

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY (a)
July 12th 2020



Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm does bind the restless
wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

Blest your eyes because they see!

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY (A)

Psalter Week 3

Introduction: The Spirit nourishes the Word sown by Christ the Sower.

First Reading : Is 55 : As the rain flourishes the seed, God`s Word is productive.

Resp Ps: THE LORD FILLS THE EARTH WITH HIS LOVE

Second Reading : Rom 8 : The Whole of Creation groans to give birth to God`s fruitfulness.

Gospel : Mt 13 : A sower went out to sow.

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:

In thanksgiving (MR); Fr Collum`s welfare,
intentions of the Mascarenas family (SQ);
Theresa Maddix RIP (R&G);
ints of Christine & Derek Orr (Golden Anniversary) (fam).

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, Fr John Daley, 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 : Frs Tim Shanahan, Simon Nolan, Louis Kovacs, Joe Henry, Chris Fisher, Herbert Quin, Ken O`Riordan; *Margret Mary Bailey, Margaret Slugocki, Kathleen Proudman, James Smith;*

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

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND we journey further into July, albeit the weather being distinctly autumnal, and the fifteenth ordinary Sunday.

THE SUNDAY READINGS offer much enlightenment as ever:

The first reading (Isaiah 55) : a very brief reading, but a deep message. God's word is the seed planted in our hearts to grow fruitfully into his loving service;

The second reading (Rom 8) : a most magnificent and seminal reading, dear to the hearts of environmentalists everywhere. Creation is incomplete until it is fulfilled in being born again in to the Divine.

The gospel (St Matthew) The favourite parable of the sower and the seed. Chance for us to reflect on the fruit that God's holy word should produce in us.

IN OTHER YEARS we would be celebrating Sea Sunday. Since we are all these days tossed about on a seemingly relentless COVID-disturbed sea of uncertainty, we have to forego the second collection and the lusty singing of 'Eternal Father, strong to save' (bet you're humming it). But you know where my letterbox is for that necessary support for the Apostleship on the Sea. . .

SAINTS ALIVE amongst those honoured this coming week : St Camillus de Lellis, one of the patrons of hospital chaplains; and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, patroness of Carmelites - sisters, brother & priests.

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. If you want the parish bank-account details, just ask.

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

- ◇ As statues are toppled by eager activists all over the world, I keep a closer eye on our public statues, especially our two Sacred Hearts. Our Saviour was a trenchant teacher of the truth. His call to moral rectitude, to purity, to honesty, to meekness, to poverty and all the Beatitude values win him few admirers. His values - indeed the seed of his word in our hearts - demand that we be counter-contemporary-cultural. Dean William Ralph Inge's dictum "Whoever marries the spirit of this age will find himself a widower in the next" was never more apposite.

- ◇ With the celebration of Our Lady of Mt Carmel coming this week, give yourselves a YouTube treat. Head for 'Life in a Hidden Light', which is a visit to an enclosed Carmelite convent. If you're short on time, move forward 16 minutes and hear words of wisdom from a sick-bed.

- ◇ Great progress towards opening our churches for private prayer. Thanks you to those who have volunteered to be stewards during the two one-hour slots proposed for visitation & prayer. If you wish to join that stewarding list, let me know and I'll forward to interest in the proper direction. Equally, our churches will need thorough

and regular cleaning. If you want to help, please let me know.

- ◇ *Great on Friday to actually, physically, really go to Mass. Canon Bernard Needham was surprised and delighted to see 60 or so folk coming to the Mass he was celebrating on his diamond anniversary. The church of Christ the King was well-prepared with COVID signage and materials and stewards. Still a bit mystified as to how a church half the size of St Charles comfortably accommodated sixty worshippers. Nonetheless a lovely occasion.*
- ◇ *Whatsappers should receive a helpful update this weekend from the “opening-up-team” who have been busy preparing at Immaculate Conception these last few days.*
- ◇ *One of the Lord’s commands to his disciples as they set off on their evangelising mission was to “greet no one on the road”. Always find that difficult to observe. During my permitted exercise slots I cheerily greet passing folk, praying that they stay well. The frequent looks of stunned mystification and even occasionally annoyance from passers-by leave me stumped! Is a greeting and invasion of personal space? Nowt so queer as folk, say I - as I look in the mirror!*
- ◇ *Flags flying locally to celebrate parishioner birthdays, this week Gill & Mervyn: Happy Birthdays!*
- ◇ *I must once again acknowledge the great kindness of parishioners who come to the front door with envelopes, Mass Intentions and requests. This is a great support to the continuance of parish life.*
- ◇ *Lola and Margaret want to stock up on repository goods for the season of the Lord’s nativity (can’t bring myself to use the other word . . .!) You can ring 868918 or 07561 559 830 to place orders for cards, diaries etc.*
- ◇ *St Mary’s and All Saints in Glossop have a timetable prepared for the people and the churches ready for private visits. You are welcome to go to www.glossopcatholics.org.uk/visit/ and discover when and for how long those churches are accessible. Furthermore, local Catholic whispers hint that Next Sunday (19th) public weekend Mass are to be celebrated in Glossop. I’m sure the Glossop Catholic website will have further information.*
- ◇ *“Crusader” has appeared on the elephant table: free to all comers! Incidentally I’ve upped the order for My Day by Day since we ran out again last week.*
- ◇ *Some great initiatives from The Briars at Crich. The team there are well-versed in producing YouTube materials on Fridays and Mondays. Head to ndcys in any browser and be prepared for an enticing surprise!*
- ◇ *The topsy-turvy life of schools comes to another end this week, as schools break up for the summer hols. A frustrating time recently for all connected with education. Good to bring to mind the many occasions of Leavers’ Masses and tearful Y6 farewelling. On Thursday the Y6s at St Charles return for a brief time together at school to say goodbye. I hope to join them.*
- ◇ *And the Year Sixes are not the only ones moving on. There are some transitions in the deanery too. When Bishop Patrick rang Fr Daniel on his July 2nd ordination anniversary, it wasn’t only to congratulate him on four years of diocesan ministry, but also to ask him to accept a new appointment. Happily that appointment keeps Fr Daniel in the deanery, as he takes up residence in the presbytery in Marple Bridge. He is appointed pastoral administrator for the two St Marys - Marple Bridge and New Mills. In accepting that appointment, Fr Daniel replaces Fr Kevin Gradwell, presently based in Chapel-en-le-Frith, who has had pastoral oversight for those churches for the past few years. As dean, I offer best thanks to Fr Kevin for his dedicated ministry during those years. I’m sure all our parishioners will join me in wishing Fr Daniel the choicest of blessings an his new ministry. So it’s back to Deacon Owen & me as your clergy again . . . !*