



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Sunday VIII (c)
2nd March 2025**



A PRAYER FOR UNEMPLOYMENT SUNDAY

*O God, the source of human dignity,
in your image every person
is fashioned,
and by your Son
all people are redeemed.
Help us honour
the work of your hands,
that we may reverence you in those
whom the world considers least
and serve you
in all whom society neglects.*

By their fruits you will know them

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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 2nd	SUNDAY VIII 9.15 (BB) private intention 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 3rd	feria 9.30 (HAD) Jean Ashton's welfare (fam)	
Tues 4th	feria / St Casimir 9.30 (HAD) Edmund Ashton RIP (fam)	
Weds 5th	ASH WEDNESDAY 9.30 (HAD) Tom Fox welfare (AM & fam) <i>f/b Weds Gp mtg</i> <i>(2.30 St Margaret's school, service with imposition of ashes)</i> 7pm (BB) Carol Byrne RIP (JA)	
Thurs 6th	Lent feria <i>no parish Mass today</i>	
Fri 7th	Lent feria / Ss Perpetua & Felicity <i>1st Friday visits today DV</i> 9.30 (BB) for the parish <i>(3pm HAD, Stations of the Cross)</i>	
Sat 8th	Lent feria / St John of God 9.30 (HAD) Pope Francis' welfare (CF)	
Sun 9th	LENT I 9.15 (BB) Derek Orr RIP (fam) 11am (HAD) Peter James welfare (fam)	

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalter Week 4

Introduction to the Readings : Let us praise and thank the risen Christ with sincerity and truth.

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7: Do not praise a man before he has spoken.

Responsorial Psalm: **IT IS GOOD TO GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.**

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15: 54-58: He has given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel : Luke 6:39-45: A man's words flow out of what fills his heart.

shows his compassion for us in Christ, who forgives his enemies and dies for them.

Comm ant: **BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE END OF THE AGE,
SAYS THE LORD.**

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 Adrian Chatterton, Joe Maguire, Victor Key, Eamonn O'Hara; *Freda Winterbottom, Jean Ambrey, Carol-Anne Hall, Pauline Brown, Frank Bates: May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY is the eighth Sunday (and the last ordinary Sunday till 9th June). At Mass today we hear three parables. If we don't live our faith, we are too blind to lead others. More tragic are those who don't perceive their own blindness. A Christian bears fruit that shows how well or badly we live in the Kingdom. Paul tells us that our heavenly bodies will share the immortality of Christ.

ALSO TODAY The last Sunday before Lent is often observed as a Day of Prayer in the Catholic Church for the Unemployed. This day is sometimes called Poverty Action Sunday. The Catholic Church has spoken out on unemployment through the words of popes and bishops. Pope Francis has said that unemployment is a problem that affects people's lives, and that society must work together to help people find solutions. He has also said that a generation without work is a defeat for society and humanity.

THE WEDNESDAY GROUP meets in the oratory after Ash Wednesday's Mass.

NEXT FRIDAY used to be called the 'Women's World Day of Prayer'. Not sure if it is still so-acclaimed. However we are invited to pray for women's welfare everywhere. I hope to make my customary visits to the housebound that day.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS at St Charles on Friday afternoons at 3pm; at BB at 10am on Tuesdays (starting 11th March.)

THE GOSPEL Matthew gathered together the teachings of Jesus on the basic requirements of Christian morality into the Sermon on the Mount; that formed a sort of manifesto for the Kingdom of Heaven, starting with the eight Beatitudes. Luke gathers many of the same teachings into his 'Sermon on the Plain', starting with four Beatitudes. This has provided the gospel readings for the last three Sundays. Matthew, writing for Christians of Jewish origin, stressed Jesus' teaching on the Law, and how Jesus made it more interior and often more demanding. Luke, always aware of the needs of the poor, stresses more our social obligations. As he draws to a conclusion he gives us two of Jesus' warnings, expressed in the vivid language and with the fierce exaggeration and wit which is so characteristic of Jesus' teachings. The first, the splinter and the log, warns us to use the same standards in judging ourselves as we use in judging others. The second, the sound and rotten fruit, is perhaps a double warning. You can judge people only by their actions. More profoundly, it is also a challenge: don't flatter yourself on your achievements until you are good through and through, until the store of goodness in your heart is really overflowing.

