

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Jeremiah 20:7-9
Jeremiah denounces his persecutors.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 63
For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

Second Reading Romans 12:1-2
Paul encourages us to be transformed by having the mind of Christ, seeing things in the way that he sees them.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 16:21-27
Jesus invites us to take up our cross and follow him.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



Clergy: Fr Declan Brett, Deacon Paul Green
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 30th August 2026
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Year A
Weekday Cycle II

'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.' Matthew 16:24

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	29 Aug	5:30pm	Connie Bradbury, RIP
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	30 Aug	9:00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen's)	30 Aug	11:00am	Andy Andrews, RIP (Anniversary)
Tuesday (St Helen's)	1 Sept	10.00am	No Mass
Wednesday (St Michael's)	2 Sept	7.00pm	No Mass
Thursday (St Helen's)	3 Sept	10.00am	No Mass
Friday (Sacred Heart)	4 Sept	10.00am	No Mass
Saturday (St Michael's)	5 Sept	11.00am	No Mass
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	5 Sept	5:30pm	David Barry, RIP (Anniversary)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	6 Sept	9:00am	Barbara Campbell, RIP (Anniversary)
Sunday (St Helen's)	6 Sept	11:00am	People of the Parish

Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Lady Chapel directly after the Vigil Mass on Saturday.

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 July
23 rd August	£512.40	£ 1,857.91

Who among us is not afraid of suffering? Nobody ever said that life would be easy. At some point all of us will experience loss, sadness and pain. Perhaps a relationship ends or we experience depression or anxiety. For some, serious illness or the death of a loved one can be a terrible burden to carry. Sometimes other people create and impose our cross on us. For Jeremiah in our first reading, his cross was the ridicule and condemnation of those around him.

None of us can escape the cross, which is part of being human. Each of us will carry it at some point in our life. For some, it will be a lifelong burden.

We are tempted to believe that following Jesus should make life smoother, safer and more secure. But in our passage today Jesus confronts that assumption head on. He tells the disciples that the path he walks leads not to immediate triumph but to suffering, and that anyone who follows him must be prepared for the same.

Jesus gives Peter a sharp reprimand: 'Get behind me, Satan!'. Peter was focusing on the wrong things: he wanted to avoid pain and death. But Jesus is telling him to see things differently – suffering and death can lead to new life and resurrection. In fact, spiritual renewal and growth often follow a crisis or some kind of disaster.

There have been various explanations of Jesus' instruction to take up our cross and follow him. One interpretation is that Jesus is acknowledging that there are burdens in life we must shoulder, but these should not prevent us

from discipleship. Broken relationships, illness or caring for a sick family member should not stop us from being a follower of Christ. By accepting our situation and trusting in God, the burden of carrying such crosses can be eased. In fact, elsewhere in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus says: 'my yoke is easy, and my burden is light'. The invitation here is also to let Jesus shoulder our burden. The one who carried his own cross to Calvary is offering to help us carry ours. We are to walk the same path that he did.

For this to happen we might have to acknowledge and embrace our own weakness and vulnerability, recognising perhaps that we are unable to do this on our own. By placing our trust in Christ, we can see that he is by our side, experiencing our pain and bearing it with us. In the words of Pope Francis, 'There is no cross, big or small, in our life which the Lord does not share with us.'

Pain and suffering receive meaning through the cross and resurrection of Jesus. We save our life by losing it. And we lose our life through sacrificial self-giving love.

Another interpretation of today's Gospel is that by taking up the cross we are surrendering ourselves to the will of God. We are dying to self and finding out who we really are and why we are here. Taking up our cross can be a positive action – loving the unloved, reaching out to that person whom everyone else ignores, volunteering for a charity. Perhaps we have never thought of things this way – 'denying ourselves' to help someone else, and in the process finding our true identity. Taking up the cross is not about losing our life; it is about finding it – and finding it in new and surprising ways and places we never thought existed.

When we take up our cross and allow Jesus to help us we are, in this way, also helping Jesus to carry his.

Paul, in our second reading, says we must think like Jesus, who wants us to experience a life of total love and freedom. In a culture that tells us to 'look out for number one', Jesus calls us to costly love. In a world that avoids suffering at all costs, he invites us to trust God, even in pain. Can we accept Jesus' call for a radical reorientation of our life? Can we move away from a selfish preoccupation with our own self and towards a life of love and self-giving, accepting suffering as a path to transformation and union with God?

Summary

1. Suffering is part of life: all of us will have a cross to carry at some point.
2. Jesus offers to help us carry our cross and ease our burden.

3. Can we 'die to self'? Can we and accept suffering as a path to personal transformation and union with God?

Reflection by Redemptorists Publications. Used with permission

Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners, especially Phil Harrison, 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, Vicky Quinn, A sick person and Brendan Pells.

Bonus Ball

15.8.26 The winning number was 7: Both D Smith & P. Handley won £25. If you would like to play the bonus ball, it is only £1 a week for a chance to win £25. There 10 spaces in Hoyland and 5 Spaces in Goldthorpe.

Recently Deceased

Jean Platts whose funeral is Tuesday 8 September at 12pm in St. Michael's.
Nancy Preston whose Requiem Mass will be Wednesday 9 September at 1:30pm at St. Michael's

Foodbank

The Salvation Army Goldthorpe are still requesting help to keep the Foodbank stocked throughout August. All donations of non-perishable goods are very welcome - soup, beans, pasta, long life milk, cereal etc - and can be left at the back of church.

Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe - Change of Date to 6th September

The next Children's Liturgy following our Summer break will be held during 0900 mass on Sunday 6th September. Any child who has Not Yet made their First Holy Communion is very welcome to join us. Looking forward to seeing you all, Maureen and Amanda.

Join March for Life UK on Saturday 5th September in London for the annual march for life, the 'Pro-Life Summit' and 'Youth Summit'. Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event, where we recognise the value of life from conception and help all people understand why abortion is a tragedy in itself and one that harms the family to the very core. Find out more at marchforlife.co.uk or email info@marchforlife.co.uk To book a seat from Sheffield, email 40dforsheffield@gmail.com