



**CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE**

## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**Lent II (b)  
25th Feb 2024**



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*

*And he was transfigured before them*

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**St Charles Primary** Hadfield SK13 7PQ  
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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 25th	<b>SECOND LENT</b> 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) C Brazier RIP (fam)	
Mon 26th	<b>Lent feria</b> 9.30 (HAD) M & C Holtom RIP (fam)	
Tues 27th	<b>Lent feria/</b> <i>St Mgt Clitheroe &amp; female martyrs of the Reformation</i> <i>(Mass offered elsewhere for L Farrell RIP (MR))</i> 10.30 (BB) time to pray	
Wed 28th	<b>Lent feria</b> <i>(Mass offered elsewhere for J Dickson RIP (D&amp;KH))</i>	
Thurs 29th	<b>Lent feria</b> <i>(Mass offered elsewhere for L Farrell RIP (MG))</i>	
Fri 1st	<b>ST DAVID, Bishop, patron of Wales</b> 9.30 (BB) J&M Turner (MD) <i>FIRST FRI VISITS TODAY DV</i> 2.30 (HAD) <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	
Sat 2nd	<b>Lent feria</b> 9.30 (HAD) J Stansfield RIP (fam)	
Sun 3rd	<b>THIRD LENT</b> 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) T & A Chambers RIP (MG)	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LENT II (B)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Psalter Week 2</b></p> <p><b>Introduction:</b> God did not spare His Son from death. We worship the one in whom "the Father is well-pleased".</p> <p><b>First Reading :</b> <b>Gen 22</b> : The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.</p> <p><b>Resp.Ps.</b>     <b>I WILL CALL ON THE LORD`S NAME</b></p> <p><b>Second Reading :</b> <b>Rom 8</b> : God did not spare His only Son.</p> <p><b>Gospel :</b> <b>Mk 9</b> : `This is my Son, the beloved: Listen to 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 Herbert Bowker, Bp Cyril Restieux, Willie O'Dowd; Florence Thompson, Helen Felstead, Patrick McKenna, Ian Morris, Gerard Lathwood, Josie Couban, Theresa Dewhirst, Dominic Kiely, Dorothy Yarwood :*  
*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them: may they rest in peace. Amen*

### **PARISH NOTES**

***THIS SUNDAY*** Between Moses and Elias Jesus shows forth His divine glory, thus foreshadowing His resurrection. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end of all things. Today's Mass places before us the transfigured Lord and the model toward whom we must tend, and our own transfiguration as the goal we must attain. We attain this goal by recognising our need of a Redeemer; and most importantly by participating in the Sacrifice of the Mass.

***THE GOSPEL*** As the time of the Passion approaches the foreboding of the disciples grows. Jesus sustains them by this vivid experience of his more than natural nature. On the holy mountain of revelation they see him transformed. It was a real visual experience, though described in symbols familiar from the Bible, brilliant white clothes and so on. Moses and Elijah are seen there because they also had experienced the vision of God on the holy mountain. For Moses this was at the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai, for Elijah in the cave of Mount Horeb. The disciples were frightened, confused and overcome at the awesome experience, and yet comforted in a way which made Peter want to prolong it. This will later be the rare reaction of Christian mystics, a reassuring terror and a frightening homeliness, the awareness of a presence which is at the same time awesome and comforting, an experience which cannot fully be put into words. The Voice from Heaven is an echo of the Voice at Jesus' Baptism. There, however, it was addressed to Jesus, whereas here it is spoken to the disciples, proclaiming Jesus as authorized teacher; the extension of that same divine voice.