TOTE WINNERS St Charles 1st, (£40) : S Tetlow; 2nd, (£20) J Holland.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC RETREAT: This will be taking place at the Annunciation church in New Mills (St Mary's Road, SK22 3BW) next 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.

PUBLICATIONS 'Magnificats' are found at the back of church. If they fail to be taken, I plan to reduce the parish order to ten copies monthly. Additionally, copies of the Bishops' Conference biblical reflections booklet "**We Dare to Hope**" are there for you to take home and use during Lent.

THE BISHOP'S LENTEN JUBILEE MASS for the Peak deanery is celebrated on Tuesday 11th March at 7pm at St Joseph's church in Matlock. All are invited to attend. If anyone travelling has a spare seat, please let me know!

CALLING CATHOLIC TEACHERS If you are a Catholic teacher currently working outside of Catholic education and would like to find out more about the joys of working in a Catholic school within the Diocese of Nottingham, a virtual information session will take place on Wednesday 26 March from 7.00pm – 8.00pm. For further information, please contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service (gill.burns@nottingham-des.org.uk).

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2025 : "Let us journey together in hope" 'Dear brothers and sisters, We begin our annual pilgrimage of Lent in faith and hope with the penitential rite of the imposition of ashes. The Church, our mother and teacher, invites us to open our hearts to God's grace, so that we can celebrate with great joy the paschal victory of Christ the Lord over sin and death, which led Saint Paul to exclaim: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" Indeed, Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is the heart of our faith and the pledge of our hope in the Father's great promise, already fulfilled in his beloved Son: life eternal.'

LENT begins on Wednesday, called Ash Wednesday, when ash from last year's palms are formed in the sign of the cross on our foreheads. It is one of the last two remaining 'days of fasting and abstinence' - the other day being Good Friday. Fasting is the reduction of one's intake of food, while abstinence refers to refraining from something that is good, and not inherently sinful, such as meat. This obligation ceases for those over 60s. It begins the period of 'Easter Duties' which extends to Trinity Sunday (15th June). During this time observant Catholics go to Confession receive Holy Communion.

SHROVETIDE is a mini-season of two days, Monday and Shrove Tuesday, leading up to Ash Wednesday. In days of old, cupboards and larders were cleared of tasty and sweet things forbidden during Lent. These succulent items were amalgamated into a pan, and cooked with an eggy mixture—forming pancakes.

LENT LISTS have been appreciated in other days. Copies of these lists are found at the back of church. A **NEW DICTIONARY** I came across a number of unfamiliar 'new' words recently. My trusty Oxford English Dictionary wasn't much help with 'Influencer', 'Futurist', 'Mindfulness' and 'Wellness'. During Lent I hope to confirm my truest Influencer, and the one who assures my eternal Future is Our Lord. And during my morning meditations I'll keep him constantly in Mind, and "all shall be Well, and all manner of things shall be Well. "

TO KEEP A TRUE LENT.

Is this a fast, to keep
The larder lean ?
And clean
From fat of veals and
sheep ?

Is it to quit the dish
Of flesh, yet still
To fill
The platter high with fish ?

Is it to fast an
hour,
Or ragg'd to go,
Or show
A downcast look and sour ?



No ; 'tis a fast to dole
Thy sheaf of wheat,
And meat,
Unto the hungry soul.

It is to fast from strife,
From old debate
And hate ;
To circumcise thy life.

To show a heart grief-rent ;
To starve thy sin,
Not bin ;
And that's to keep thy Lent.

Robert Herrick 1648