



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (c)

27th July 2025



*'For me,
prayer is a surge of the heart;
it is a simple look
towards Heaven,
it is a cry of recognition and of love,
embracing both trial and joy.'*

St Therese of Lisieux

Lord, teach us to pray!

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 27th | SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) Derek Orr RIP (anniv) (fam) 11am (HAD) for the parish | |
| Mon 28th | feria 9.30 (HAD) | |
| Tues 29th | Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus 9.30 (HAD) thanksgiving to the gleam team (SR) | |
| Weds 30th | feria / St Peter Chrysologus 9.30 (HAD) all our families (CF) | |
| Thurs 31st | St Ignatius of Loyola 9.30 (HAD) Diane Wilson's welfare (gleam team) | |
| Fri 1st Aug | St Alphonsus, apostle 9.30 (BB) Moya Dolan RIP | <i>FIRST FRIDAY VISITS TODAY DV</i> |
| Sat 2nd | feria 9.30 (HAD) thanksgiving | |
| Sun 3rd | EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Michael Lohan RIP | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (C) Psalter Week 1 Introduction: <i>The Lord teaches us to pray : Our Father</i> First Rdg : Gen 18 : The Lord relents and has mercy on his people Resp Ps: ON THE DAY I CALLED, YOU ANSWERED ME O LORD Second Rdg : Col. 2 : In baptism we are buried with Christ, to rise with Him. Gospel : Lk 11 : Pray to the Father for all your needs: He will reply! Comm. ant: BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY SHALL RECEIVE MERCY. BLESSED ARE THE CLEAN OF HEART, FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD.</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, Maura Farrell, Joan Killeen, Winifred Cook, Rita Dwyer, Christine Wild, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Gordon Handley, Jean Ashton, Wilf Toole, Bro Philip Revell, Keith Winston.
And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time; Revv John Fox, John Grimshaw; Joan Mitton, Derek Orr, Joe Revell, Christine Entwistle, Peter Cowden:
May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY we begin the 17th week in ordinary time. Our Lord is challenged by his disciples with "teach us to pray". He leads them to pray the primary prayer of the Christian tradition: the Our Father. We would do well not only to read this prayer, but pray it quietly, slowly, fervently & frequently. Surely by constantly praying it, the depth of its wonder will percolate into our hearts.

This Sunday is also designated throughout the universal church **Jubilee Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**. Why this Sunday? It is the nearest to the feastday on Tuesday of Jesus' earthly grandparents, Ss Joachim & Anne. May they intercede for all grandparents, living and dead. Our celebration was at St Charles last Saturday, ahead of school end-of-year last Wednesday. This celebration was supremely devout and delightful. Our thanks to those who put so much effort into its preparation & celebration.

THE GOSPEL Luke is the evangelist of prayer. Again and again he shows us Jesus praying. At all the important moments of his life he needs this intimacy with his Father. So he is praying at the baptism; before the choice of the disciples he prays through the night; at the Transfiguration he is praying. Now the prayer of Christians picks up his own prayer. Luke's rendering of the prayer he taught the disciples is slightly shorter than the version in Matthew. It begins with the simple call 'Father', rather than 'Our Father in heaven', a noble and affectionate simplicity. 'Thy will be done' is omitted, for it is Matthew who often insists on doing the will of the Father. Instead of 'give us this day our daily bread' Luke gives the insistent 'give us each day', which stresses the continuity of our dependence on God. After this prayer follows a series of parables and images which underline the importance of persistence in prayer and continual prayer after the model of Jesus himself. Elsewhere Luke will give us other parables: the Unjust Judge, again teaching perseverance in prayer, and the Pharisee and the Tax-Collector, teaching the importance of humility in prayer.

SAINTS ALIVE **St Titus Brandsma (1881 - 1942)** was born in the Netherlands. He joined the Carmelites in 1898 at the age of seventeen, and took the religious name Titus. He was ordained a priest in 1905. Following his ordination, he taught at a number of schools before taking on the position of Professor of Philosophy and the History of Mysticism at the Catholic University of Nijmegen, where he was later appointed Rector in 1932. He was vehemently opposed to Nazi ideology and spoke out against it many times before the Second World War. He was arrested in January 1942, when he tried to persuade Dutch Catholic newspapers not to print Nazi propaganda (as was required by the law of the Nazi German occupiers). He had also drawn up the Pastoral Letter, read in all Catholic parishes, by which the Dutch Roman Catholic bishops officially condemned the German anti-Semitic measures and the deportation of the first Jews. After this Pastoral Letter, the first few thousand Jews to be deported from the Netherlands were all Jewish converts to Roman Catholicism, including St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein). Amidst the suffering of Titus's imprisonment, prisoners and jailers spoke of his ability to bring an

awareness of peace amidst the horror of the prison camps. Eventually he was transferred to Dachau where he was killed by lethal injection on the 26th July 1942.

Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus Martha was the sister of Mary of Bethany and Lazarus. In the West, her feast day comes a week after that of St Mary Magdalene because of the old and probably erroneous tradition that Mary Magdalene was the same person as Martha's sister. Modern scholarship having made matters clearer, Martha, Mary and Lazarus have since 2021 been celebrated together on this day, which was formerly assigned to Martha alone. Lazarus repays reflection. His resuscitation forms such a key part of salvation history – which is why it has a Sunday in Lent dedicated to it – that it is easy to forget Lazarus himself. But as Monsignor Ronald Knox says somewhere, he deserves our sympathy and not only our envy, because this was not a resurrection. Lazarus was still mortal and he had his dying to do all over again at some point in the future. What Lazarus thought of being brought back to Earth is not recorded.

St Ignatius Loyola (1491 - 1556) was born in Loyola in the Spanish Basque country. He was a soldier, but was wounded in the battle of Pamplona. During a long convalescence he read a life of Christ and a collection of lives of the saints, and discovered that his true vocation was to devote his life wholly to God. He was as systematic about this as he had been about his military career: he spent a year's retreat in a Dominican friary, made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and then set about learning Latin. In 1534 Ignatius and six companions bound themselves to become missionaries. The group (now numbering ten) offered their services to the Pope in any capacity he might choose. A number of them were duly ordained and they were all assigned to various tasks. In 1540 the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) was formed. Ignatius was the first Superior General until his death. Soon after their foundation the Jesuits began to meet the challenge of the Reformation: a tough task, given the debilitated state into which the Church had fallen, but one which, as Ignatius said, had to be undertaken "without hard words or contempt for people's errors". He wrote the *Spiritual Exercises*, a systematic step-by-step retreat that can be followed by anyone – and has been followed by many, not all of them Catholics, ever since.

St Alphonsus Liguori (1696 - 1787) was the first born of a family belonging to the Neapolitan nobility. He received a broad education and finished his university studies earning a Doctorate in both civil and canon law and began his practice in the legal profession. He was ordained a priest on December 21, 1726, at the age of 30. He lived his first years as a priest with the homeless and marginalized young people of Naples. Soon he expanded his missionary experience in the interior of the Kingdom of Naples where he found people who were much poorer and more abandoned than any of the street children in Naples. In 1732 Alphonsus founded the Congregation of the Redemptorists, in order to follow the example of Jesus Christ announcing the Good News to the poor and the most abandoned. Alphonsus' greatest contribution to the Church was in the area of Moral Theological reflection with his *Moral Theology*. He died on August 1, 1787. He was canonized in 1839, proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1871 and Patron of Confessors and Moralists in 1950.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST CHARLES is pausing for a break during the school holiday. The organisers hope to start up again on Sunday 7th Sept. My thanks & yours to the dedicated folk who guide our youngsters in this liturgical way!

WEDDING BELLS rang out for Christopher Mallitt and Kimberley McDonald who were joined together in the bond of Holy Matrimony at Immaculate Conception church on Saturday. Three cheers for Mrs & Mrs Mallitt!

FORTHCOMING NUPTIALS Three more weddings are planned for our churches this year. The betrothed couples: O'Sullivan / Bogan : 23rd August; King / Groarke : 25th October; 20th December : Starkey / Wilson.

SCHOOL HOLS We wish both staff and pupils happy days during the six-week break.

Our parishes' connection with the **MISSION ENABLING CAMPAIGN** is drawing to its concluding phase. The last lap begins this Sunday. There will be brief words of guidance at the end of Masses.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITS are diaried for 1st August.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS **St Charles** 1st, (£40) Fr Don; 2nd, (£20) R Cranston;

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.

FR COLIN PATEY has offered to celebrate next Sunday's Masses. I know you'll make him welcome.

SAFEGUARDING If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact Karen Proctor. Email: Karen.ProctorPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk; / phone 07513 725411.