



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**ADVENT II (c)
8th Dec 2024**



**Immaculate Mary!
Our hearts are on fire,
that title so wondrous
fills all our desire.**

**We pray for our mother
the church upon earth,
and bless, sweetest lady,
the land of our birth.**

*Ave, ave, ave Maria!
Ave, ave, ave Maria!*

Prepare a way for the Lord!

Canon Don Bowdren
St Charles Rectory
Woolley Bridge Rd
Hadfield SK13 1PQ 852351
& 07762057572

*don.bowdren@dioceseofnottingham.uk /
daniel.bowdren@gmail.com*

Deacon: Rev Dr Owen Le Blanc

*longdendale-catholics.co.uk
Facebook@stcharleshadfield*

OUR SCHOOLS

St Charles Primary Hadfield SK13 7PQ
Head : Mrs B Quirke
Tel : 852692

St Margaret's & All Saints Federation
Gamesley SK13 6HB
Head : Mrs G Beaumont
Tel : 855818

St Philip Howard Secondary
SK13 8DR
Head : Mr J Kayes
Tel : 853611/861022

DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 8th	Advent II 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Dec'd of Kelly & Brierley fams RIP	
Mon 9th	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY 9.30 (HAD) E Gebbett RIP (fam)	
Tues 10th	Advent feria / Our Lady of Loreto 9.30 (BB) Fr J Keogh's welfare (D&JW)	
Weds 11th	Advent feria /St Damasus 9.30 (HAD) Ed's welfare (CB)	
Thurs 12th	Advent feria / Our Lady of Guadalupe 9.30 (HAD) Bro Philip's welfare (M&BG)	
Fri 13th	St Lucy, virgin martyr 9.30 (BB) Derek Orr RIP (fam)	
Sat 14th	St John of the Cross 9.30 (HAD) Fr Gus O'Reilly <i>oratory Confessions from 10.30</i>	
Sun 15th	Advent III (Gaudete) 9.15 (BB) Susan Bann's welfare (<i>Cass fam</i>) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
SECOND ADVENT (C)		
Psalter wk 2		
Introduction to the Readings : We await with joyful hope that 'Day of the Lord' when his work in us will be complete.		
First Reading : Baruch 5 : God means to show your splendour to every nation.		
Responsorial Psalm : WHAT MARVELS THE LORD WORKED FOR US! INDEED WE WERE GLAD		
Second Reading : Philipians 1 : Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.		
Gospel : Luke 3 : All mankind shall see the salvation of God.		
Comm ant : JERUSALEM ARISE & STAND UPON THE HEIGHTS, AND BEHOLD THE JOY THAT COMES TO YOU FROM GOD		

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, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Jean Ashton, Bro Philip Revell, Beatrice Eaton, Keith Winston.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time; Revv James Coyne, Bernard George, Raymund Mendel, Tom Breslin, Charles Coleman, Gerry Collins, Peter Skoyles, Trevor Clarke, Jack Newsham; *Josie Toole, Bob Durman, William Gray, Edmund Ashton, Ronald Baines, Doreen Callon, Nella Lewyckyj, Mary McKeown, Eva Whittam: May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY we celebrate the second Sunday in Advent, and are invited join John the Baptist in preparing the way of the Lord.

PARISH FEAST DAY This Sunday is of course December 8th. It coincides with the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Lady. However, because this date coincides with the celebration of the second Sunday in Advent, the Immaculate Conception celebration is delayed until Monday. However, it is also the anniversary of the consecration of our church in Charlesworth by Bishop Malcolm twenty-one years ago. That anniversary is further postponed until Tuesday. What strange things happened within the Catholic calendar! Therefore, on Tuesday Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 in that church.

SECOND COLLECTION There is a second collection for the 'Poor Parishes Fund'.

THE GOSPEL In today's reading, we hear the voice of John the Baptist crying out in the wilderness. He is called, and calls us, to come home—home to gather around our Christian family, where we will soon celebrate the arrival of Christ at the crib. Yet, before we reach that moment, we must continue on our Advent journey. These final two weeks invite us to prepare ourselves, step by step, to draw closer to the light of Christ, soon to enter our world.

