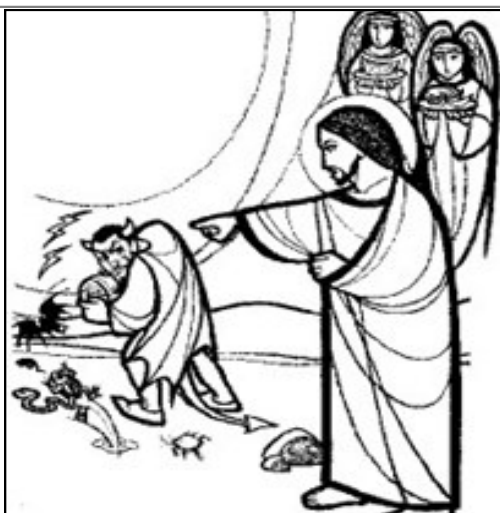




PARISH NEWSLETTER

Lent 1 (b)
18th Feb 2024



*We adore thee O Christ
And we praise thee:*

*Because by thy holy Cross
thou hast redeemed the world.*

He remained in the wilderness for forty days

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DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 18th	FIRST LENT 9.15 (BB) Jill Ollerenshaw RIP (S&JH) 11am (HAD) R Cadman RIP (MW & fam)	
Mon 19th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) Requiem Mass - J Dickson RIP (MB)	
Tues 20th	Lent feria 9.15 (HAD) L Farrell RIP (MB) <i>1pm (HAD) funeral service : Lawrence Farrell RIP</i> <i>2.45 (BB) : Time to Pray</i>	
Wed 21st	Lent feria / St Peter Damian 9.30 (HAD) Stephen Perry RIP (fam)	<i>7pm BB Council mtg</i>
Thurs 22nd	CHAIR OF ST PETER 9.30 (HAD) Christine & Stephen Perry RIP (fam)	
Fri 23rd	Lent feria 9.30 (BB) Malcolm Graham RIP (AC)	<i>2.30 (HAD) Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 24th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) L Farrell RIP (D&KH)	
Sun 25th	SECOND LENT 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) C Brazier RIP (fam)	
<p style="text-align: center;">FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (B)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalter Week 1</p> <p>Introduction: God`s love for us is similar to that of the bridegroom for his bride; our response has to be similar.</p> <p>First Reading : Gen 9 : God establishes the first covenant.</p> <p>Resp.Ps. LORD MAKE ME KNOW YOUR WAYS</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Pet 3 : The innocent Christ died for our sins.</p> <p>Gospel : Mk 1 : Our Lord is tempted by Satan, but the angels care for him.</p>		

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, Joan Killeen, Una Wilkinson, Christine Wild, David Healey, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Beatrice & John Eaton, Keith Winston.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time; Revv Leo McReavy, Colin Taylor, Chris O'Brien, Roger Maher, Edward Walker; ***Norman Mellor, Lisa-Marie Dineley, Sandra Murphy, Eileen Blomeley, James Flanagan:***
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them: may they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY The scene of the temptation, which opens the public life of Jesus, declares in the Gospels in a very forceful manner the great change in our lives that He introduces into the world by His work of redemption. Where Adam fell, Christ, the new Head of humanity, triumphs over the power of Satan: at the time of His passion "the prince of this world" will be cast out. The Gospel of the temptation heralds Christ's victory. The very thought of our divine Lord's suffering hunger, loneliness, and humiliation at the hands of his enemy—and that all this was for us—should make us feel ashamed at the little bits of suffering and humiliation we are willing to suffer for our own selves. He had no sin to atone for. He was making atonement for us and for our sins.

THE GOSPEL Each year the gospel reading for the first Sunday of Lent is about Jesus' testing in the desert. Mark's emphasis is distinctly different from that of Matthew and Luke. No details of the testing, but rather Jesus' sojourn in the desert is rather almost a return to the peace of the Garden of Eden. The desert of Judaea, between Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, is a noble and dignified solitude of smooth, sandstone hills. Nothing grows, of course, but wild camels and the occasional leopard prowl around. There Jesus was 'with the wild animals' as, led by the Spirit, he made his preparation for his mission. In what way was he tested? We may presume that in solitude and prayer he was working out the implications of the Voice from Heaven at his Baptism. How was he to run his course as the beloved Servant of the Lord? Precisely how was he to bring the presence Kingship of God into people's lives? The 'forty' is often used in biblical accounts for a period of preparation, as Israel's forty years in the desert, or the apostles' forty days of preparation between Easter and Ascension. We may use our forty days to reflect how we may bring God's presence to bear in and through our lives.

