32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

First Reading Wisdom 6:12-16
Wisdom is radiant and unfading. She is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her.

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

Second Reading 1 Thess 4:13-18
For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring to new life those who have fallen asleep.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Stay awake and be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 25:1-13
So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	**7 Nov**	**5:30pm**	Julia and David Hill (RIP)
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	**8 Nov**	**9:00am**	Miley and Paddy Connors (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen`s)	**8 Nov**	**11:00am**	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	10 Nov	10.00am	November Dead List
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	11 Nov	7.00pm	November Dead List
Thursday (St Helen`s)	12 Nov	10.00am	November Dead List
Friday (Sacred Heart)	13 Nov	10.00am	Deceased Members of the Burnitt Family
Saturday (St. Michael's)	14 Nov	11.00am	Yorkshire Brethren
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	**14 Nov**	**5:30pm**	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	**15 Nov**	**9:00am**	Ruth Campbell & Jane Thurston (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen`s)	**15 Nov**	**11:00am**	Andrew J. Marren (RIP)

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.

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Date	Parish Collection	Standing Orders for October
1st November	£518.15	£ 1807.91

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
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Email: office.corpuschristi.barnsley@hallam-diocese.com
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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 8th November 2026 — Sunday Year A
32nd Week in Ordinary Time — Weekday Cycle II

'Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.' Matthew 25:13

It is always very moving to visit a Commonwealth war cemetery. The sight of rows of gravestones stretching into the distance is very poignant. Walking along the rows one is always struck by the youthfulness of those who died. They are mostly young men who gave their lives in service and in the sacrifice of war. Their religion is identified, and together they share in death. The hopes of eternal and immortal life are expressed in the symbols of different religions.

War is always a tragedy. St Augustine, who argued that in certain conditions war could be justified because of human sin, recognised the tragedy of war and grieved deeply the suffering and death caused by warfare. He cried a lament about warfare: 'People say a wise person will fight in wars that are just. But if someone remembers they are human, they will grieve that they must fight at all – even in a just war. Anyone who feels joy at even a just war has lost touch with their humanity.' We weep at warfare and the suffering caused by it. We also recognise the lives of those who died that we might have freedom.

St Paul, writing to the Church in Thessalonica, consoles the early Christians about the second coming of the Lord, which was highly expected, and writes to them about the hope of eternal life. Whether they are alive or dead when Christ returns, all will hear the trumpet of God and rise to glory. The sound of the trumpet, as we hear in Handel's *Messiah*, has become a metaphor for the summons of death and calls for a readiness to meet the Lord of merciful judgement.

This theme is repeated in the Gospel. We can understand the virgins carrying their lamps in the context of the wedding feast. After the betrothal, there was often a long period of waiting before marriage. When

the marriage day arrived, the bridegroom would leave his house with his entourage and walk to his bride's home. They would then walk to their new house for the wedding feast, led by the maiden friends bearing their lamps. Those who are unwilling to share their oil are not being hard-hearted; rather, they are afraid that if they share the oil, there would not be enough to keep the lamps burning until they reach the groom and bride's new house. It would be embarrassing to lose the way in the darkness if the lamps went out.

Jesus' parable uses this image to symbolise the need to be ready to meet the Lord whenever he returns. We can think of the virgins as the Christian community waiting for the return of the Lord. Jesus warns his disciples to stay ready for this day and always live with fidelity to the Gospel. The oil can be understood to represent the good deeds of a person's life. In the words of St John of the Cross: 'At the end of your life, you will be judged on love.'

The words: 'Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour,' have become a warning to be ready. For those engaged in warfare, both in the Armed Forces and those who are suffering because of war, the closeness of death is a daily reality, and each moment of life is precious.

On this Remembrance Sunday we pray for those who have died in warfare for freedom and security. We give thanks to God for the work of chaplains to the forces, who accompany the members of the Armed Forces and offer consolation and faith to those in their care. We pray also for the gift of peace in our world and that we may find the means to overcome war with dialogue and understanding leading to peacebuilding. Jesus tells us, *'*Blessed are the peacemakers.*'*

This Sunday's readings also call us to be ready to face our own encounter with death with courage and Christian faith in the resurrection of Christ. This faith leads to hope. It also leads to the love expressed by those who care for those who are sick and seek to save lives – paramedics and healthcare professionals.

We are encouraged to stay faithful in prayer, to be reconciled with God through the sacrament of reconciliation, and to be open to receiving the sacraments and living a life of loving others.

Summary

1. On Remembrance Sunday we pray for those members of the Armed Forces who have given their lives in service and sacrifice. We pray also for peace.
2. Jesus teaches us that he will return at the second coming and we are to be ready to meet him. His resurrection gives us solace and hope.
3. Readiness to face death is helped by prayer, the sacraments, and the life of loving others.

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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

31.10.26 The winning number was 45: S Smith in Goldthorpe and M McAllister in Hoyland's were 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.

Day-Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Tuesday 8 December

A coach is booked for the pilgrimage, prices are £25 Adult / £10 Child. Pick-up points: 0730 St Michael's Wombwell and 0745 bus stop by Butterfly Cafe, Doncaster Rd, Goldthorpe. Sign-up lists at the back of our 3 churches. Payment due by the weekend of 28/29 November. Contacts are Amanda (07505 408870) Pam (07867 505966) &Theresa (07724 228327).

St Wilfrid's Centre Christmas Concert

On Wednesday 2 December, 6.30pm at Mother of God Church - a festive get-together to celebrate the season and raise money for St Wilfrid's Centre's work with homeless and isolated people in Sheffield. Music and Readings by St Wilfrid's Singers and the Hallam African Catholic Choir. A Christmas craft shop will be there, with items made by clients and volunteers of the Centre. Tickets are £10 at - https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-wilfrids-christmas-carol-service-tickets-2003960705415. Refreshments of tea/coffee /mulled wine and mince pies are included in your ticket price.

First Holy Communion Meeting

The next First Holy Communion Meeting is Saturday 14 November at 3.30pm at St. Michael's Church Hall. It not already done, please bring the Baptismal Cert.

Carol Service 13 December - Practices after 9am Mass each Sunday til then.