



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY XVII (b)
July 28th 2024**



O bread of heaven beneath this veil
Thou dost my very God conceal;
my Jesus, dearest treasure, hail;
I love Thee and adoring kneel;
each loving soul by Thee is fed
with Thine own self in form of bread.

O food of life, Thou Who dost give
the pledge of immortality;
I live; no, 'tis not I that live;
God gives me life, God lives in me:
He feeds my soul, He guides my
ways, and every grief with joy repays.

They ate as much as they wanted

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DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 28th	SUNDAY XVII 9.15 (BB) Derek Orr RIP (anniv) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 29th	Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus 9.30 (HAD) Cecila Addy RIP (AM)	
Tues 30th	feria / St Peter Chrysologus 9.30 (HAD) David Smith's welfare (fam)	
Weds 31st	St Ignatius Loyola 9.30 (HAD) Mark & Delia Murphy	
Thurs 1st Aug	St Alphonsus Ligouri 9.30 (HAD) Dr Gerry Cowley	
Fri 2nd	S Eusebius; St Peter Julian Eymard 9.30 (BB) Maureen Reynolds RIP (MD & RT)	
		FIRST FRIDAY VISITS TODAY DV
Sat 3rd	feria 9.30 (HAD) Bridie Moran	
Sun 4th	Sunday XVIII 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Derry O'Dowd (HAD parish council after Mass)	

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (B)

Psalter Week 1

Introduction *Christ feeds the us with His word and his Body.*

First Reading : 2 Kings 4 : Elisha the prophet is ordered to feed the people of the Lord—abundantly.

Second Reading: Eph 4 : `One Lord, one faith, one baptism.`

Gospel: Jn 6 : Jesus feeds the multitude with bread and fish. They ate and were satisfied.

Comm. Ant: **BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL, AND NEVER FORGET HIS BENEFITS**

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND and ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Please remember to support and pray for those listed as sick and housebound in our parish: Peter James, Pauline Anderson, Isabella Phillips, Joe Singleton, Joan Killeen, Winifred Cook, Rita Dwyer, Una Wilkinson, Christine Wild, David Healey, Mike Lally, Eric Gebbett, Jacob Ibbotson, Beatrice & John Eaton, Keith Winston.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time; Revv John Fox, John Grimshaw, Douglas Key, David Bradbury, Michael Gilleran; Phyllis Dotters, Eileen Atherton, John Denton, Joan Mitton, Derek Orr, Joe Revell, Margaret Mary Keogh, Christine Entwistle, Peter Cowden, Jack Shockledge, Rosemary Window, Patricia Byrne: *May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them :*
Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY *We must rest assured then that Christ is intimately interested in our daily lives on earth. We must not expect that this interest of his will remove all shadows from our path. This would not be for our eternal good.*

THE GOSPEL *The focus is on the other great sacrament of life, the Eucharist. The starting-point on which Jesus will reflect is the feeding of the five thousand. In the synoptic Gospels the background (and so the meaning) of this wonderful feeding was Jesus as the shepherd, taking pity on the sheep without a shepherd, feeding them on the green grass beside the flowing waters. In John, however, the allusion goes further back, to Moses giving the people manna in the desert: Jesus goes up the mountain, as Moses went up the mountain of Sinai, and the Passover, the festival of the trek through the desert. We will hear that the manna given by Moses was not the true bread from heaven. Now the gift of Jesus is on a far larger scale: five loaves among five thousand men. If we look further back, Jesus is also acting as the prophet Moses, who gave the whole people manna, and they all had enough. A further numerical reminiscence is given by the twelve baskets of scraps, representing the twelve tribes of Israel.*

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE *we have heard recently of the deaths of **Veronica Mary Nolan (81)**, erstwhile of Hadfield. Her funeral rights are to be conducted at Dukinfield crematorium at 11:30 on Friday the 23rd August. May she rest in peace.*

*Parishioners at Immaculate Conception church, and members of the Wednesday Group were saddened to hear of the sudden death of **Angela Clayton (87)** last Sunday morning, 14th Aug. Angela was a very dedicated regular and observant parishioner at that church and served it well with her sacristy skills, her culinary arts and commitment to flowers and plants here there in everywhere. She made many friends, and held the confidence of more than a few. Her Requiem Mass arranged for Friday 16th of August at Immaculate Conception church at 10am. May she too rest in peace. May the families friends and relatives of the deceased be comforted at this time of bereavement.*

GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY *this Sunday is dedicated to grandparents everywhere, and Pope Francis has written an elegant letter commending care for the elderly and above all for our relatives when they enter upon their dotage. "On this Fourth World Day devoted to them, let us show our tender love for the grandparents and the elderly members of our families. Let us spend time with those who are disheartened and no longer hope in the possibility of a different future. In place of the self-centred attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say "I will not abandon you", and to set out on a different path.*

To all of you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, and to all those who are close to you I send my blessing, accompanied by my prayers. And I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me." The celebration of grandparents is linked to the liturgical celebration of Saints Joachim and Anna,

parents of our Blessed Lady and earthly grandparents of Jesus. May God pour his manifest blessings upon all those who rejoice to be grandparents and upon their grandchildren.

A NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS is being arranged to take place at Oscott college, north Birmingham in mid-September. You may wish to mark it in your diary because everyone is invited to this great celebration of the gift of the Blessed Sacrament. Further details are available on countless websites regarding the events and happenings of that particular weekend.

THE QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK with news of the forthcoming new translation of the lectionaries one or two people ask whether they should now recycle their own handheld personal Sunday missals. The answer is simple **don't!** All that is changing is the translation of the readings. The readings themselves are the same as we have been using these many, many years but the translation will sound and read a little differently. I think it would be a waste of money to buy a presumably expensive new Sunday handheld missal and I would recommend against it.

SAINTS ALIVE St Martha was the sister of Mary of Bethany and Lazarus. In the West, her feast day comes a week after that of St Mary Magdalene because of the old and probably erroneous tradition that Mary Magdalene was the same person as Martha's sister. But at least Martha and Mary both get celebrated somehow. What about poor Lazarus? As Monsignor Ronald Knox pointed out, Lazarus deserves our sympathy for being brought back to life by Jesus so as, later, to have to die all over again. What he thought of being brought back to Earth is not recorded. The presence of the incarnate Lord must have made up for the postponement of Heaven, but – where less dramatic circumstances are concerned – perhaps we should think of Lazarus when we prepare to make spectacular acts of charity on behalf of people who may not necessarily appreciate our interventions. **St Alphonsus Liguori (1696 - 1787)** was born near Naples. He finished his university studies earning a Doctorate in both civil and canon law and began his practice in the legal profession. In 1723, after a long process of discernment, he began his seminary studies. He was ordained a priest on December 21, 1726, at the age of 30. He lived his first years as a priest with the homeless and marginalized young people of Naples. He founded the "Evening Chapels". Run by the young people themselves, these chapels were centres of prayer, community, the Word of God, social activities and education. At the time of his death, there were 72 of these chapels with over 10,000 active participants. In 1732, Alphonsus founded the Congregation of the Redemptorists, in order to follow the example of Jesus Christ announcing the Good News to the poor and the most abandoned. From that time on, he gave himself entirely to this new mission. Alphonsus was a lover of beauty: musician, painter, poet and author. His greatest contribution to the Church was in the area of Moral Theology. Alphonsus was consecrated bishop in 1762. He was 66 years old. He tried to refuse the appointment because he felt too old and too sick to properly care for the diocese. In 1775, he was allowed to retire from his office and went to live in the Redemptorist community in Pagani where he died on August 1, 1787. He was canonized in 1839, proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1871 and Patron of Confessors and Moralists in 1950. **St Ignatius Loyola (1491 - 1556)** was born in Loyola in the Spanish Basque country. He was a soldier, but was wounded in the battle of Pamplona (against the French) at the age of 30. During a long convalescence he read a life of Christ and a collection of lives of the saints, and discovered that his true vocation was to devote his life wholly to God. In 1534 Ignatius and six companions offered their services to the Pope in any capacity he might choose. A number of them were duly ordained and they were all assigned to various tasks. Soon it was proposed that they should organise themselves into a regular religious order, and in 1540 the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) was formed. Ignatius was the first Superior General until his death. Soon after their foundation the Jesuits began to meet the challenge of the Reformation. Ignatius had a gift for inspiring friendship, and was the recipient of deep spiritual insight. Soon after his conversion Ignatius wrote the *Spiritual Exercises*, a systematic step-by-step retreat that can be followed by anyone – and has been followed by many, not all of them Catholics, ever since.

HADFIELD COMING TOGETHER is organising several free events throughout the summer holidays. All children from the area are welcome and will receive a free lunch. Please see the posters on the notice boards for details. The main event is Picnic in the Park (Bankswood) on Monday 19 August from 11am to 3pm. Children will have a free lunch and there will be music and activities to keep them occupied. As you can imagine, it is going to be hard work, so there needs to be as many hands-on deck as possible! Please would you consider giving at least a couple of hours of your time to help? Maybe to litter pick the park before or after the event so that our children are safe, help make sandwiches before the event, entertain with music or facilitate activities with the children, be a marshal to show people where to go? There will be lots of other things to do too, so please let us know if you can help. You will need to complete a volunteers registration form. Contact Rob Cranston, Sue Hoolahan 07596 728633.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles : P Pover (£40); J Greenall (£20). Furthermore, Mike W drew the mid-year 'big'un' : £100 E Green; £50 V Gebbett; £50 M Cowden.

BB : £40 : A Cass; £20 : J Smith.

STANDING ORDERS: Immaculate Conception : Sort Code 30-13-32 A/c "St Margaret's church/collection (or tote)" 00510567. St Charles : Sort Code 30-13-32 A/c "Charles church/collection (or tote)" 00269177.

'... **AND THE LORD DISPOSES'** I spoke a little last Sunday about time spent in Lourdes thanking God for his gifts to us in and beyond our five senses. It was a real pleasure to attend the Sunday evening Tameside Festival concert at Albion Church, marvelling at the music, the choral delights, the Burne-Jones magnificent windows, and above all the music mastery of John Miles. . and hardly noticed the onset of a tiny sore throat. This turned soon into a full-blown COVID-positive cold which had a dampening effect on midweek days. And played havoc with all the senses! Fr Bernard messaged that he had developed something worse. I think the worst is over, but I'd better not let God know!