy Rood Church on 11th August: Reception at 11:30 AM and Mass at 6pm.

The Diaconate

We pray for the Permanent Deacons serving in our diocese and for new vocations to this ministry. If you are a baptised and confirmed man, between 30 and 55 years, prayerful, and with the desire to serve God's people, and you are visible and involved within your parish and community, you might be being called to be a Permanent Deacon? Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance, and if you require more information about the Permanent Diaconate, speak to your Parish Priest, or the Parish Deacon, if there is one, and then contact the Diaconate Formation Director, Deacon Tony via e-mail: astrike@hallam-diocese.com

CAFOD

the UK Disasters Emergency Committee, CAFOD is launching the Venezuela Earthquake Appeal to raise vital funds for communities affected by the devastating earthquakes in Venezuela.

Confirmation Certificates

For those who were confirmed in Holy Rood last month, Confirmation Certificates can be collected from Fr. Declan.

Saturday Morning Mass

Enough people have let me know that they want the Saturday Morning Mass. Except for next Saturday, it will stay.

Collection for Bishop Ralph

£184.08 was collected for Bishop Ralph. Thank you for your generosity.