



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

*Eastertide Sunday V (a)
3rd May 2026*



Way

Truth

LIFE

Lord, teach me to serve You
as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and not to ask for reward,
save that of knowing that
I am doing Your will".

St Ignatius Loyola

No one can come to the Father except through me

Canon Don Bowdren

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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 3rd	EASTERTIDE SUNDAY V 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) private int <i>MAY PROCESSION DURING MASS</i>	
Mon 4th	The English Martyrs BANK HOLIDAY 9.30 (HAD) David Barnes RIP (in thanksgiving) (fam)	
Tues 5th	Easter feria 9.30 (HAD) Sister Collette PBVM RIP (VG) 12.30 (BB) funeral; service for Phyllis Atherton RIP	
Weds 6th	Easter feria 9.30 (HAD) J Couban RIP (100th b'day) (J&DW)	
Thurs 7th	Easter feria 9.30 (HAD) Philomena Atherton RIP (K&DH)	
Fri 8th	Easter feria 9.30 (BB) C&M Holtom RIP (fam)	
Sat 9th	Easter feria 9.30 (HAD) A&P Ryan RIP (D&KH)	
Sun 10th	EASTERTIDE SUNDAY VI 9.15 (BB) M Mallabar welfare (S&JH) 11am (HAD) for the parish	

FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER (A)

Psalter Week 1

Introduction: Jesus the Way, the Truth and the Life invites us, a chosen race, to follow him.

First Reading : Acts 6 : The call of the first deacon

Resp.Ps. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Second Reading : 1 Pet 2: Like Christ the corner stone, we are stones in God`s house.

Gospel : Jn 14 : Jesus is the Way to the Father, His Truth and His Life.

Comm. Ant I AM THE TRUE VINE AND YOU ARE THE BRANCHES, SAYS THE LORD.
WHOEVER REMAINS IN ME, AND I IN HIM, BEARS FRUIT IN PLENTY, ALLELUIA.

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, Arthur King, Maura Farrell, Rita Dwyer, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Jean Ashton, Keith Winston.

And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time : Rev James McGhie; Beryl Rawlinson, Angela Grimes, Keith Rule, Violet Harvey, Michael; Thackeray, Brian Ellison, Colin Pitchford, Eileen Metcalfe: *May eternal light shine on them :*
Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND we celebrate the fifth Sunday in Eastertide. How time flies! Jesus makes a play on "the way." Thomas thinks these words mean a roadway or a pathway. But Jesus means something else. He says, Thomas, you already know *The Way* quite well. It is me. I am the Way and the Truth and the Light. I am the Pathway to the Father. If you know me then you know the Father.

The early followers of Jesus actually called their Jesus movement, "the Way," instead of "Christianity." All puns aside, what does "the Way" mean? It is the way to real life. Jesus is saying that the Father has been shown forth completely, in himself, the Christ. Jesus called him "abba," but he is the God all ages have sought for, the One who is all good and all loving and all powerful. God. Do you want to know God? Look at Jesus. Follow his way. Philip does want to know "the Father," but he completely misses Jesus' play on the words, "the Way." He replies, "Master, just show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." We can't understand your explanations, just give us the goods.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL Jesus begins to prepare his followers for his own departure from the world. There are two aspects of this. Firstly Jesus speaks of the final purpose, union with the Father, and his preparation of a place for us there. 'There is plenty of room', he says, suggesting not that there are plenty of separate cubicles for different sets of people (bishops, babies, monks and maniacs), but that there is no lack of space. No problem of 'only one wins the prize' in this case. The second aspect is preparation for the future Church on earth, and the almost shocking promise that in the absence of Jesus – but in the strength of his Spirit – his people will do 'even greater works'. Paul teaches that believers 'make up what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ', for in every age the Church fills up the measure of Christ's sufferings; it is a Church which shares its Master's trials. In the same way in every age the Church must carry on the works of Christ. In John the 'works' of Jesus are the marvellous deeds, beyond human powers, which show who Jesus is. We too are called on to perform marvellous deeds, beyond human powers, works of grace and generosity.

