



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

TWELFTH SUNDAY (B)

June 20th 2021



O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive
heard,
Who walked upon the foaming
deep,
And calm amid the rage did
sleep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea

Even the wind & sea obey him!

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DATE	PARISH MASS	OTHER
Sun 20th	SUNDAY XII 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) T & H Heywood RIP (JM)	
Mon 21st	St Aloysius Gonzaga 9.30 (HAD) Patricia O'Byrne RIP (MG)	
Tues 22nd	Ss JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE martyrs 9.30 (HAD) A McDunphy RIP	
Weds 23rd	feria / St Etheldreda 9.30 (HAD) P Martin RIP	
Thurs 24th	NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST 9.30 (HAD) t'giving to St Francis (JM)	
Fri 25th	feria 9.30 (BB) A Carroll RIP	
Sat 26th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Ellen Farrell RIP (JM)	
Sun 27th	SUNDAY XIII 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Agnes Tucker RIP (MD)	

TWELFTH SUNDAY (B)

Psalter Week 4

Introduction: Christ may seem to be asleep but he is always there.

First Reading : Job 38 : Here your proud waves shall break.

Resp. Ps. O GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.

Second Reading : 2 Cor 5 : Now the new creation is here.

Gospel : Mk 4: Even the wind and the sea obey him.

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, Liam Handley, David Healey, Josie & Peter Cowden, Nella Lewyckyj, Evelyn Matthewman, Neil Appleton, Alice Canning,

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Revv Peter Hawker, John Dowd, Margaret George, Peggy Bowdren, Derek George Garlick, Alison Maguire– Baker, Bernard Booth, Eileen Halsall, Peter Urquhart.

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

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND *We join Jesus and his terrified disciples in the choppy sea of Galilee at night. We marvel with the disciples at the power of our saviour to still the storm. Oftentimes our church is described as the barque of Peter. Many times the barque of Peter sails through troubled waters, and things are no different in our time. This weekend it is good for us to pray for Pope Francis, our helmsman.*

THIS SUNDAY *is celebrated as the Day for Life. Bishop John Sherrington gives a message for this day which you can read further on in the newsletter. We are asked not only to pray for this sanctity of human life, but also generously to support the church its work for this cause.*

ALSO THIS SUNDAY *we have Fathers' Day, giving chance to give thanks for our fathers, and pray for them, whether alive or dead.*

HEROIC ANCESTORS *This week we honour some great saints. On Monday, St Aloysius, a young Jesuit is in our calendar. On Tuesday the great English martyrs of the Reformation, Saints John Fisher and Thomas More. We have beautiful windows in Saint Charles church in their honour, and will delight two light candles in front of their images. Saint John the Baptist comes into focus on Thursday. This last great prophet has two feast days: one for his birth, and another for his martyrdom – fitting tributes to Christ's precursor.*

'CRUSADER' *seems to have changed into 'The Golden Thread'. Copies are freely available from the back of church.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS *have been much-disrupted during COVID times. Catching up on last year, and celebrating this year's group has been sadly a hit-and-miss affair. However, during Sunday Mass at St Charles next Sunday (27th) and the following Sunday (4th) we hope to welcome both last year's and this year's candidates to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time. This will of course mean fuller congregations. Mass-bookers beware!*

ANGELS UNAWARES *I suffered a small misfortune whilst gardening on Wednesday, which led me to meet a host of cheerful and helpful people. On Thursday morning at 7:00 o'clock having opened the church doors I asked a passing stranger to tie my shoe laces. I couldn't do this simple thing because of the accident led to a badly swollen hand. This kindly stranger not only knelt to the task but urged me to go to the surgery. The next angels were a receptionist, a doctor, and two nurses at Lambgates—all eager to help. So a kind friend drove me to Tameside hospital. 4 hours later after the caring kindnesses of multiple doctors, x-ray assistants, and smiling nurses, and plastered to the elbow, I was shepherded back home. All of these kindnesses invite to give thanks for health workers and other Good Samaritans. And all these attentions during COVID and a busy A&E.*

FATHER DAREN BROWN *is remembered fondly by many for his curacy in our parish 2004/5. It is so good that kindly parishioners keep in touch with him. This week he too took a tumble and had to seek medical help. Thank God he is also under repair after the ministry of kindly angels. Please remember him in your prayers.*

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 Sunday 11am Mass.

