Christ the King

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17
We are presented with an image of God as our shepherd, watching over us and rescuing us from our struggles.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23
The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:20-26. 28
Even though things might be messy now, Christ will bring about the kingdom which will encompass the whole of creation and will present it to the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46
Jesus uses the image of sheep and goats to explain the importance of caring for, and nurturing, everyone.

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	**21 Nov**	**5:30pm**	Saul Soares Cabral
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	**22 Nov**	**9:00am**	Tom Hanrahan (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen`s)	**22 Nov**	**11:00am**	People of the Parish
Tuesday (St Helen`s)	24 Nov	10.00am	November Dead List
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	25 Nov	7.00pm	November Dead List
Thursday (St Helen`s)	26 Nov	10.00am	November Dead List
Friday (Sacred Heart)	27 Nov	10.00am	Michael Bennett (RIP)
Saturday (St. Michael's)	28 Nov	11.00am	November Dead List
Saturday Vigil (St Michael`s)	**28 Nov**	**5:30pm**	People of the Parish
Sunday (Sacred Heart)	**29 Nov**	**9:00am**	Margaret Cummins (RIP)
Sunday (St Helen`s)	**29 Nov**	**11:00am**	Brian John Murphy (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
15th November	£ 544.72	£ 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
23 Park Street, Wombwell Barnsley, S73 0HQ
01226 752372
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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 22nd November 2026 — Sunday Year A
Christ the King/34th Week in Ordinary Time — Weekday Cycle II

'And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."' Matthew 25:40

As a young man aged twenty, David went to work in an emergency night shelter in London for people experiencing homelessness. He wanted to help, but was overwhelmed by the dirt, the noise and the intensity of it all. It felt chaotic, unfamiliar and far beyond anything he had known before. He threw up a quick prayer – and then heard someone singing. He followed the sound and found what looked like a mass of hair sitting on a stool, being sheared like a sheep. The hair was filthy, full of lice. Yet, as it was cut away, a voice sang while a guitar was played – calm, steady, almost joyful. The singer nodded at David as he stood frozen in the doorway.

After a while, the singing stopped and gentle questions began – who he was, where he was from, what he was doing there? Slowly, through those questions, and as the hair fell away, he encountered a man named John. John told David a little of his story, what to expect at the shelter, and even invited him to go busking.

Over the next few weeks, John became David's friend – and in many ways he looked after David as he found his feet. What began as discomfort slowly became connection; what felt overwhelming became human.

Today's Gospel is often heard as a warning – about the consequences of not living a good life, about eternal punishment. And while fear can change behaviour for a time, it rarely changes the heart. It is this deeper change of heart that lies at the centre of Jesus' parable.

Jesus is speaking to his disciples – those who have already chosen to follow him – to live like him, to love like him, slowly to become more like him. This isn't simply about avoiding punishment, it is about transformation.

It is about becoming the kind of people who see as Jesus sees and love as Jesus loves.

When we recognise that all creation comes into being through Jesus, the Word of God, we begin to see that he is present in every part of creation and in every person. No one is outside his presence. No one is beyond his love. This parable, then, is not just instruction, it is revelation. It reveals where Christ can be found: in those who are hungry, strangers, forgotten. It invites us to relate to others differently – more deeply, more attentively, more like Christ.

This Gospel is a first step in our response to the love Jesus has already shown us. We are invited – perhaps even challenged – to love those in need, especially those who at first glance seem to have nothing to offer us in return. Jesus knows that when we begin to serve others, when we allow ourselves to truly encounter people in their reality – not at a distance, but up close – we are changed. Our assumptions soften. Our fears lessen. Our hearts expand. We become more like him. We become who we were created to be – part of the Body of Christ, living and active in the world. In giving ourselves to others, we begin to recognise more deeply the selfless love God has for us. We realise that we have nothing with which to repay him – only the invitation to receive his love and to pass it on.

Like the story of David, when we move beyond seeing people as strangers and begin to truly know them, something shifts. The kingdom grows – not in dramatic moments but in quiet, human encounters.

And this must be held alongside one of Jesus' most challenging teachings – to love your enemy. When we begin to see those who hurt us not simply as enemies, but as people acting from places of brokenness or need, it changes how we respond. It doesn't excuse their behaviour – but it opens the possibility of love, of patience, of mercy. And when we recognise that Christ is present in them too, our desire for retribution begins to give way to a desire for restoration. In that moment, the kingdom comes a little closer.

Summary

1. We are more likely to love and serve those we truly encounter, not just those we pass by. Relationship changes everything.

2. Jesus reveals that he is present in every person – especially those in need – inviting us to love as he loves.

3. As we learn to see others, even those who hurt us, with compassion rather than judgement, the kingdom of God becomes real among 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, a sick person, Susan Smith and Brendan Pells.

Bonus Ball

14.11.26 The winning number was 26: P O'Hanlon in Goldthorpe and P Tomlinson in Hoyland were winners. If you would like to play the bonus ball, it is only £1 a week for a chance to win £25.

Day-Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Tuesday 8 December

There are still a few places available on the coach for the day pilgrimage to Walsingham. If you would like to join the day, please sign the lists at the back of each church. Cost is £25 Adult and £10 Child and please can payment be made by Sunday 29 November. Contacts are Pam Kershaw (07867 505966), Theresa (07724 228327) and Amanda (07505 408870).

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.

Carol Service 13 December

There will be practices for the Carol Service after 0900 mass each Sunday up to 13 Dec, also Friday 27 November in Sacred Heart church at 5pm. All are welcome to come along and sing

Joint Carol Service

There will be a joint Carol Service in Wombwell with the Salvation Army Sunday **20th December at 6pm.** This year the Salvation Army will be hosting there service next door to St. Michael's.

Children's Liturgy at Goldthorpe - Sunday 6 December

There will be Children's Liturgy during 9AM mass as Goldthorpe on Sunday 06 December. Any child who has not yet made their First Holy Communion is very welcome to join us. We will be learning about John the Baptist. Thank you, Maureen and Amanda