

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Sirach 27:30-28:7
We must forgive our neighbours and not persist in our anger, then we too will be pardoned.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 103
The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9
We are the Lord's in life and in death.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

A new commandment I give to you,
says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I
have loved you.

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35
Jesus says we must forgive anyone
who wrongs us seventy-seven times
seven if we hope for salvation.

Parish of Corpus Christi

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



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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hallam Trust • Registered Charity Number 512021

Sunday 13th September 2026

Sunday Year A

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

"Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray." Sirach 28:2

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	12 Sept	5:30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	13 Sept	9:00am	Anthony "Tony" Dempsey (B'day Anniv)
Sunday (St Helen's)	13 Sept	11:00am	Andrew J. Marren (RIP)
Tuesday (St Helen's)	15 Sept	10.00am	For a Successful Operation (TD)
Wednesday (St Michael's)	16 Sept	7.00pm	Bernard & Celia Thornton, RIP
Thursday (St Helen's)	17 Sept	10.00am	
Friday (Sacred Heart)	18 Sept	10.00am	For a successful operation (BR)
Saturday (St Michael's)	19 Sept	11.00am	
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	19 Sept	5:30pm	Maureen Turner, RIP (Anniversary)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	20 Sept	9:00am	Jim and Mary Fleming, RIP
Sunday (St Helen's)	20 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 August
6 th September	£611.18	£ 1,719.96

Probably one of the most difficult of Jesus' teachings is that we must love anyone who sins against us. Not only that, but we are told to forgive the wrongs they have inflicted on us. We are all aware of the dreadful things that human beings can do to one another. But who is my enemy? Does this just mean the one who has invaded my territory and attacked my home and family? Or do I have to forgive the bully who tormented me? Must I forgive the person whose lies or abuse have ruined my life? Or the scammer who has stolen my money and my identity? The answer is yes. Jesus' words are unequivocal. If we seek the salvation of our souls we must forgive to the utmost – even 'seventy-seven times'. It is a hard teaching.

It seems impossible to go through life without being offended by someone. We are very inclined to hold grudges against people we think have wronged us, particularly if we feel they've done us an injustice. Sometimes the matter is relatively trivial. At other times, the offence can be grievous. Who can forgive the murder of a child, for example, or the grief caused by terrorism? Of course, the ultimate words of forgiveness came from Jesus himself on the cross: 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'

Jesus understood the entire question of forgiveness is complicated. In today's Gospel his parable illustrates his knowledge of human nature. Even if we have been treated well and let off our punishment, it is easy to give way to the temptation of inflicting pain on somebody else. We all know about the bully who

has been bullied in the past and takes it out on other people, or the abuser who was abused in childhood.

Jealousy and spite are responsible for a great deal of misery in many people's lives. Revenge can be a motive for many acts of violence. It is also often a theme in popular entertainment. But 'an eye for an eye' goes against all Christian teaching. The need for forgiveness will always exist. We are generally not dealing with questions of murder in our daily lives, but with trying to cope with the challenges of living in harmony. Even within the family, making or accepting an apology is not always easy. Husbands and wives are often under stress. Sibling rivalry can be a very real source of discomfort. There is rarely an easy solution to the problem of hurt feelings and betrayal.

However, in the first reading today we are told it is sinful to hold on to anger. If we seek God's forgiveness for our own sins, we must forgive others the wrongs they have done to us. We must show mercy if we want God's mercy.

When we say the Lord's Prayer, do we really think about the words 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'? Often, we speak the words thoughtlessly, heedless of their true meaning. Truly, we must ask forgiveness for our own failings, but in return must forgive the failings of others, whatever they may be.

Pope Leo says the answer is love. In his Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te, he says, 'Christian love breaks down every barrier, brings close those who were distant... and reconciles enemies... Love is, above all, a way of looking at life and a way of living it'.

Many of us tend to see life from a negative point of view. We are forever making decisions about our own behaviour and that of others. However, instead of finding fault and being inclined to criticise and condemn in the family, the workplace, school, college or society, we must teach the virtues of love and compassion, treating others with consideration. Human lives are a kaleidoscope of experiences and emotions: we interact with one another in so many ways that it is impossible not to feel anger at times. But we are called upon to pardon any offence committed against us and we must not harbour hatred.

So, as we seek God's mercy, we follow Jesus' words: we forswear anger; we are willing to reconcile ourselves with those we might think of as enemies. We sinners accept our own guilt and ask for pardon. Our souls are God's and we are granted eternal life if we show love to our neighbour by forgiving them in all circumstances, even the most difficult.

Summary

1. *To forgive anyone who wrongs us is a difficult teaching.*
2. *Jesus instructs us to forgive seventy-seven times.*

3. *As we seek salvation from God, to whom our souls belong, we must forgive those who transgress against us.*

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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

5.9.26 The winning number was 36: M. Redfern in Hoyland and M Guilcher in Goldthorpe. Both won the rollover of £50. If you would like to play the bonus ball, it is only £1 a week for a chance to win £25.

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 9.00 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.

Hallam Catholic Voice

A new diocesan newspaper, the Hallam Catholic Voice, is launching in October.

First Holy Communion 2027

If your child is between 7-8years of age, or in year 3 at school there will be an introduction meeting on Monday 19th October at St Michaels Church Hall at 6pm. It is for parents/carers and children to attend. There will be a list at the back of all 3 churches on the weekend of 12th & 13th September for parents to sign up for the programme. See **Julia Goddard** or **Amanda Campbell** for more information.

Two Adults are being Confirmed on 23 September at St. Michael's at 7pm.

Please join us for this celebration.