***SAINTS ALIVE St Margaret Clitherow (c.1553-1586)*** lived in York all her life, and died there on 25 March 1586. At 15, she married a butcher, John Clitherow, and three years later became a Catholic. Her brother-in-law William was a Catholic and after ordination as a priest became a Carthusian; he may well have influenced Margaret's decision to become a Catholic. Imprisoned for her non-attendance at church, she taught herself to read and later ran a small school for her own and her neighbours' children. Her husband remained Protestant, but allowed her to hide priests in their house. It is said that she used to visit the Knavesmire (the Tyburn of the North) to pray for those who had been martyred there. She saw that her children were all educated in the faith through the services of a young man who had been imprisoned for his faith in York Castle. She knew this prison well having been detained there several times for non-attendance at Church of England services. In 1586 the secret hiding places in her home were discovered, and Margaret was put on trial. In order to prevent her children and servants from being questioned she refused to plead, for which the punishment was being laid on sharp stones and then crushed to death. Her body was secretly buried by the authorities but was later discovered by friends, who buried her privately elsewhere; though the place of her burial has not yet been found. Her daughter Anne was imprisoned for four years for refusing to

attend a Church of England service, and finally became a nun at St Ursula's, Louvain. Her sons Henry and William became priests. **St David (520 - 589)** The earliest life of St David dates from five centuries after his death. He became eminent as abbot and bishop at the site now known as St David's, but formerly Mynyw, from which the present diocese of Menevia is named. He is credited with a monastic rule based on the example of the Eastern Fathers, and also with a Penitentiary. He was invited to preside at the synod of Llandewibrefi. Monks trained at his monastery evangelized South Wales and made foundations in Cornwall, Brittany and Ireland. St David is said to have sent a Mass rite to Ireland. At his death his contemporary St Kentigern, founder of St Asaph's in North Wales, witnessed in vision his joyful entrance into the joy of his Lord. His holy relics have been found hidden in the fabric of St David's Cathedral, where they are carefully preserved. He was canonized by Pope Callistus II in 1123.

**CAFOD COLLECTION BASKETS** can be found at the back of church. If you have brought your envelope from last week, please drop it in the basket; if you want to use an envelope for your gift, there are some still at the back of church; if you want to leave cash—do so. Choices! Choices!

**MISSIONARY SISTERS VISIT** This Sunday at all local RC churches some Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are visiting to appeal for their mission and their communities. I'm sure you will respond with customary generosity to the second collection.

**TIME TO PRAY** Next Tues, 27<sup>th</sup> Feb, Immaculate Conception will be open for a time of public & private prayer. This will be guided by a friendly parishioner and will be for no more than an hour from 10.30 in the morning. All are welcome.

**PUBLICATIONS** you can find at the back of the church copies of **Magnificat** for March, April and Holy Week. Please help yourself and assist your spiritual journey with these excellent guides. You will also find copies of the spring edition of the Missio magazine '**Mission Today**' which gives helpful background on the work of the Catholic Church in faraway countries, in parishes schools and seminaries. Help yourself.

**A TIME TO RETREAT** All diocesan priests are encouraged to make a clergy retreat if not annually then certainly biennially. I will be travelling, God willing, on Monday to join some clergy of our diocese at the retreat at Ampleforth, returning, guardian angels assisting, on Thursday evening. My good companion next door Fr Martin is also joining a clergy retreat, at exactly the same time. Pastoral clergy are not exactly thick on the ground these days. Sadly there will be no public masses in our wider area on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Keep safe! Keep holy! And pray for sinners.

**INTER-PARISH INFORMATION** On Tuesday 5 March from 6.30 to 8pm in the oratory, all parishioners are welcome to come along to discover more about local parish initiatives.

**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

**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: D Bernard; £20 : L King. **Immaculate Conception:** £40: D Norton; £20 : H Brierley.

**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.

**THE 8TH DEADLY SIN?** I foolishly fell for a scam this week ostensibly from a good friend, a priest of our diocese, asking me to bring some assistance to somebody who is terminally ill. I was taken in by the fact that it came from his familiar e-dress. Some malicious individual had stolen his identity, and his contacts list and sent them similar messages. This was surely compounding one mortal sin with another. To scam is heinous; to steal somebody's identity crime no.2; but what makes it deadliest is doing it all on the back of a charitable request. It was a cautionary lesson in gullibility and I pass it on to you, much wiser than me, to be aware of new deadly sins. Thanks be to God I came away unscarred and my bank account etc intact—but equanimity disturbed. I hope that was the same for everyone who was taken in by this wickedness. As a precaution against further devilment, **I recommend that those sending me e-mails use the diocesan e-dress found on p.1.**