



PARISH NEWSLETTER

Lent IV (b)
10th Mar 2024



Who sat and watched my infant head
When sleeping on my cradle bed,
And tears of sweet affection shed?
My Mother.

When pain and sickness made me cry,
Who gazed upon my heavy eye,
And wept for fear that I should die?
My Mother.

Who taught my infant lips to pray
And love God's holy book and day,
And walk in wisdom's pleasant way?
My Mother.

Anne Taylor

God so loved the world . .

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DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 10th	FOURTH LENT (Laetare / Mothering) 9.15 (BB) Derek Orr RIP (fam) 11am (HAD) Johanna Monaghan RIP (fam)	
Mon 11th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) L Farrell RIP (PF & fam)	
Tues 12th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) Christine Bernard RIP (fam/Keelan)	
Wed 13th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) L Farrell RIP (C&PJ)	
Thurs 14th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) Barrie Goddard RIP (A&JM)	
Fri 15th	Lent feria 9.30 (BB) for the parish <i>11am (HAD) funeral of Barrie Goddard RIP</i> <i>2.30 (HAD) Stations of the Cross</i>	
Sat 16th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) DCA Mgr Moore's Confessions visit postponed one week	
Sun 17th	FIFTH LENT 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) DCA	
<p style="text-align: center;">FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (B)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalter Week 4</p> <p>Introduction: Deliverance through the Cross.</p> <p>First Reading : 2 Ch 36 : The mercy of God is revealed in release from exile.</p> <p>Resp.Ps. WE REMEMBER YOUR GOODNESS O LORD</p> <p>Second Reading : Eph 2 You who were dead are now saved through grace.</p> <p>Gospel : John 3 : God sent his Son so that the world might be saved.</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; Rev Tom O'Keefe; Anne Gregory, Christopher Eaton, Stephen Bardsley, John Fallon, Norma Clarke, Catherine Thornton:
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them: may they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY Today is the halfway mark of the Sundays of Lent. This Sunday is known as **Laetare Sunday** from the first word of the Introit Antiphon *laetare* (rejoice); it is a Sunday of joy. The celebrant may wear rose-coloured vestments. The Church's liturgy, on this the Fourth Sunday of Lent, invites us to retrace one of the fundamental dynamics of our baptismal re-birth. It is the passage from the darkness of sin and error to the Light of God, who is the Risen Christ.

THE GOSPEL After Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus comes this reflection on his visit. Is it Jesus' reflection or the evangelist's? The text does not make it clear. Throughout the gospel of John people are coming to Jesus and judging themselves by their reactions to Jesus. The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son. In his turn the Son does not judge, but we judge ourselves by our reaction to him. So at the wedding at Cana the disciples believe in him and see his glory. In the Temple the Jews refuse belief and are condemned. Then comes Nicodemus in secret and in fear. He is sitting on the fence, afraid of the Pharisees, but by the time of the burial he has decided for Jesus. After Nicodemus comes the Samaritan woman, cheeky and unbelieving at first, but won over by Jesus' playful persistence. And so on: the Jews on one side, the man healed at the Pool of Bethzatha on the other; the Jews on one side, the man blind from birth on the other. The decision is ours too: when confronted by Jesus do we come to the light that our deeds may be known, or do we shun the light?

MOTHERS' or MOTHERING? In modern Britain, 'Mother's Day' has become another term for Mothering Sunday in commercial contexts due to American influence, but it continues to be held during Lent, coinciding with 'Laetare' Sunday. The holiday has also gained secular observance in Britain as a celebration of motherhood, following the American tradition, rather than its original religious meaning. That meaning meant honouring and visiting one's 'mother-church' – i.e. the church where one was Baptised. It was also the day when those in service were expected to return home to spend time with their mothers.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE We note the recent death of **Barrie Goddard** (75)(Newshaw Lane); we pray for his eternal welfare. May his wife Pauline, family & friends be comforted. Barrie's funeral rites are planned from St Charles church next Friday March 15th.

LINDA GRIFFIN RIP The funeral arrangements : This Mon 11th Mar, All Saints RC church Glossop, 12.30 pm. May she rest in peace.

TIME TO PRAY at Immaculate Conception on Tuesday morning is **postponed** this coming week.

NEXT SUNDAY finds us entering the season-within-the-season of Passiontide. We will try to cover our crosses and images in anticipation.

LENT CONFESSIONS Monsignor Moore has kindly agreed to come and hear confessions in the oratory on **Saturday 23rd March** from 10.30am. **Please note, that because of a medical curiosity he will be unable to come next Saturday (16th) as arranged.**

REPOSITORY Lola advises that she has for sale plenty of Easter cards for sale. Additionally she has

first Holy Communion cards, rosary beads, missals for use at Mass, pens and bracelets etc. - are available from the stall at the back of Saint Charles church ideally before Sunday Mass. Your custom will always be welcome.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles : £40: P James; £20 : L Stevenson.

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.

MAGNIFICATS for Holy Week are available now.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER Please use the envelopes found at the back of church to make donations florally to decorate the church at Eastertide.

THE INDEFATIGABLE FUND-RAISERS of the Immaculate Conception church have organised a cake-bake for this Mothering Sunday weekend. It deserves full support.

THE YEAR OF PRAYER 2025 is declared by the Holy Father to be a Jubilee Year. Ahead of that year, and in preparation for it, Pope Francis declared 2024 to be "The Year of Prayer". Our diocese had prepared a feast of helpful information to support us in this journey into prayer. I hope you find chance to discover this treasure-trove by heading to dioceseofnottingham.uk/yearofprayer.

A NEW DELILAH parishioners at Immaculate Conception will find two posters the back of church telling of a forthcoming act of amazing generosity. Liara plans to have her long and lustrous hair cut off to help make wigs for cancer-afflicted youngsters. This act of kindness is in memory of dad Liam, and arranged through the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. Your sponsorship is sought.

THE LONG LANE FLOOD Huge thanks to those who last Sunday afternoon came back to church in the afternoon to clear us after the epic flood that washed half the planet down the hill, much of it into church grounds. The funeral attendees on Monday were appreciative of the effort—as was the celebrant!

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

(Next Saturday 16th March

PALM SUNDAY, 24th Mar

WEDNESDAY 27th Mar

the purpling of our holy images)

Blessing & distribution of palms : usual Mass times

The Chrism Mass in the Cathedral with the blessing of the sacred oils by the Bishop.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 28th Mar **SACRED TRIDUUM begins with**

7pm (BB) : **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**

GOOD FRIDAY 29th Mar

Afternoon liturgy of the Passion of the Lord:

3pm both churches;

HOLY SATURDAY 30th Mar

7.30pm (HAD) **Easter Vigil & first Mass of Easter**

EASTER SUNDAY 31st Mar

usual Mass-times.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES I hope you managed to avoid deeply-distressing news and pictures of obscene placard-waving demonstrators at Manchester University this month. A group of undergraduates had formed a pro-life (anti-abortion) society. They sought to register it as an accepted university society. This was grudgingly granted. The society arranged a meeting in a university hall. A huge body of "pro-choice" students barricaded the entrance and ambushed the would-be meeting, terrifying the society members. Police were called. The report and photos in the media are beyond outrageous. Free speech? The right to support human life even in the womb? Not, it seems on the Manchester university campus.

*Good and gentle God, we pray in gratitude for our mothers,
and for all women whom you have gifted with the wonder
of bringing forth new human life.*

*You who became human through a woman.
Grant to all mothers the courage they need to face
the uncertain future that life with children always brings.*