



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Sunday VI (c)
16th Feb 2025**



**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER
FOR RACIAL JUSTICE**

*Come, Holy Spirit,
show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples
of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important
and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves.
Amen.*

Your reward will be great in heaven

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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 16th	Sunday VI 9.15 (BB) Patsie Dunne RIP (BC) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 17th	Ss founders of the Servites 9.30 (HAD) M Caulfield	
Tues 18th	feria 9.30 (HAD) John Turley	
Weds 19th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Dead List	
Thurs 20th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Holy Souls	
Fri 21st	feria / St Peter Damian 9.30 (BB) Lynn Wiedemann's welfare (D&JW)	
Sat 22nd	CHAIR OF ST PETER 9.30 (HAD) Dead list	
Sun 23rd	Sunday VII 9.15 (BB) Holy Souls 11am (HAD) for the parish	

<p>SIXTH SUNDAY (C)</p> <p>Psalter Week 2</p> <p>Introduction to the Readings : Nothing in this world can rob us of our peace of mind and interior joy, because our trust is not in man, but in the crucified and risen Christ.</p> <p>First Reading: Jer 17 : A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm: HAPPY THE MAN WHO HAS PLACED HIS TRUST IN THE LORD</p> <p>Second Reading: 1 Cor 15 : If Christ has not been raised, your believing is useless.</p> <p>Gospel : Lk 6 : How blessed are you who are poor. Alas for you who are rich.</p> <p>Comm ant: GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, SO THAT ALL WHO BELIEVE IN HIM MAY NOT PERISH, BUT MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.</p>
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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 clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time;

Revv Leo McReavy, Colin Taylor, Chris O'Brien, Roger Maher; Sandra Murphy, Eileen Blomeley, James Flanagan, Florence Thompson: May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them :
Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY is the Sixth in ordinary time. Blessings and Curses. This is the first of three Sundays when we hear the Sermon on the Plain, St Luke's version of the Beatitudes. Jeremiah proclaims God's blessings for all who trust in him. Paul argues that the resurrection is at the centre of our faith.

ALSO TODAY is honoured as Racial Justice Sunday. The theme this year: 'Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice'. Bishop Paul McAleenan, Lead Bishop for Racial Justice, said: "2025 is a very special year. It marks both a Year of Jubilee and the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. Just as pilgrims must prepare for their journey and be properly equipped, we, too, need all that is necessary to propel us towards racial justice - the mind of Christ; examination of our progress and of the challenges that remain; a willingness to learn from one another together; and prayers for and on the journey."

NOT ONLY BUT ALSO TODAY The **Jubilee of Marriages** is honoured. It is the Sunday closest to Saint Valentine's Day, traditionally associated with love. In our diocese we celebrate all those who are married, praying for their welfare. We pray also for those preparing for the holy Sacrament of Matrimony.

THE GOSPEL St Matthew's Sermon on the Mount and Luke's Sermon on the Plain are both collections of sayings of Jesus about the basic conditions of Christian living. Each begins with a set of 'Beatitudes', announcing who is specially blessed by the Lord. One frisky modern translation renders them, 'Congratulations to you who are...!' Matthew's set of eight Beatitudes focuses more on spiritual qualities, poor in spirit, hunger and thirst for justice, whereas Luke's four are more directly on the circumstances of life. The stress is therefore on the reversal of values brought by Jesus. Jesus turns the world upside-down. His gospel or 'good news' comes to the poor, the neglected, the oppressed. True blessedness does not consist in wealth, fame or festivities. It is those who struggle now who will receive a lasting reward. Are the four negatives which follow too hard on the rich, the contented, the frivolous, the famous? Through this gospel runs a thread of warning about the dangers of contentment, and we seldom pay attention to warnings unless they are overstated! The worry of those who have plenty, about how they should use their advantages responsibly for others, must be as least as great as those who worry to survive.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK The **Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order** In the early 13th century seven young Florentines formed a confraternity of laymen devoted to the praise of Mary. In 1233, after a vision on the feast of the Assumption, they took up the life of hermits on Monte Senario outside Florence. They went preaching through the whole of Tuscany and founded the order of the Servants of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Servites, whose foundation was approved by the Pope in 1304. Their feast is celebrated today because one of the seven founders, Saint Alexius Falconieri, died on 17 February 1310. **St Peter Damian (1007 - 1072)** was born in Ravenna and studied theology and canon law, becoming a renowned teacher in both Parma and Ravenna. In his late twenties he abandoned all this and joined the hermitage of Fonte Avellana, near Gubbio, where he became prior in 1043: a position he held until his death. He strongly promoted the religious life in many parts of Italy. The

Church at that time was in a terrible state and he supported the Popes in their efforts at reform, both by his writings and as a papal envoy. Pope Stephen IX named him a cardinal and Bishop of Ostia. He died on 21 February 1072 and was immediately acclaimed as a saint.