SAINTS ALIVE **The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception** is the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived in her mother Anna's womb without original sin, that twist in our nature that makes our will tend not to follow what it knows to be right. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered "Yes" to the request, conveyed by the Angel Gabriel, that she should consent to be the mother of the incarnate God. The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was almost universally believed over the centuries but was only formally defined as a doctrine of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1854. **St Lucy** was martyred in Syracuse, probably during the persecution of Diocletian (which started in 303). Devotion to her spread rapidly across practically the whole Church and her name is included in the Roman Canon of the Mass. **St John of the Cross** is known for his writings. He was mentored by and corresponded with the older Carmelite nun Teresa of Ávila. Both his poetry and his studies on the development of the soul, particularly his *Noche Obscura*, are considered the summit of mystical Christian literature and among the greatest works of all Spanish literature. He was canonized by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726. In 1926, he was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI, and is also known as the "mystical doctor".

BUSIER WEEK no surprise that this second week of Advent is a bit more crowded than some other weeks. On Tuesday in the early afternoon at St Charles school there will be a penitential service and confessions for the schoolchildren. On Wednesday the 11th at 6pm school that will be the first performance of the school nativity play, which will be repeated at 2pm on Thursday.

INTER-PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE this raffle will be drawn next Sunday after the 11am Mass at St Charles. I hope you have bought your tickets to take part in this major fund-raising enterprise, and to have the chance to win splendid prizes once again.

MISSIO CALENDARS for 2025 are free of charge and are liberally available from the back of the church. Many of them are individually labelled for parishioners. Please hunt out your calendar. If you already have a calendar or use a digital version and why not give a Missio calendar as a Secret Santa gift to someone, or better still pop one through the letterbox of somebody who used to come to Mass.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 The year 2024 is designated the year of prayer ahead of next year's Jubilee Year of Hope. Jubilee is an extraordinary event in the life of the universal church. We will hear much more about it as we draw to the end of the year. Pope Francis will push open the Holy Door at Peter's basilica on Christmas Eve, officially to open that year of Jubilee, ending in January 2026. Bishop Patrick will designate the holy door of St Barnabas cathedral in Nottingham on the 29th of December. A prayer has been prepared for use throughout the church during the jubilee year, copies of this prayer are now published and freely available from the back of church. Please take one home for your own use, or to pass on to a friend or family. Above all please try to remember to pray the prayer daily during the jubilee year. More details of the jubilee are found lavishly on the Internet and we will do our best to highlight the main events as they occur.

USED STAMPS Used stamps are being collected in supported Reuben's Retreat, a local charity. Doubtless many people are receiving Christmas messages by post these days. Please remember to keep those used stamps and bring them to church and we will make sure they reach their proper destination.

CHRISTMAS FAIR the Christmas fair which was held at the back of Immaculate Conception church was a great success. Thanks go to the stall holders, the donors and those who came to support the event. A magnificent total of just over £700 was raised for parish funds through that event. Thank you and well done.

NEXT FRIDAY the parish Christmas lunch takes place at the Waggon and Horses in Mottram. We look forward to meeting together from 12:30 at that place for fine dining and good companionship.

ON SATURDAY we will welcome into the family of the church Georgia-Rose who has become a familiar presence at Immaculate Conception church recently.

TIME TO MEET THE MONSIGNOR next Saturday 14th at 10:30 Mgr Moore is planning to come to St Charles oratory to hear confessions and absolve. He hopes to return on Sat the 21st also. I hope you will have chance to keep him company and to receive the blessings of the sacrament of confession.

PREPARE HIS WAY next Sunday (15th) is the 3rd Sunday in Advent. After Mass on that day we begin to decorate ahead of the Christmas season. Our trees will be decorated and doubtless our churches too. All are welcome to give a hand to begin this celebration after Mass next Sunday.

THE BIG ONES The Christmas tote special draws take place on Sun 21st. The prizes is on offer for this special event are generous an eagerly-awaited. But you have to be in it to win it make sure your tote payments are up to date please.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS I hope that you will be generous in supporting request for cash to buy flowers to decorate our churches at Christmastide.

CONGRATULATIONS go to Angie Cass and Nick Collins. They were both recognised by Bishop Patrick in the award of the St Hugh of Lincoln diocese and medal, presented to them at Mass last Sunday. That presentation spoke of their dedicated service to church, parish and parish councils over many years. We thank them for their service and pray that it might continue.

THE NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS service is planned for Thurs 19th Dec at Immaculate Conception church at 7.30. The first rehearsal is held on Monday 9th 7.30pm at church.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS **St Charles** : S Shaw (£40); M Gee (£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.