

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

FOURTH LENT (A)
March 22nd 2020



*Lord, that I may
see!*

Canon Don Bowdren

St Charles Rectory
Woolley Bridge Rd
Hadfield SK13 1PQ
Tel 852351

Assistant: **Fr Daniel Palmer**
Deacon: **Rev Dr Owen Le Blanc**

St Charles Primary Hadfield SK13 7PQ
Head : Mrs B Quirke
Tel : 852692

St Margaret's & All Saints Federation
Gamesley SK13 6HB
Head : Mrs G Beaumont
Tel : 855818

St Philip Howard Secondary
SK13 8DR
Head : Mrs L Morris
Tel : 853611/861022

RECTORY RUMINATIONS

*Welcome to Laetare Sunday! Rejoice! Be joyful!
But not too close to me please! And certainly no hugs or handshakes!*

*Welcome to Mothering Sunday! Where shall we take mum for lunch?
Blow! Closed!*

What I buy her? Paracetamol? Can't arrange a bank-loan in time.

*Let's go to Mass together and rejoice in springtime gifts and the joys of singing hymns
and worshipping with my fellow-parishioners!*

*O dear! Church in lock-down as well! We live in troubled times. Against the backdrop of lengthening
days and shorter nights, of tulips and bluebells on their way, we have a cloud of fear overshadowing the
sun; anxiety quelling any warmth. Our trust in God's bountiful providence is weakened – as may be
our trust in Government, even in Church - in the certainty of food-supply, and weekly wages.
And so on! Laetare? Rejoice? Be Joyful?*

*Yes! With the blind man of today's Gospel, we are encouraged to see
beyond the present exigencies into vision of the Divine;
the presence of a compassionate God behind our limited and blurred vision.
And through and beyond our present pandemic.*

Lord! That we may see - and see beyond!

FOURTH LENT (A)

Psalter Week 4

Introduction: That we may be able to see the world and its people with the perception and insight of the Lord!

First Reading : 1 Sam 16 : The Lord chooses the least-expected - David - for the most dedicated service of the Kingdom.

Resp.Ps. THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; THERE IS NOTHING I SHALL WANT

Second Reading : Eph 5 : Let the light of Christ shine through your behaviour.

Gospel : Jn 9 : The blind beggar has more insight into the person of Jesus than the sophisticated by-standers.

MASS INTENTIONS

Whenever & wherever possible, your priests will offer private Masses daily. Thank you for your Mass Intention requests. The following Mass intentions, passed to your clergy, will be honoured during this week. Any specified date-request will be accommodated.

Elizabeth Heffron & Gertrude McSherry (JM); Fr Bob Wrght RIP; Mary Matthews RIP (V&EG); t'giving (JA); Marion Robinson RIP (AR); S Quinn RIP, anniv (fam); Eileen Berry (anon); D Bone's welfare (fam).

**MONEY MATTERS:
Last weekend's
collections**

Hadfield
Envelopes £140
Loose plate £45
SOs £260
Total £445

BB/GAM
Envelopes £135
Loose £65.93
SOs £206
Total £406.93

RECENT TOTE WINNERS

HAD : 1st £40 A Heard 2nd £25 E Gebbett
BB : 1st £40 E Soper 2nd £20 M Luke-Stocks

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND and ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Please remember to support and pray for those listed as sick and housebound in our parish:

Mary Perry, Peter James, Adrian McHugh, Fr John Cairns, Fr John Sullivan, Cn Michael Moore, Sheila Doyle, Pauline Anderson, Eileen Berry, Phillippa Phillips, Monica Krommendijk, Nella Lewykj, Evelyn Matthewman, Neil Appleton, Alice Canning, Dorothy Yarwood.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time : Fr Edward Byron, *Anthony Tunstead, Kath Baker, William Wood, Maureen Dearnley, Vincent Mattimore, Thomas Hirst, Iris Robinson, Sean Quinn, Eileen Berry: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord : May they rest in peace : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

- ◆ No Mass or any other liturgical event will be celebrated in any Catholic church nationwide for the time being;
- ◆ St Charles church is accessible during daylight hours via the door-code. If you want the code, please ask;
- ◆ We are trying to arrange an hour each day, ideally 3-4pm, when two parishioners agree to be in both churches so that passers-by may call in; please advise if you can make that commitment once in a while.
- ◆ Best thanks to the parishioner who, recognising that we have to continue to pay the parish bills, handed me several weeks collection-envelopes. You know where the rectory letter-box is!
- ◆ But an urgent call to those not having standing-orders in support of the parish needs: please consider this. Ask! And every assistance will be given. The same applies to the tote.
- ◆ Decisions on the Totes, Planned-Giving envelopes and other financial matters will be discussed by

our F&F parishioners soon;

- ◆ Please see the website for more information about other areas of Catholic life, about Mass-streaming, about sick-calls, about Baptisms etc.
- ◆ Your priests will be available for confessions; HAD Sat 10.30 - 11am, and at call.
- ◆ Social distancing is mandated for everyone these days.
- ◆ It has been heartening to hear of parishioners who have already helped the vulnerable with shopping etc. Heartening also to hear from parishioners who would gladly assist in this way if asked.
- ◆ PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WELCOME ASSISTANCE, OR ARE PREPARED TO OFFER IT

Prayer for Health Staff

Wondrous God, author of life, you fashioned us in your likeness and breathed into us the life which is your own. Be with those whose special care is the health of mind and body. Fill their hearts with awe for the life which is your gift and sustain them daily in your service, that their hands may bring to others the comfort of your healing touch. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Prayer for those Affected Merciful God, come to the help of your people. Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our community. Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to this affliction. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

Cardinal Newman's Evening Prayer

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world lies hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the coronavirus pandemic

Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need, and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under thy protection, we seek refuge O holy Mother of God. Do not ignore the prayers of we who in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious & ever-blessed virgin.

Tonight before falling asleep think about when we will return to the street.
When we hug again, when all the shopping together will seem like a party.
Let's think about when the coffees will return to the bar, the small talk, the photos close to each other.
We think about when it will be all a memory but normalcy will seem an unexpected and beautiful gift.
We will love everything that has so far seemed futile to us. Every second will be precious.
Swims at the sea, the sun until late, sunsets, toasts, laughter.
We will go back to laughing together.
Strength and courage.
See you soon! *Pope Francis*