TOTE WINNERS St Charles 1st,(£40) : B Hodson; 2nd, (£20) L Hockey.

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.

EUCHARISTIC RETREAT: This will be taking place at the Annunciation church in New Mills (St Mary's Road, SK22 3BW) on Saturday 8th March from 9.30am. The day will consist of two sessions, one exploring the Eucharistic miracles that have taken place over the years and the second reflecting on the meaning of the Eucharist, particularly the Mass. There will also be a Mass, followed by a period of Adoration, during which there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day will finish at 3.30pm so please bring a packed lunch. Attendance at this day would also satisfy the requirements for Eucharistic Ministers to attend an annual renewal day although all are welcome to come along and learn more about our faith.

RED BOX RETURNS Thanks to Maureen B for her assiduous work in promoting Missio through the Red Boxes. In 2024 our parishes sent in £767 – a commendable total. Thanks Red-Box holders; and thanks Maureen!

LOYAL FRIEND Many parishioners at St Charles will remember Fr Sullivan's faithful housekeeper of more than half-a-decade. I often visit Teresa Philips in the bungalow in High Lane, most recently last week. At 93, she knows the frailties of the years. She took a tumble last weekend and is back in Stepping Hill hospital again, poor thing. I hope she is comfortable. O God come to her assistance.

SCHOOLS OUT! A welcome break for staff and pupils at our schools as half-term begins this week. Hope the weather warms up for you and all of us! Particular thanks to those school children & families who supported last Sunday's Affirmation / Family Mass at St Charles. And the Jubilee postering is magnificent!

PILGRIM PEOPLE Bishop Patrick invites parishioners to join the **Nottingham Diocesan Jubilee Lourdes Pilgrimage** taking place between **Monday 14th and Friday 18th July**. The Pilgrimage includes a full liturgical programme, with Mass each day; return direct flights from East Midlands Airport to Lourdes; full board for four nights in a three- or four- star hotel; assistance (for those who need it) from the Diocesan Hospitalité and Health Team. Prices start from £899, and more details are at: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/events/lourdes.

SING THE MASS, a day for parish choirs, cantors and anyone who believes that the one who sings prays twice, will cover: Psalms from the new lectionary; Chants in the missal; and Entrance and communion antiphons. The Day will be held at Saint Wilfrid of York, Coalville, LE67 3JB, on **Saturday 15th March**, from 10.30am for 11.00am start. Bring a packed lunch, hot drinks are provided. The Day concludes with Sunday Mass at 4.00pm, singing what we have learnt. The facilitators are: Lynda Durcan and Father Colin Patey, and the cost is £5, payable on the day. For enquiries and to book: singthecatholicmass@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY'S DAY-LONG PRESENTATION to diocesan clergy on Safeguarding was exhaustive and exhausting! A chance to reflect on and give thanks for the great and quiet work our parish safeguarding representative does. And incidental thanks to Deacon Owen for taxiing me the 148 misty miles to & from Newark for that event.

HEARTY THANKS to those five parishioners who journeyed to & from Matlock for Thursday's Deanery Roadshow The Bishop, Canon Paul Chipchase and chief operating officer David Lawes all made presentations reflecting on challenging times for parishes and the diocese. The discussion & questions were 'probing' - and occasionally revealing!

UNWELCOME NEWS Last weekend the parishioners of St Mary's church in neighbouring Marple Bridge heard a statement from the Bishop indicating that their church and parish is to close from Eastertide. This was not the easiest weekend for them and particularly for parish priest Fr Emmanuel. We wish him and his parishioners well - and open our hearts and doors to welcome any who come to worship in our churches & parishes.

