

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Exodus 22:21-27
The people are reminded to be merciful to all those who are sojourners, for they were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 18
I love you, LORD, my strength.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
Having received the word in the joy of the Holy Spirit, the Thessalonians became an example to all the believers.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40
Each of us is called to respond totally to God's love and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

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 25th October 2026

Sunday Year A

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekday Cycle II

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	24 Oct	5:30pm	Dainty & Davies Family Deceased Members
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	25 Oct	9:00am	Ivan Matsumoto (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen's)	25 Oct	11:00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen's)	27 Oct	10.00am	
Wednesday (St Michael's)	28 Oct	7.00pm	
Thursday (St Helen's)	29 Oct	10.00am	Andrew J. Marren (RIP)
Friday (Sacred Heart)	30 Oct	10.00am	
Saturday (St Michael's)	31 Oct	11.00am	The Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday Vigil (St Michael's)	31 Oct	5:30pm	Nancy Preston (RIP)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	1 Nov	9:00am	The Smith Family
Sunday (St Helen's)	1 Nov	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 September
11 th October	£368.27	£ 1884.96

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and... your neighbour as yourself.' Matthew 22:37. 39

'It's not fair,' said Jamie. 'It's just not fair,' he muttered repeatedly as he walked slowly round the playground with his friend Alex.

'What's not fair?' asked the puzzled classroom assistant who was pushing Alex's wheelchair.

'It's not fair that Alex has Pelizaeus–Merzbacher Syndrome and I only have cerebral palsy,' said Jamie.

Gifted with a big heart and an insatiable love of words, Jamie had forgotten the challenges he had faced in his own young life and had become something of a champion of those he considered less fortunate than himself. Jamie could talk (a lot!) while Alex was unable to utter a word. Jamie was able to walk short distances, but Alex required a specially adapted wheelchair as he had to lie in a supine position. Jamie had some useful residual vision, while Alex was registered blind. Jamie considered himself Alex's best friend but also saw himself as his 'bodyguard'. Along with a quick temper, Jamie could use his fists. Indeed, the classroom assistant was more alert regarding Jamie than she ever needed to be with Alex.

Jamie himself was a vulnerable child who could not grasp the intricacies of the law. Having watched lots of crime movies, Jamie had a romanticised notion of 'good' and 'bad'. He once accosted a visiting policeman, held up his wrists to be handcuffed and said cheerfully, 'Arrest me, Officer!' He was greatly disappointed when the policeman dismissed his plea, saying he was far too busy doing real police work such as taking old ladies safely across the road. The irony was lost on Jamie.

While staff were doing their best to educate vulnerable children in a school, Parliament was fiercely debating legislation about conflicting bills which eventually became Acts to be enforced by law.

In Scotland, the Freedom of Information Act came into effect at the beginning of 2005. Education Services were kept busy organising in-service training for staff. At one such event, the Head of Legal Services was talking staff through this new law. During question time, one headteacher asked, 'How does all this fit with the Data Protection Act?' Staff were already familiar with this Act, which had become law in 1998. The speaker became very animated. Smiling, he replied, 'It's sure to cause much debate in the future. Lawyers are waiting for a test case to surface in the courts.' He was delighted.

If Scottish law was becoming ever more complex, it was nothing compared with the minutiae of Jewish Law that Jesus encountered when he came to save us from sin and reveal the wonder of God's great love for us. The Sadducees and Pharisees had their own lawyers who enjoyed pitting one law against another. They tried to trick Jesus, who saw love of God and neighbour as paramount. Jesus saw the Law as a means to this end and not as an end in itself.

We read in the Book of Exodus how God passionately defends those who are weak and vulnerable, and expects his people to do likewise. For those who do not share God's compassion there is a stern warning: 'my wrath will burn'. On their walks around the playground, had anyone infringed this commandment towards his friend Alex, Jamie would certainly have embodied the wrath of God.

We are told that Francis of Assisi once said to his friars, 'Go forth and preach the good news – and use words if you have to!' Francis knew what Paul had understood in the early days of Christianity: our greatest sermon is the way we live our life. We need not say anything. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul reminds his readers how they received the Word with the joy of the Holy Spirit and that their faith in God had 'gone forth everywhere'. People could see the joy of the Gospel, and so Paul could add, 'We need not say anything.'

Jesus invites us to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Jesus teaches us insights revealed, in a veiled way, by our children. They teach us that we are all weak, vulnerable and utterly dependent on the compassion of God. When we rest in his love and extend that love to others, we will begin to understand the fulfilment of the Law.

Summary

Laws exist to help people live well, but they are not ends in themselves.

Jesus teaches us to love God and our neighbour as ourselves.

God is love, and love is the fulfilment of the Law.

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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, a sick person, Susan Smith and Brendan Pells.

Bonus Ball

17.10.26 The winning number was 50: There were no winners. If you would like to play the bonus ball, it is only £1 a week for a chance to win £25.

Diocese of Hallam Annual Safeguarding Event

Saturday 14th November 2026 at St Peter in Chains Doncaster from 9:45 till 4pm. Refreshments and a free lunch will be provided. The event is open to parishioners, but would be of particular interest those involved in parish ministry, or are thinking about doing so. Further details are on the poster in the porch as you leave the church.

Day-Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Tuesday 8 December

Save the date! There will be a day pilgrimage to Walsingham on Tuesday 8 December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The coach is booked with usual pick up points at Wombwell and Goldthorpe. There will be sign-up lists at the back of each church from the weekend of 24/25 October.

Please bring in your red Missio boxes. The second collection of Missio was £205.41. Thank you.

Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe - Sunday 01 November

The next Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe will be held during 0900 mass on Sunday 1st November, when we will be thinking about All Saints Day. Any child aged 3-8 who has not yet made their First Holy Communion is very welcome to join us. Maureen and Amanda

Christmas Carol Service at Goldthorpe - Sunday 13 December

There will be a Carol Service at Sacred Heart church Goldthorpe on the evening of Sunday 13 December. Children from any of the 3 churches in our parish are invited to come along and learn some carols to sing at this event. Practising will begin after 0900 mass at Goldthorpe (approx 10am) on Sunday 1st November, and every following Sunday until 13 December.