CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Eastertide Sunday VI (a)
10th May 2026

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell;
lead all souls to heaven
especially those who are in
most need of
Your mercy.

Amen.

(the Fatima prayer)

I will send you another helper

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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 10th	**EASTERTIDE SUNDAY VI**	
	9.15 (BB) M Mallabar welfare (S&JH)	
	11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 11th	**Easter feria**	
	No parish Mass today : *Mass elsewhere for M Gee (b'day int)*	
Tues 12th	**Easter feria**	
	9.30 (HAD) P&M Morrison (K&DH)	
Weds 13th	**Easter feria / Our Lady of Fatima**	
	9.30 (HAD) Josie Midwood RIP (CW)	
	7pm (BB) vigil of Ascension (for the parish)	
Thurs 14th	**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**	
	9.30 (HAD) Bryan Gee RIP (fam)	
Fri 15th	**Easter feria**	
	9.30 (BB) Sister Lucy RIP (CW)	
Sat 16th	**Easter feria**	
	9.30 (HAD) t'giving for sacrament of Matrimony (CW)	
Sun 17th	**EASTERTIDE SUNDAY VII**	
	9.15 (BB) for the parish	
	11am (HAD) for infirm parishioners & their carers (CW)	

EASTER VI (A)

Psalter Week 2

Introduction: If we learn to live in the Spirit, we shall be true followers of Christ.

First Reading : Acts 8 : Baptism is completed by the laying on of hands and the gift of the Spirit.

Resp.Ps. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Second Reading : 1 Pet 3 : Like Peter, we prepare to suffer for our faith is need be.

Gospel : Jn 14 : Jesus promises the Spirit to his disciples.

Comm. Ant. IF YOU LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, SAYS THE LORD, AND I WILL ASK THE FATHER AND HE WILL SEND YOU ANOTHER PARACLETE, TO ABIDE WITH YOU FOR EVER, 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 Joe Wakefield, Pip Morris, Tom Godley, Gus White, Jim Cantwell*; Josie Midwood, Madge Garlick, Paul Walsh, Sheila Keegan, Frank Ellison*: May eternal light shine on them : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND *we honour 'Safeguarding Sunday'. Our Bishop has asked to make public his message for this important day:*
A Letter from Bishop Patrick for Parishes and Chaplaincies *:* ***Safeguarding Sunday 2026***
This February we held in Nottingham our annual Diocesan Safeguarding networking event. This is always an important opportunity for Parish Safeguarding Representatives to gather together, to discuss good practice, and to receive some input from the Diocesan Director of Safeguarding and some words of gratitude and encouragement from myself. They do a great job! It also provides some very useful feedback on how we can continue to improve our Safeguarding service and the support that is given to parishes and chaplaincies. Good two-way communication is always important in helping us to embed quality Safeguarding practice so that all our parishes and chaplaincies are safe and welcoming places. Our diocesan website has details of all our Safeguarding information and the excellent support that continues to be offered.
On Tuesday last, we celebrated across the diocese the 'Day of special prayer for victims and survivors of sexual abuse'. In my homily during the Cathedral Mass, I spoke of how, from meeting with and listening to victims and survivors of child sexual abuse, I have come to understand that sexual abuse not only heinously violates a child at the time of their abuse but it all too often cruelly robs a child of their future. Victims and survivors of sexual abuse continue to carry throughout their lives the traumatic and life-long consequences of the grave crime of sexual abuse, and I am more aware of how it also affects their families and parish communities. Please know that my door and that of our Safeguarding team is always open to anyone affected by abuse.
Please join me in continuing to do everything we each can to learn the lessons from the past and to protect and keep safe the most vulnerable in all our communities. As I continue to say, this is surely part and parcel of the DNA of every Christian, an essential characteristic of our identity as Christ's followers, that we respect, protect and treat each other with care. It therefore needs all of us to be engaged in this way of thinking and acting if we are to continue to embed a culture of Safeguarding throughout our diocese.
The theme of this year's diocesan Safeguarding Sunday is ***action speaks louder****. Everyone is being encouraged to commit to completing a specific action that will help create a safer place. For example, they may decide to commit to praying once a week for our diocesan Safeguarding team and for their parish Safeguarding Representative, or to complete their Safeguarding training or to become better informed. If you wish to make such a commitment, you can message our safeguarding representative. See the end of the newsletter for connection-details,*
This is so important because, whatever you decide to do, Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Thank you for all that you each already do and for what you will pledge to do. With my prayers and gratitude, Bishop Patrick.
THE HEART OF TODAY'S SUNDAY MESSAGE "*We live in an age when nostalgia sells. We have radio stations devoted to "oldies," that is, the music of some former era. Such a human thing it is to remember the spirit of the past and to understand better what we have done and have been. Can all of it media hype, designed to "sell product"? We are tempted to say, yes, hype, hype and nothing but*

