



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY III in ordinary time (C)
26th Jan 2025 : 'Sunday of the Word of God'



*A PRAYER FOR
'THE SUNDAY OF
THE WORD OF GOD'*

*"In this Jubilee Year of Hope
we recognise
the centrality of Sacred Scripture
in our lives,
and ask
the Lord to give us open ears
and a willing heart
to hear afresh
his Divine Word."*

This text is being fulfilled today

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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 26th	Sunday III (Sunday of the Word of God) 9.15 (BB) thanksgiving (SQ) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 27th	St Angela Merici 9.30 (HAD) Dead List	
Tues 28th	St Thomas Aquinas, doctor of the church 9.30 (HAD) John Monaghan RIP (fam)	
Weds 29th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Jane May	
Thurs 30th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Eric Gebbett RIP, <i>birthday remembrance</i>	
Fri 31st	St John Bosco 9.30 (BB) Freda Burton (T&AT)	
Sat 1st Feb	feria 9.30 (HAD) M Morrin	
Sun 2nd	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 9.15 (BB) Patsie Dunne RIP (RT) 11am (HAD) M&J Cannon & dec'd of Cannon & Stevenson fams	

ORDINARY SUNDAY III (C)

Psalter Week 3

INTRODUCTION : Today is a day of rejoicing in the New Law which Christ has given us. We listen to the words of Law and ponder them in our hearts.

First Reading: Neh 8 : Ezra read from the law of God and the people understood what was read.

Resp Ps: YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT LORD, AND THEY ARE LIFE.

Second Reading: 1 Cor 12 : You together are Christ's body; each a different part of it.

Gospel : Lk 1 : This text is being fulfilled today.

Comm ant: I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, SAYS THE LORD;
WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NOT WALK IN DARKNESS,
BUT WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE.

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, Maura Farrell, Joan Killeen, Winifred Cook, Rita Dwyer, Una Wilkinson, Christine Wild, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Gordon Handley, 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 Bernard Kevill, Louis Drury, Roger Birks; John Wells. Jean Rowell, Jacqueline Mason, Jimmy Dickson, Mary Howarth, Gerald Allison, Patricia Walsh, Stephen Hirst, Frank Gerrard: May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY is dedicated as 'The Sunday of the World of God'. It is the sixth such annual Sunday. The Holy Father indicates that we need to renew our hope in the power of the Word of God. It provides chance also to thank those who step forward to our Lecterns to read. More than a few have found this to be a bit more challenging since the Dec '24 introduction of the new translation. And that applies to clergy as well! Thank God for the dedication of our Lectors!

THE GOSPEL Today's gospel passage starts the series of readings from St Luke which will continue throughout the ordinary Sundays of the Year. It is composed of two separate passages: first it gives St Luke's introduction to his gospel, in which he explains how and why he wrote it. Then, jumping over the preparatory stories of Jesus' infancy, baptism and testing in the desert, it comes directly to his programmatic manifesto in the synagogue at Nazareth. The gospel is offered to Theophilus – a Greek name, 'Lover of God' – and is written for gentile communities. So Luke stresses that Jesus' message is not just for Jews but for the peoples of the whole world. Twice in this short passage which gives Jesus' programme Luke stresses that Jesus is moved by the Spirit of the Lord. As we saw in the second reading, the Spirit was palpably at work in the early Christian communities. This was no more than a continuation of the Spirit's activity from the very beginning of the Christian movement. In Luke's stories of the annunciation, birth and infancy of Jesus the presence of the Spirit is constantly noted. In the earliest stories of the Church in the Acts of the Apostles the same guidance directs every move.

