

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Ss PETER & PAUL (a)
June 28th 2020



O God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all Your faithful people, mercifully look upon Your servant Francis our Pope, whom You have chosen as the chief Shepherd to preside over Your Church. We beg You to help him edify, both by word and example, those over whom he has charge, that he may reach everlasting life together with the flock entrusted to him. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

You are the Christ!

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Ss PETER & PAUL (A)

Psalter wk 1

Introduction: Peter and Paul died so the good news could live.

First Reading : Acts 12 : The Lord saves St Peter from Herod.

Resp. Ps. THE ANGEL OF THE LORD RESCUES THOSE WHO REVERE HIM

Second Reading : 2 Tim 4: Righteousness comes to those who remain faithful.

Gospel : Mt 16 : You are Peter: to you I give the keys of the Kingdom.

MASS INTENTIONS

The following Mass intentions have recently been received.
It is my intention to honour these requests in due course,
respecting where possible any wish for a particular date:

Margaret George RIP (MD); Nora Osborn RIP (GA); N&P Morrison *anniversary*, the mentally afflicted; school children & staff (KMH); Elizabeth Wardle (J&CW), Lindsey Millington RIP (CW).

My thanks for your kindness in requesting Mass Intentions

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, Cn Michael Moore, Pauline Anderson, Eileen Berry, Phillippa Phillips, Monica Krommendijk, Una Wilkinson, Nella Lewykyj, Evelyn Matthewman, Neil Appleton, Alice Canning, Dorothy Yarwood.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time : Bishop Rpbert Willson, Frs John Foley & Joe Finneran; *Eileen Halsall, Peter Urquhart, Annie Kane, Stanilaus Slugocki, Lindsey Doran, Linsey Millington, Lesley Serrette, Elizabeth Wardle, Angela Kelly;*

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, may they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND we celebrate the two greatest Apostles, Ss Peter & Paul. Their feast-date is actually on Monday; Sunday's celebration is a transferred according to common practice in this country. Those dipping into Mass-streams from other lands may find liturgical texts for the thirteenth Sunday being used. This weekend also marks the 'turning of a tide': we are briefly into Petertide, a mini-season when ordinations to priestly and diaconate ministry take place.

Our customary 'Peter's Pence' collection would have taken place today, giving chance to support the works of the Holy Father. I know many folk will want not to miss this generous moment. Get your Peter's Penny (or better still pounds) to my letterbox; I'll do the rest.

Our solitary ordination to the diocesan priesthood this year might have taken place about this time. Deacon Limnyuy is our priest-in-waiting.

We recently rejoiced when on 11th June we celebrated with Deacon Owen his fourth anniversary of ordination to the diaconate: *Ad multos annos!*

THE SUNDAY READINGS offer much enlightenment as ever:

The first reading (Acts): we have the gripping story of sleepy Peter's escape from captivity. Thanks be to God he wasn't martyred there and then, otherwise our church's beginning would have been very different

The second reading (2 Tim): St Paul is looking to his imminent death, and touchingly tells Timothy of his life in God's service, using sporting metaphors so to do.

The gospel (St Matthew) finds us with St Peter, finally acknowledging that Jesus is the Messiah. We can almost hear Jesus saying 'well done, Peter - got it at last! And now his leadership of the young church is affirmed.

IN OTHER YEARS this Sunday would find pilgrims gathering at Rodsley near Ashbourne to honour Derbyshire's saintly martyr St Ralph Sherwin. St Ralph is of course the patron of the CMAT academy of Catholic schools in Derbyshire. His first-class relic is embedded in the altar at Immaculate Conception church. Furthermore St Ralph was a much-admired friend of St Charles Borromeo. He and many of the Reformation martyrs were educated for the priesthood in Rome, and made their perilous way back to England and virtually-certain martyrdom via Milan. St Charles would welcome them into his lodging where they would stay for a time. He would invite them to preach - and he particularly admired St Ralph's presentation of the Faith.

