



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY XX (b)
Aug 4th 2024**



“When someone on social media tells you it’s raining, the traditional media’s job is to look out the window”

Helen Lewis

Whoever eats this Bread will live forever

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DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 18th	SUNDAY XX 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) D Wilcox RIP (D&KH)	
Mon 19th	feria / St John Eudes 11am (BB) Requiem Mass for Angela Clayton RIP (AS)	
Tues 20th	feria / St Bernard, abbot 9.30 (HAD) Christina Kempster RIP (fam)	
Weds 21st	St Pius X 9.30 (HAD) C Broadbent welfare (fam)	
Thurs 22nd	Our Lady, Queen 9.30 (HAD) Eric & Val Gebbett welfare	
Fri 23rd	St Rose of Lima 9.30 (BB) A Clayton RIP (JB)	
Sat 24th	ST BARTHOLOMEW, apostle 9.30 (HAD) Johanna Monaghan RIP (fam)	
Sun 25th	SUNDAY XXI 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Joan Haley RIP (fam)	

TWENTIETH SUNDAY (B)

Psalter Week 4

Introduction to the Readings : Eucharist means thanksgiving. Today, filled with the spirit, we make thanksgiving to God for the bread of life.

First Reading : Prov 9 : Eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared for you.

Resp Ps : TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD

Second Reading : Eph 5 : Recognise what is the will of God.

Gospel : Jn 6 : My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Comm. Ant: I AM THE LIVING BREAD THAT CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN,
SAYS THE LORD. WHOEVER EATS OF THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOR EVER.

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 Oliver Wilson, James Hargreaves, James Leahy, Michael Quane, Stephen Lennon; Joe Vella, Dorothy McGregor, Margaret Mary Jones, Linda Grogan, Sheila McManus, Kathleen Flanagan, Philip Battey, Ernest Quinlan, Joan Haley: *May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY *So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst" (John 6:34-35).*

THE GOSPEL *This is the last of the readings from the Bread of Life discourse. It moves on from seeing Christ as the Wisdom of God, who must be accepted and believed, to the sacrament of eating the bread of life. These correspond to the two halves of the Mass, first the service of the Word, then the Eucharistic banquet. We are all so diet-conscious nowadays that it is quite obvious that the food we eat affects us. By eating Christ we are assimilated into him. But, just as, if I am sick, food does me no good and can even harm me, so if I eat Christ sacramentally without wanting to be moulded into him, it does me no good at all. That is why Paul complained that the Corinthians were answerable for the death of Christ. And drinking the blood of Christ? Blood is the sign of life – if there is no blood, there is no life – and God is the Lord of life and death. So if I receive Christ's blood I take on his life, his divine life, as the gift of God. That has alarming side-effects: it means I share Christ's life with other Christians. We all live with the same life's blood. Do I really share my life, my talents, my goods with others, knowing that I share the same bloodstream?*

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE *We heard of the recent death of **Sylvia Fielding**, late of Simmondley, Glossop. She and husband George will be remembered with fondness by worshippers at the Saturday evening Mass at St Margaret's school. Her funeral arrangements are in hand. May she rest in peace.*

SAINTS ALIVE **Saint John Eudes (1601 - 1680)** was born and died in Normandy. He was ordained priest and spent many years preaching parish missions. He organized a congregation of nuns that grew into the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity, dedicated to the care of women rescued from a disorderly life, and a congregation of priests dedicated to the running of seminaries. He was active in encouraging devotion to the Sacred Heart, and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. **St Bernard of Clairvaux** was born near Dijon, in France, in 1090, of a noble family. In 1112 he joined the new monastery at Cîteaux. This had been founded fourteen years before, in a bid to reject the laxity and riches of the Benedictine Order (as exemplified by great monasteries such as Cluny) and to return to a primitive poverty and austerity of life. Bernard arrived at Cîteaux with four of his five brothers and two dozen friends. Within three years he had been sent out to found a new monastery at Clairvaux, in Champagne, where he remained abbot for the rest of his life. By the time of his

death, the Cistercian Order had grown from one house to 343, of which 68 were daughter houses of Clairvaux itself. Bernard was a man of great holiness and wisdom, and although he was often in very poor health, he was active in many of the great public debates of the time. He strongly opposed the luxurious lives of some of the clergy, and fought against the persecution of the Jews. He was also a prolific writer, of an inspiring rather than a technical kind.

Pope St Pius X (1835 - 1914) was born in the village of Riese, near Venice, one of ten children of a very poor family. He was ordained to the priesthood at the age of 23. He was successively bishop of Mantua and of Venice, and was elected Pope, against his wishes, in 1903. In his time as Pope, he sought to “restore all things in Christ.” He insisted on the separation of Church and State, and banned the formation of political associations that claimed exclusive religious sanction for their political programme, whether of the Left or of the Right. He revised the code of Canon Law, founded an institute for scriptural studies, and initiated the revision of the Latin translation of the Bible (the Vulgate) and the reform of the liturgy. He lived in great poverty even when he was Pope, and preached sermons every Sunday in the courtyards of the Vatican, to any who would listen. In his simplicity and goodness of heart, he performed miracles even when he was alive, and the clamour for his canonization started immediately after his death, on 20th August 1914, broken-hearted at the outbreak of the First World War.

St Rose of Lima (1586 - 1617) was born in Lima, in Peru. She lived a life of selflessness and devotion from an early age. She refused to marry, and became a Dominican tertiary at the age of 20. Her asceticism and her intense spiritual experiences excited the criticism of her friends and family and the suspicion of the Church authorities. She cared for the sick, the poor, Indians, and slaves. She was the first person in the Americas to be canonized, and is a patron saint of South America.

“PICNIC IN THE PARK” On Monday in Bankswood Park in Hadfield, 11am to 3pm. This event is organised by local Christian churches. Let’s hope that summer sunshine returns to enhance this event, involving music, food and dance. All are welcome, free of charge. Our thanks to Rob C for establishing and encouraging the ‘Catholic link’. All and any are free to come along—no charge! And if you want to help, you are twice welcome!

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles : S Williamson & P Litchfield (£40); Fr Don & D Bernard (£20).

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.

“MAGNIFICAT” and ‘My Day by Day’ for September are found at the back of church.

MISSION WITNESS: ‘RED BOX’ THANK YOU Maureen B writes : “Missio Red Box Appeal. Thank you to all the parishioners of St. Charles and The Immaculate Conception who joyfully welcomed Father Emmanuel and your generous response to the Red Box appeal last Sunday. If you didn’t get a chance to collect a Red Box or Direct Debit form, please find them at the back of Church or ask Maureen or Father Don. More information can be found at: www.missio.org.uk” Fr Emmanuel seemed to have enjoyed his brief visit, and your welcome! He is reported to have ‘wished he could come back again’. He would be welcome anytime!

My profound thanks and yours to the helpful parishioners who made him so welcome, and provided for his welfare.

SEASON OF CREATION : 1 September - 4 October 2024. The Season of Creation, initiated by Pope Francis, is a global ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home, starting each year on 1 September and finishing on the feast of St Francis, 4 October.

“Hope and Act with Creation” is this year’s theme of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.