ST CHARLES TOTE recent winners : Fr Don (£30); J.Greenall (£20)

BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON, the Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Church in England and Wales, has written to his brother bishops about this year's Day for Life.

"We celebrate Day for Life on Sunday 20 June 2021. This day, inaugurated by Saint John Paul II, presents an opportunity to pray for the gift of life from conception to natural death, to raise awareness of the precious gift of life, and to support the work of protecting life in its most vulnerable stages through the annual collection. This assists pro-life organisations who raise awareness, engage in parliamentary work and pastoral outreach.

The fragility of life and the reality of death has been brought into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the UK alone, more than 126,000 people have died from Covid-19. Yet in the face of such suffering and death, we have also witnessed the extraordinary dedication of healthcare professionals and their loving care for the sick and dying. We too have each made sacrifices for the greater good during this pandemic. These acts of heroic love are a powerful testimony to the fundamental dignity of the human person and to the respect owed to each life, particularly through proper care and love in the last moments of life.

Against this backdrop of loving care, we are now faced with the very real threat of the legalisation of 'assisted suicide' in our country. It is not a question of 'if' this challenge will come, it is now a question of 'when?' There is now a Private Members Bill in the House of Lords on so-called 'Assisted Dying' and it is only a matter of time before the issue is back in the House of Commons.

This year's theme for Day for Life focuses on assisted suicide and the respect owed to life. The online resources are produced to inform Catholics about this threat to life and to share with people our response to such a threat: a true compassion as the just response to the immense value of the human person.

Day for Life adds an authenticity to our witness to the dignity of life and this is enabled by the generosity of people in the pews supporting our work.

In 2020, we were unable to hold our annual 'Day for Life' collection due to the pandemic, our funds are very much depleted and the threats to life have never been greater.

Day for Life is a simple, practical response which pushes back against 'the use and throwaway logic' often at the heart of a culture which seeks to abandon its elderly, sick and dying when 'they no longer serve our interests.'"

COMPLETE THE SURVEY: How has Covid-19 Affected You and Your Faith? Bishop Patrick would like to hear from you! The Diocese of Nottingham has launched a short survey in order to deepen its understanding of Covid-19's impact on all Catholics across the diocese. Bishop Patrick is eager to know more about peoples' experiences of the pandemic, with a view to ensuring that the faithful are well supported and understood in the years ahead. Please visit <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/news/share-your-story-how-has-covid-19-affected-you-and-your-faith> and fill out the short questionnaire. Please encourage other parishioners to do so. The deadline for submissions is July 4th 2021.

AND FINALLY

I was much sustained by the lectionary readings in the latter part of last week. Perhaps the Almighty had a smile on his face. We read on Wednesday from St Paul about planting seeds for later harvesting. One of my diversions that day. On Thursday St Matthew gave us the Lord's prayer with "and do not put us to the test" when being cared for at TGH; on Friday St Paul told the Corinthians of his tribulations in the Lord's service: imprisonment, scourgings, shipwreck, imprisonment et al. A little wrist fracture is not serious enough to be on his list! On Saturday he spoke of his painful affliction and his weaknesses. In response Our Lord reminded him "My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness." The gospel that day concluded "So do not trouble about tomorrow . . . Each day has enough trouble of its own" . . .

St Thomas More wrote to his daughter before his execution:

I shall remember how Saint Peter at a blast of wind began to sink because of his lack of faith, and I shall do as he did: call upon Christ and pray to him for help. And then I trust he shall place his holy hand on me and in the stormy seas hold me up from drowning.

I die the King's good servant, but God's first.