SAINTS ALIVE honoured this coming week: on July 1st we remember St Oliver Plunkett, archbishop of Armagh in the mid-17th century. He was amongst the last of those martyred (in 1681) in England, as a result of the fanciful and deadly Popish plot.

And on Friday—St Thomas apostle. We him we can affirm "My Lord and my God".

KINDLY PARISHIONERS occasionally bring church-collection to the rectory letterbox. Thank You! From time to time such offering may contain cheques. The bank is quite precise these days about payee-names. "St Charles church" or St Margaret's church" is perfectly and simply acceptable. And if you are setting up a BACS standing order or transfer, in the message box put HAD or BB or GAM.

RESPONDING TO PASTORAL EMERGENCIES Fr Martin and Fr Daniel are taking turns at being the priest on call for 24 hours at a time. To ring the duty priest, at any hour of day or night, please phone the special number: 01457 620272. You will hear some information, then you can press a button on your phone to be connected automatically to whichever priest is on call.

ODDMENTS

- ◆ *The Roman Canon describes Heaven as a 'locum refrigerii, lucis et pacis' - which is translated as a place of refreshment, light and peace. During the stifling heat-wave this week, that brought overwhelming crowds to certain beaches, I found my way into church mid-afternoon, where I briefly escaped from the suffocating heat, the noise of increasing traffic, but found that 'place of coolness' aka 'refrigerii'. I doubt whether in January I might delight in the locum refrigerii in our churches. But this week - what a blessed relief!*
- ◆ *Birthday greetings to Stella & Annette. Can't do the maths for these good folk either! I'll settle with a thanksgiving-prayer for all your years of fidelity and service!*
- ◆ *At the supermarket check-out, the cashier's greeting of 'No Worries' sets me wondering whether we share the same planet!*
- ◆ *As a certain Boris noted : 'It's easier to lock down than to open up.' And that is certainly true when it comes to opening up our churches for private devotion and then Sunday Mass. The blizzard of information coming from the hierarchy in London, and then from Bishop Patrick's desk has led to much confusion. Doubtless over the next days & week we will have greater clarity as to how we can unlock the doors, prepare our churches according to strict guidelines over a thousand details of safety, distance and sanitarianess. And when it comes to the rules for the celebration of Mass and the receiving of Holy Communion - the headaches multiply. I have sought clarity on the steps we must take in Longdendale; I need the Bishop's written permission to open the doors and publicly celebrate Mass. Once I have that guidance we'll go to the next step.*
- ◆ *But chance communications and conversations with parishioners reveal a wide spectrum of attitude to the lock-down and its easing. Some can't wait to be together in parishioner -groups and get together for prayer & worship; others have a contrary attitude and want to maintain and even extend the isolation & distancing - however purgatorial it may be - for much longer, into the time of COVID elimination.*
- ◆ *St Mary's and All Saints in Glossop have already gone the extra half-mile, and have a timetable for prepared for the people and the buildings for private visits. You are welcome to go to www.glossopcatholics.org.uk/visit/ and discover when and for how long those church are accessible.*
- ◆ *Many folk have expressed appreciation of the Sunday morning sending of the Service of Word - with fine music also. Our thanks to Damian N for editing this process. Our thanks also to the lectors, pray-ers and even evangelists and preachers, not least my fellow-clergy.*
- ◆ *Sunday homily took on a family dimension recently. At St Joseph's church in Christchurch last weekend's powerful homily was presented expertly in sound and vision, and beamed to the universe. The preacher? My sister Mary. Always have much to learn from my siblings, and last weekend's six-minute homily was from the top family drawer. When I am prevailed upon to preach to the audio-universe I get an allowance of three minutes . . .*
- ◆ *What a delight accidentally to keep company with our Pearl beyond price, and to rejoice in her blooming. St Gerard protect you and yours . . .*
- ◆ *Next Saturday is the Day of Great Openings (also Independence Day in USA). Doubtless our parishioners will draw a metre closer, and head off to the pubs in coachloads, instead of St Margaret's Social parish event, which I presume is postponed . . . OK for street parties and beach-gatherings but humble school-halls no.no!*