THIS WEEK :

***MONDAY'S FEASTDAY** On 4 May 1535, at Tyburn in London, there died three Carthusian monks, the first of many martyrs of the English Reformation. Of these martyrs, forty-two have been canonized, and a further 242 have been declared Blessed; but the true number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in prison, or were tortured or persecuted for their faith cannot now be reckoned. The persecution lasted a hundred and fifty years and left a permanent mark on English culture: to this day Catholics continue to suffer certain minor disabilities under English law. The martyrs celebrated on 4th May came from every walk of life. There were rich and poor; married and single; men and women. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith and courage in the face of

persecution. From 2001, there are also celebrated on this day the forty martyrs of England and Wales who were canonized on 25 October 1970 and formerly celebrated on that day. They include Saints Cuthbert Mayne, John Houghton, Edmund Campion, and Richard Gwynn, as well as Saints John Roberts and Ambrose Barlow from the Benedictine monastery of St Gregory at Douay (now at Downside Abbey in Somerset).

***TUESDAY** : we pray for survivors of abuse in our church.

***FRIDAY** is the first anniversary of the election of Pope Leo XIV. Thanks be to God!

PUBLICATIONS Some copies of 'My Day by Day' are still available from the back of church. Additionally, you can find the latest edition of 'The Catholic Post' & 'Catholic News'.

CONSTANTLY SEEK HIS FACE On Friday evenings between 5 and 6pm, Immaculate Conception church is open for passers-by to pop in for a moment or two of tranquillity & prayer. Additionally at St Charles after Saturday morning Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for quite adoration for one hour, 10.30-11.30am.

MAY DEVOTIONS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Weekly Rosary Sessions will be available every Tuesday evening at 7pm during May. These are online Zoom sessions so you don't have to travel. If you wish to join in just contact Rob Cranston either in person, on the phone (07825953868) or email him on cranston1948@aol.com and he will send you an invitation.

MAY PROCESSIONS This Sunday we hold the May procession at St Charles. On Sunday 24th May we hope to enjoy good weather for a May Procession at Immaculate Conception.

FROM THE RECENT 'AD CLERUM' : **BISHOP PATRICK** writes:

WELCOME! I am very pleased to welcome to our Diocese the following two priests, on loan from the Diocese of Kumba, Cameroon, who arrived on 26th April: Father Julius Kukuru & Father Edmond Sone Ebong Ngalame. Fathers Julius and Edmond will be spending a time of acclimatisation with Father Limnyuy Gamsi, in the parish of Saint Mary and Saint Augustine Webster, North Lincolnshire, before I appoint them to parish duties.

'We also keep in our prayers Sister Colette Isles PBVM, who died on Tuesday 7th April at the Presentation Convent Care Centre in Matlock. Sister had given 55 years of commitment to the Lord in the Presentation Congregation. Sister Colette spent many years ministering in Tameside as chaplain to Tameside Hospital and Willow Wood Hospice, before moving to the Convent in Matlock. After being in hospital in Derby for a few days she returned home to Matlock for end of life care. Here she was lovingly cared for, and the Sisters were with her when she died. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.' Her committal is on Tuesday at 1.15 in Dukinfield cemetery.

PENTECOST SUNDAY 24TH MAY is the occasion when Bishop Patrick confers the Sacrament of Confirmation for the whole diocese. This takes place at 3pm in the Cathedral in Nottingham. If you are not Confirmed, why not go and receive this Sacrament of the Holy Spirit.

THE DIOCESAN WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE is taking place on Saturday 20th June led by Bishop Patrick. Arrivals are from 11.30am, with Mass at the Catholic Shrine at 3.45pm. For more details see the poster.

RED BOXES Maureen B writes : ' Please bring in your Red boxes for emptying during the next couple of weeks.'

RECENT TOTE WINNERS **St Charles:** 1st (£40) H Jackson; 2nd (£20) D Want.

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.

SAFEGUARDING If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact Karen our joint-parishes PSR. Email: Karen.ProctorPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk; / phone 07513 725411.

WISHING YOU a pleasant Bank Holiday on Monday!