SAINTS ALIVE 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. ***St Polycarp (- 155)*** was a disciple of the Apostles, bishop of Smyrna, and a friend of St Ignatius of Antioch. He went to Rome to confer with Pope Anicetus about the celebration of Easter. He was martyred at Smyrna in about 155 by being burnt to death in the stadium. Polycarp is an important figure in the history of the Church because he is one of the earliest Christians whose writings still survive. He bears witness to the beliefs of the early Christians and the early stages of the development of doctrine.

TIME TO PRAY Next Tues, 20th Feb, the church will be open for a time of time of public & private

prayer. This will be guided by a friendly parishioner and will be for no more than an hour from 2:45 in the afternoon. All are welcome.

MISSIONARY SISTERS VISIT next Sunday at both churches some missionary sisters are planning to come and appeal for their communities. I'm sure you will respond with customary generosity.

ABORTION LIMITATION PETITION you can find cards at the back of the church that have been sent for you to message your MP to seek support for the amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill lowering division time limit to 22 weeks. I hope you will have chance to find these cards, filling the details and posting them to your MP.

INTER-PARISH GATHERING It was good during the week to welcome members of the Glossop churches to a meeting with some St Charles parish leaders. Together they surveyed the journey towards parish coalescence, cooperation and communication in the future.

On Tuesday 5 March from 6.30 to 8pm in the oratory, all parishioners are welcome to come along and hear more about these initial discussions.

RETREATS we have had information from the diocese about three retreats offered within the diocese during Lent. **The Young Persons' retreat** is planned for Holy Cross Priory Leicester, 10-4pm on 2nd March. You people aged between 18 and 35 will be welcome. **The Women's Retreat** is taking place in Newark Holy Trinity hall on Sat 9th March, 10am-3pm : £12. **The Mens' Retreat** is dated Sat 23rd March at Mt St Bernard's Abbey , 10-4pm.

ALMSGIVING Immaculate Conception parishioners are invited during Lent, to support the needy by bringing goods to a container at the back of church. Such goods might include tinned and dried food products, basic toiletries, sanitary goods, cleaning materials etc. These goods will be made available to G52, which supports the Gamesley food bank project

CAFOD FAMILY LENTEN FAST DAY comes upon us on Friday. I have left some envelopes at the back of church and in the rectory porch for you to pick, take home, fill with your contribution, and return from next weekend.

THIS LENT, CAFOD are calling all Catholics to walk 200km in 40 days to help fight Global Poverty. Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. CAFOD and SCIAF (Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund) are teaming up to bring the Big Lent Walk to Great Britain! Read more about them and their decision to join forces. Thousands of walkers from England, Wales, Scotland and beyond, will be tying up their purple laces and walking an incredible 200km this Lent to fight global poverty. Sign up today and do the Big Lent Walk yourself, or join in with your school or parish. Then put your best foot forward with the biggest group of Big Lent Walkers yet. When you sign up, CAFOD will send you a welcome pack with a wallchart and a pair of 'Big Lent Walk' laces. If you hit the target of £200 on your fundraising page, then CAFOD will send you a 'Big Lent Walk' Tote Bag! The Big Lent Walk makes it simple to put your faith into action this Lenten season by connecting with your local and global community in a meaningful way. Whether you take part as an individual, school or parish community group, the money you raise will enable people around the world to fight poverty. If you're not quite up to 200km, you can sponsor parishioner Carole Wardle, who is accepting this challenge. Go to walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/carole-wardle-the-big-lent-walk-for-cafod. Or simply give her a donation when you see her.

NEXT FRIDAY we are invited to pray especially for the needy & hungry of the world.

A MESSAGE FROM SUE HOOLAHAN : DID YOU KNOW? Both St Charles & Immaculate Conception have website, a Facebook page and a WhatsApp group! Amongst lots of other useful information, you can find weekly newsletters on the website at longdendale-catholics.co.uk. For Facebook type St Charles Borromeo RC church into the search bar, and for the WhatsApp group at St Charles, please contact either Sue Hoolahan on 07596 728633, or Christine James on 07828 703200 to join the St Charles' group; or Angie Cass on 07977202639 with your phone number so that you can be added to the group of choice.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are diaried for Friday at 2.30 at St Charles. 'Stations' are a devotion of the church. They are not a 'liturgical' function' (led by the clergy). They may be led by any attentive Catholic at a convenient time. Please let me know if you wish to lead 'the Stations'

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles : £40: S Williamson; £20 : Fr Don.

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

ON ASH WEDNESDAY, the Bishop Decreed the erection (through the extinctive union of the former parishes, listed) of the new **Parish of Saint Charles Borromeo, National Forest**, taking the entire territory, and patrimony, and care of souls of the former parishes of Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint John Borromeo, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; and Our Lady of Mercy and Saint Philip Neri, Melbourne, with Risen Lord, Castle Donington. He appointed Fr Andrew Harding Parish Priest of this new parish, in succession to his previous appointments.