



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

LENT III (B)
March 7th 2021



Prayer to St Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us on the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy
and courage, and defend us
from every evil. **Amen**

*(the Novena to St Joseph begins on Weds 10th,
ahead of St Joseph's feastday on 19th)*

God's weakness is greater than man's strength

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Gamesley SK13 6HB

Head : Mrs G Beaumont
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St Philip Howard Secondary
SK13 8DR
Head : Mrs L Morris
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DATE**PARISH MASS****OTHER**

Sun 7th

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (B)

9.15 (BB) Tom Brown RIP (PL)

11am (HAD) Marion Robinson RIP (fam)

Mon 8th

Lent feria / St John of God

9.30 (HAD) Adrian McHugh RIP (anon)

Tues 9th

Lent feria / St Frances of Rome

9.30 (HAD) deceased clergy

Weds 10th

Lent feria

9.30 (HAD) May Ward RIP (PL)

Thurs 11th

Lent feria

9.30 (HAD) Einar McCann RIP (D&KH)

Fri 12th

Lent feria

9.30 (BB) Tony Ashton's welfare (fam) 3pm (HAD) stations of the cross

Sat 13th

Lent feria

9.30 (HAD) Stephen & Christine Perry RIP (D&KH)

Sun 14th

FOURTH SUNDAY (Laetare) IN LENT (B)**Mothering Sunday**

9.15 (BB) for the parish

11am (HAD) Mary Beswick RIP (PJ)

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (B)**Psalter Week 3****Introduction:** The Lord castigates the Temple merchants, and tells us to keep the Commandments.**First Reading :** Ex 20 : Moses reveals the Lord`s Ten Commandments**Resp.Ps. YOU LORD HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE****Second Reading :** 1 Cor 1 : The scandal of the Cross; the folly of wisdom.**Gospel :** Jn 2 : 'Destroy this sanctuary; in three days I will raise it up'.

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, Fr John Cairns, Cn Michael Moore, Pauline Anderson, Isabella Phillips, Monica Krommendijk, Una Wilkinson, Josie & Peter Cowden, Nella Lewyckyj, Evelyn Matthewman, Neil Appleton, Alice Canning, Mary Mycio.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Revv Victor Key, Eamonn O'Hara, Terry Makings, Tom O'Keefe; Alan Jones Moore, Anne Gregory, Christopher Eaton, Norma Clarke: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, may they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND we come to the third Sunday in Lent. We join Moses on Mount Sinai, and are reminded of the Ten Commandments. We journey to Jerusalem with Jesus, and stand back as he castigates the buyers and sellers in the Temple. Jesus in a righteous temper!

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of two parishioners recently-deceased:

- ***Dorothy Yarwood (92) (Market St Broadbottom).*** Dorothy was a dedicated parishioner of Immaculate Conception church until she became housebound with infirmity. We offer our prayerful condolences to daughter Janine, and her many friends and relatives;
- ***Dominic Alphonsus Keily (86)(Willow Bank Care Home).*** We offer our prayerful condolences to his wife Olive and daughter Julie, and his friends and relatives.

May they both rest in peace.

Dominic's funeral rites are planned for Dukinfield Crematorium on Mon 15th March;

Dorothy's Requiem Mass is planned for 1.30 on Tues 16th at Immaculate Conception church, prior to committal at the same crematorium.

LAST YEAR when we came together for weekend Mass for the 3rd Sunday in Lent, it was to be the last public celebration of Mass as we entered lockdown1. During the week we were directed to close down, and as we approached the Fourth Lenten Sunday, with our yearning to celebrate Mothering Sunday frustrated, the doors were locked. Teams were being organised to cordon off, to label, to sanitise, to distance - and to disappoint. A sad anniversary. Who could have thought that a year on (liturgically) we would still be fighting the pandemic. May the COVID cloud soon be vaccine-dissipated!

WORLD DAY FOR WOMEN is calendared for Monday. Thank God for the Marthas and Marys who do so much to underpin parish life.