hype. Yet much of what our nostalgia dredges up was actually good in its day, and remains so. Throughout Easter the Church is recalling the adventures of the Church in the weeks after Jesus died and then rose again. We sit around the campfire of our memories, telling stories about how it was then. Philip. Remember Philip who told Jesus, "just show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Of course he was seeing Jesus and therefore was looking at the Father, but he did not know it. And do you remember what Jesus said just before his passion and death? That he would send the Spirit of Truth into our hearts. And that we would not be left orphans. It was hard to understand then and it is still pretty difficult. Let us go over it one more time. Jesus seemed to say, first, that God the Abba was so much within Jesus that every time you see him it is the same thing as seeing God. Second, Jesus said, I am going to be so much within you — yes, you normal people — that whenever people see you it will be the same thing as seeing me! And of course, the Father is in me, so they see the Father too! "I almost have it," Philip gulped. So Jesus said it again. You will not see me anymore. But that doesn't make me absent from you. I and Abba will be within you so that your very spirit will hold the Spirit of me and of the Father. All you need to do is to say "yes." Then Philip saw it. In the upper room he touched the truth. Very soon he was running from place to place doing miracles and preaching about the Messiah! With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. 'There was great joy in that city. 'We ourselves touch the truth and receive it also. Maybe it is not so dramatic as Philip's experience, but we have it every Sunday and any other day we choose to participate in Mass. We touch and receive Jesus on the tongue.
Simple? No. Well, maybe it is simple. This Sunday we remember again not hype but these deepest, dearest mysteries of our lives."
***THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL** Only in John is the Spirit whom the Father will send called 'the Advocate' or 'the Paraclete'. Both names have the same derivation and the same meaning, but the former is from the Latin words, the latter from the Greek. It means someone 'called to one's side' as a helper, principally as a defender in a lawsuit. The word 'Paraclete' also suggests comfort and strength, as implied in the quality paraclesis or perseverance. In the discourse after the Last Supper, when Jesus is preparing his disciples for their future task, there are four separate sayings about the Paraclete. The Paraclete is sent both by Jesus and by the Father, but always from the Father's side. The Paraclete, the Spirit of truth, will teach the disciples everything and lead them into all truth, witnessing to the Father. The Paraclete is 'another Paraclete', that is, other than Jesus, who will make Jesus present when Jesus is no longer physically with them. The close link and interplay between these three figures gives us not only the beginnings of the theology of the Trinity, but also a lasting confidence that Jesus is never absent from his Church. With the guidance and patronage of the Paraclete the Church enters more and more deeply into the understanding of the divine mystery.*
***CONSTANTLY SEEK HIS FACE** On Friday evenings between 5 and 6pm, Immaculate*
***ASCENSION DAY** is celebrated next Thursday. It is a Holyday of Obligation. Mass at BB is on Wednesday evening (vigil) at 7 pm.*
***MAY DEVOTIONS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** Weekly Rosary Sessions are 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** On Sunday 24th May we hope to enjoy good weather for a May Procession at Immaculate Conception.*
***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) C Wardle; 2nd (£20) K Litchfield.*
***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.*