

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

ADVENT III (Gaudete) (B)

Dec 13th 2020



*Gaudete in Domino
semper:
iterum dico,
gaudete!*

Make straight the way of the Lord

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DATE	PARISH MASS	OTHER
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Sun 13th	ADVENT III (Gaudete) (B) 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Mary Alice Flynn RIP (JK)	
Mon 14th	St John of the Cross 9.30 (HAD) for benefactors	
Tues 15th	Advent feria 9.30 (HAD) EP's ints	
Weds 16th	Advent feria 9.30 (HAD) thanksgiving (PP)	
Thurs 17th	Advent feria 9.30 (HAD) Holy souls	
Fri 18th	Advent feria 9.30 (BB) D Bone RIP (SK)	
Sat 19th	Advent feria 9.30 (HAD) EP's ints	
Sun 20th	ADVENT IV (B) 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) EP's ints	

THIRD ADVENT

Psalter Week 3

INTRODUCTION Be happy at all times! How? Pray constantly.

FIRST READING : **Is 61** : I exult for joy in the Lord.

RESPONSE : **MY SOUL REJOICES IN MY GOD**

SECOND READING : **1 Thess 5** : God has called you. He will not fail you!

GOSPEL : **Jn 1** : There stands among you - unknown to you - the one whose way I prepare.

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, Isabella Phillips, Monica Krommendijk, Una Wilkinson, Nella Lewykyj, Evelyn Matthewman, Neil Appleton, Alice Canning, Mary Mycio, Dorothy Yarwood.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Revv Edward Barry, John Newsham, John Collins, Thos Baron, Martin Finneran, John Scott, William Hawkins, James Rooney, Charles Payne; Mary McKeown, Lilian Dunn, Margaret Connor, Eva Whittham, Sheila Goodwin, Fred Jones, Frank McMahon, Joan Delaney, John Burkinshaw:

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

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND we find ourselves celebrating the third Advent Sunday. We call it “Gaudete Sunday” after the first word (Rejoice) of the introit (entry antiphon) at Mass. You find the original on p.1.

It is also declared Home Mission Sunday. This is a transferred from mid-September because of COVID confusions. But it is also the day when we are to have a Poor Parishes second collection. There is a second basket at the back of churches for The Poor Parishes of the diocese.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY: Bishop Mark O’Toole writes: Firstly, thank you for the many ways in which you and your congregation is responding to this challenging time and the restrictions we encounter in the face of the pandemic. I have heard of heroic efforts to reach out to people through physical, emotional and spiritual support. I want to encourage you in this effort, as we prepare to celebrate Gaudete Sunday and Home Mission Sunday together this year on 12th – 13th December.

You will know that Evangelisation is an essential work of the Church. At all levels, and through every avenue we can utilise, we are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ. We do so, in order that others may come to know the beauty of encountering Him. Because of the broad and varied expressions of this mission, every now and then, we need to refocus on what we are trying to achieve. This is what Home Mission Sunday is about. During the first lockdown, the Bishops decided to move Home Mission Sunday from September to 13th December, in the hope that it would be a better time to engage the Faithful in this important work. Providentially this year, we are marking Home Mission Sunday at a time when we are all trying to encourage as many people as possible to return to the practise of their faith, now that there is the possibility of being physically present for Mass once more. You can find more info at: homemission.org.uk/home/events/home-mission-sunday/

MASS BOOKING SYSTEM Thanks to Angie (BB) (07977 202 639) and Sophie (HAD) (07907 884 105) who administer this system. Please ring them to book a place at BB or Friday or Sunday, or St Charles on Sunday - and Christmas Masses.

It is important to mention to any folk—especially those not regularly found at public worship - who you think might want to come to Christmas Masses that they must book ahead.

THE SUNDAY READINGS offer much enlightenment as ever.

First Reading : Isaiah 61 underlines the “Rejoice” theme, inviting us to Exult and Rejoice

in the Lord. This prophecy links with the Gospel reference to St John the Baptist—bringing Good News to the poor.

Second Reading : St Paul invites the Thessalonians to be happy, and to work to be perfect and holy.

The Gospel (St John) finds the Baptist deferring to the Messiah, who baptises with the Spirit.

SAINTS ALIVE

Monday : we honour St John of the Cross : mystic, Carmelite reformer during the European reformation. He was also an outstanding poet.

THE DIOCESAN NEWSPAPER has arrived and is found in the usual places.

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve) 6pm (HAD)
8pm (BB)

Friday 25th December (Christmas Day) 9.15 (BB)
11am (HAD)

HAD TOTE Congratulations to latest winners Máiréad Sweeney (£30) and the PP (£20).

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS We normally have a collection to help buy floral delights for our churches at Christmastide. That basket be left at the back of church over the next two weekends. Please be generous.

THE NATIVITY TRAIL Dedicated local Christians have organised this 'put Christ back into Christmas' delight. Many shops on Station Rd Hadfield have agreed to display posters of Nativity figures, painted by local schoolchildren recently. These are labelled with a letter. Children / families collect a Trail Booklet from St Charles church porch, and collect letters & stickers - all leading to goody-bags from Carmel church later in Advent. Please join in!

PRE-CHRISTMAS DECORATION Although most of our neighbours are ahead of the season, I encourage our dedicated parishioner-decorators to erect cribs, install Christmas trees and lavishly decorate our church on or after this Thurs 17th December, when the pre-Christmas Octave begins, and when we begin to sing (I wish!) the 'O Antiphons'.

LOCAL STREAMS Mgr Jonathan Moore has for some time been celebrating each week a live-streamed House Mass in his bungalow, with streaming access open to invited guests. He has very generously consented to this provision being opened to more people, and if you would like an invitation please email him at j.moore011@btinternet.com. He hopes to stream "Midnight Mass" on Christmas Eve from 11.15pm

CAFOD GIFT CATALOGUES have arrived this week entitled 'World Gifts'. Get them from the back of church or the elephant table.

FURTHER THANKS to parishioners who get Mass Intentions to me by some means. Many good folk ask for Masses to offered at Christmastide for family or friend, alive or deceased. A laudable thing to do! This kindness I greatly appreciate.

ST MARY'S CHURCH in Glossop is closed for many months to allow for interior restoration works to proceed.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN "CAROLS ON THE DOORSTEP"

During the run up to Christmas many of us like to go to a Carol Service or Community Carol Singing event. This year we cannot do that but that does not have to stop us having a good sing with our neighbours and our community. On **Sunday 20th December at 5:30pm** the whole country has the chance to join in Carols on your Doorstep. All you need to do is have a radio at hand. That can be a DAB radio, Freeview on your TV (725) or the Premier Radio phone app. Premier Radio will play 3 or 4 carols for everyone to sing along to. A carol sheet will be available from the back of church. This is a good chance to dust off that festive jumper or your most festive headwear if you like. It will be family-friendly so children welcome to bring something to shake or rattle along too.

CHRISTMAS CARDS are arriving aplenty at the back of church. If you see one that you can drop through a letterbox, please be a good Samaritan, correction, postperson and do so.

AND FINALLY Bishop Patrick has strongly recommended this note:

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPELS Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has prepared a series of reflections on the 'Christmas gospels', the gospel passages read from 17th December until 6th January. Video of the talks can be accessed by going to www.whatgoodnews.org