MASS BOOKING SYSTEM Thanks to Angie (BB) (07977202639) 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 TOTE*** winners : Edith Green (£30); Lola King (£20).

SCHOOLS BACK! On Monday many pupils return to in-school learning. Joy for parents? The limitations of home-school learning must have been more than a few; some schoolchildren with whom I spoke recently were eager to return. As eager as parents to drop at and collect from the school-gate? as eager as teachers to see their charges return to a different normal? May they all be blessed!

SECOND CONFESSIONS It was good to have the chance to keep sacramental company with many of the First Holy Communion cohort of last year, deprived of the chance to receive Our Lord for the first time. Plans are laid for them to come to church and make first Holy Communion in the forthcoming weeks. They will be very welcome; Our Eucharistic Lord will be happy to grace them—and our stewards will play their part to keep them safe.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION is beginning at St Charles. If there are parents out there whose baptised child/ren Y3 or older, wish to enrol, please contact me soonest. First Holy Communion day is diaried for Sunday 27th June.

CHURCH GIVING The boxed sets of planned giving envelopes are to hand. The number of parishioners who use this system has declined. The number of those who support church and parish by Standing Order - either for church collection or tote - has increased. Others have stayed away from church; more than a few have died. If you want to use the envelopes and would like a boxed-set, let me know. If box-users want to convert to standing orders, please advise. Many thanks for your support church and parish in challenging times.

BISHOP PATRICK'S LENTEN TALKS You are invited to join Bishop Patrick and people from across the diocese this Lent in reflecting on our relationship with God. To be a disciple of Jesus means to know and love him, but to also know we are known and loved by him too. Bishop Patrick will give two talks on Zoom exploring God's Love for us and how we can respond to it.

1. **Knowing the Heart of God** (clearing false images of God that we may carry around with us) -

Thursday 11th March, at 7pm

2) **Knowing the Love of God** (understanding our identity as God's sons and daughters) - Thursday 25th March, at 7pm. Each talk will include input from Bishop Patrick, a time for questions and answers, and small group discussion. You can register for one or both talks on the diocesan website.

THE NEW NORMAL With positive signs of hope for our tomorrows, a number of parishioners are keen to explore the possibility of new parish initiatives when the COVID cloud finally dissipates. The have engaged with the diocesan publication 'Grapevine', and joined with other diocesan parishes to look to the future. One proposal is that when we open up again towards the end of June(?), there might be a weekly drop-in centre based in our churches. Sessions might be held on a Saturday mornings. People may wish to talk through their experiences of lockdown and whether there is any practical or emotional assistance we can help with. Below is the info about the diocesan workshop you could attend. It would be great if anyone interested could join the workshop to share ideas of how we can build our parish back stronger. Please contact Sue Hoolahan on 07596 72863, or message Madeleine Dyson at Immaculate Conception for more info.

PREPARE THE FUTURE: WORKSHOP 4

Building parishes of welcome, listening and hope

Thursday 18 March 2021, 3.00 - 4.30 p.m. on Zoom

People from about 20 parishes gathered for the last *Prepare the Future* workshop. They found it so useful that we were asked to make it a regular thing. Among the issues we'll cover at the workshop are the following:

- * Establishing a telephone befriending service;
- * Developing a toolkit to help you navigate safeguarding, data protection and other requirements;
- * Building a new census or database for the post-pandemic missionary parish;
- * Reaching out with minority ethnic and diaspora communities in our parishes;
- * Exploring a model for mutual aid and practical support for families and individuals, rooted in Catholic social teaching.

AND FINALLY Another poem, this time by Duke Ellington:

Come Sunday

Lord, dear Lord of love, God Almighty, God above,
Please look down and see my people through.
I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky.
I don't mind the grey skies 'cause they're just clouds passing by.
He'll give peace and comfort to every troubled mind,
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday, that's the day.
Often we feel weary but he knows our every care.
Go to him in secret, he will hear your every prayer.
Up from dawn till sunset, man works hard all day,
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday, that's the day!