SAINTS ALIVE **St Angela Merici (1470 - 1540)** was born in Desenzano, in Lombardy, in about 1470. She became a Franciscan tertiary and set up a school to instruct girls in Christianity and good works. In 1535 she founded the Ursulines, an order of nuns devoted to giving a Christian education to girls from poor families. She died in 1540. **St Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274)** was born of a noble family in southern Italy, and was educated by the Benedictines. He decided to become a Dominican instead. His family were so scandalised by this disreputable plan that they kidnapped him and kept him prisoner for over a year. He studied in Paris and in Cologne under the great philosopher St Albert the Great. It was a time of great philosophical ferment. The teaching of Aristotle was banned in many universities at this time – the fact that Aristotle's works were coming to the West from mostly Muslim sources did nothing to help matters. Into this chaos Thomas brought simple, straightforward sense. Out of his work came many writings on philosophy and theology, including the *Summa Theologiae*, a standard textbook for many centuries and still an irreplaceable resource today. Out of his depth of learning came, also, the dazzling poetry of the liturgy for Corpus Christi. And out of his sanctity came the day when, celebrating Mass, he had a vision that, he said, made all his writings seem like so much straw; and he wrote no more. **St John Bosco (1815 - 1888)** was born in Piedmont of a peasant family, and he was brought up by his widowed mother. He became a priest, and his particular concern was for the young. He settled in Turin, where, as in so many cities in the 19th century, the industrial revolution was bringing enormous movements of population and consequent social problems, especially for the young

men who came there to work. John Bosco devoted himself to the care of the young, first of all by means of evening classes, to which hundreds came, and then by setting up a boarding-house for apprentices, and then workshops for their training and education. Despite many difficulties, caused both by the anti-clerical civil authorities and by the opposition of some senior people within the Church, his enterprise grew, and by 1868 over 800 boys and young men were under his care. To ensure the continuation of his work, he founded a congregation, which he named after St Francis de Sales (a saint for whom he had great admiration), and today the Salesians continue his work all over the world.

THE DELAYED SECOND COLLECTION for the sick and retired priests fund will be taken this Sunday. **JUBILEE DOOR** to gain the Jubilee indulgence it is customary practice in our church tradition to visit a Jubilee church, enter through the Jubilee portal, seek Confession, pray for the Holy Father's intentions, and receive The Blessed Sacrament soon after. We live 35 miles from Matlock, our nearest deanery-designated diocesan Jubilee church. However, we are but 22 minutes away from the nearest Jubilee portal at St Joseph's Stockport.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles 1st, (£40) : C Wardle; 2nd, (£20) S Williamson. **Immaculate Conception** 1st, (£40) : A Cave; 2nd, (£20) A. Scullion. Many thanks to those who organise and take part in our parish totes.

CRIB DONATIONS It was a pleasure to send to Missio £145 for the benefit of "MT" : 'Mission Together'. This leg of the Missio stool supports children in mission territories.

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 "St Charles church/collection (or tote)" 00269177.

STILL THOUGHTS IN A STORM We were blessed to be slightly further south of the main and devastating pathway of storm Eowen. We were not spared some its power. I was enchanted by the rhythmic circle dance of the beech leaves - always the last to fall - to the rectory porch. A merry dance - always anti-cyclonic (anti - clockwise) - before dancing in congregation to the door. I finally discovered the meaning of cyclone (circling clockwise) and anti-cyclone. A merry dance - always anti-cyclonic (anti-clockwise) . Didn't have much in the ways of leaf-fall during my seven years south of the equator. But the sink-water always revolved cyclonically - if you get my cyclonic drift.

FR STEPHEN KIMANI'S THANKS for your support for the SMA missions came with a prayercard:

A GARDENER'S REFLECTION

First look at the weeds,
Weed out gossip,
Weed out laziness,
Weed out indifference
and weed out pride.

Plant five rows of peas:
Patience, peace, promptness, politeness and prayer.

Then plant five rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful,
Let us be loving,
Let us be useful,
Let us be truthful
And let us be grateful.

Then we can turn to the reliable turnips:

turn up on time,
turn up with a smile,
turn up with a new idea
And turn up with new determination.

