



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

TWENTIETH SUNDAY (c)

17th Aug 2025



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that any one who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help,
and sought thy intercession,
was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence,
I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins,
my Mother, to thee I come,
before thee I stand
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate!
despise not my petitions,
but, in thy mercy,
hear and answer me.
Amen.

I came to cast fire on the earth!

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

<i>DATE</i>	<i>MASS</i>	<i>OTHER</i>
Sun 17th	TWENTIETH SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) Cecilia Addy RIP (fam) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 18th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Ruth's private int (J&CB)	
Tues 19th	feria / St John Eudes 9.30 (HAD) Margaret Eidsforth RIP (PL)	
Weds 20th	St Bernard, abbot & doctor of the church 9.30 (HAD) Eric Gebbett RIP (fam)	
Thurs 21st	St Pius X 9.30 (HAD) Brother Philip Revell's welfare (D&KH)	
Fri 22nd	Our Lady, queen of Heaven & earth 9.30 (BB) K Thornton RIP	
Sat 23rd	St Rose of Lima 9.30 (HAD) good estate, Nuala Buckhanin noon (HAD) wedding, O'Sullivan & Bogan	
Sun 24th	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) Johanna Monaghan RIP, anniv (fam) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
<div> <p>TWENTIETH SUNDAY (C) Psalter Week 4</p> <p>Introduction to the Readings : The zealous Christ wants to enflame us with his compassionate love</p> <p>First Reading : Jer 38 : The prophet is promised a message of strife.</p> <p>Resp Ps : LORD, COME TO MY AID!</p> <p>Second Reading : Hebr 12: Keep on running the race of salvation.</p> <p>Gospel : Lk 12 : Christ come to divide and enflame with his zealous love.</p> <p>Comm. ant: WITH THE LORD THERE IS MERCY; IN HIM IS PLENTIFUL REDEMPTION.</p> </div>		

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 Vincent Rush, Oliver Wilson, James Hargreaves, James Leahy, Michael Quane, Stephen Lennon; *Joseph Vella, Margaret Jones, Eric Gebbett, Linda Grogan, Sheila McManus, Kathleen Flanagan:*

May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY is the 20th ordinary Sunday. Dissension and discord, fire & fury at the heart of today's readings. Are these times the division Jesus predicted in the Gospel of Luke? It's most likely that, in writing to the newly converted, Luke referenced Jesus coming to "set the earth on fire" as a metaphor for Baptism and renewal in the Holy Spirit. We cannot help but wonder, as it seems like the world is burning down around us—with wars, with climate devastation, with eradication of basic goodness—if Jesus was referencing times like the ones in which we find ourselves now. Times where we seem to be more divided than ever, in too many locations throughout the world.

THE GOSPEL What is this? Jesus came to bring peace and harmony, to perfect the fond unity of society and families. How is it then that he can here say exactly the opposite? And without apology! There is no, 'I am afraid there may sometimes be disagreements in the family'. Rather, 'I have come to bring disagreements in the family'. To make things worse, in Judaism the family is the basic unit which sticks together through thick and thin. Any Jew will be thoroughly shocked by this passage. We have seen repeatedly that Jesus' statements are often fierce and extreme: 'if your hand causes you to fall, cut it off'; 'let the dead bury their dead'. Elsewhere he says 'it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven' – and the traditional let-out clause that he is talking about a small gate in Jerusalem is simply wrong; there was no such gate! Jesus is teaching that the most sacred earthly ties are less important than loyalty to him. He chooses the family deliberately because it is so sacred and important, but even so, less important than following him. As we approach the end of the collection of instructions for the mission of his disciples after his own departure, Jesus leaves his hearers in no doubt that, important as family unity is, it will on occasion be shattered by a division in loyalty to Christ. How much more must we be prepared to give up our own bad habits and evasions and jealousies and hypocrisies to be true followers of Christ!

SAINTS ALIVE **St Bernard of Clairvaux** (1090 - 1153) was born near Dijon, in France of a noble family. In 1112 he joined the new monastery at Cîteaux. This had been founded fourteen years before, in a bid to reject the laxity and riches of the Benedictine Order (as exemplified by great monasteries such as Cluny) and to return to a primitive poverty and austerity of life. Bernard arrived at Cîteaux with four of his five brothers and two dozen friends. Within three years he had been sent out to found a new monastery at Clairvaux, in Champagne, where he remained abbot for the rest of his life. By the time of his death, the Cistercian Order had grown from one house to 343, of which 68 were daughter houses of Clairvaux itself. Bernard was a

man of great holiness and wisdom, and although he was often in very poor health, he was active in many of the great public debates of the time. He strongly opposed the luxurious lives of some of the clergy, and fought against the persecution of the Jews. He was also a prolific writer, not least of prayers. His 'Memorare' is found on p.1

Pope St Pius X (1835 - 1914) was born in the village of Riese, near Venice, one of ten children of a very poor family. He was ordained to the priesthood at the age of 23. He was successively bishop of Mantua and of Venice, and was elected Pope, against his wishes, in 1903. In his time as Pope, he sought to "restore all things in Christ." He campaigned for the freedom of the Church from state control, notably in countries such as Poland where the Russian Orthodox authorities were oppressing the Catholic people. He revised the code of Canon Law, founded an institute for scriptural studies, and initiated the revision of the Latin translation of the Bible (the Vulgate) and the reform of the liturgy. He lived in great poverty even when he was Pope, and preached sermons every Sunday in the courtyards of the Vatican, to any who would listen. In his simplicity and goodness of heart, he performed miracles even when he was alive, and the clamour for his canonization started immediately after his death, on 20th August 1914, broken-hearted at the outbreak of the First World War.

Our Lady, Mother and Queen The doctrine of the Assumption was promulgated in 1950, with its feast on 15 August. As was normal for the greater feasts, this celebration was echoed for a week afterwards, and today's memorial of Our Lady, Mother and Queen, marks the conclusion of that period of celebration. We remember that the Blessed Virgin reigns in heaven together with her Son. She reigns not because she is in any way equal to God but because she is the mother of Christ the King. Her privileges come from her willingly agreeing to become the Mother of God and make our redemption possible.

St Rose of Lima (1586 - 1617) was born in Lima, in Peru. She lived a life of selflessness and devotion from an early age. She refused to marry, and became a Dominican tertiary at the age of 20. Her asceticism and her intense spiritual experiences excited the criticism of her friends and family and the suspicion of the Church authorities. She cared for the sick, the poor, Indians, and slaves. She was the first person in the Americas to be canonized, and is a patron saint of South America.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY of church and parish James Stephen Mulcahy, baptised at St Charles this weekend. May your sainted ancestors watch over you.

A WELCOME VISITOR It was good to welcome Fr Simon Gillespie on Friday to Immaculate Conception church to concelebrate the solemnity Mass for Our Lady's Assumption. He was briefly away from his office at Bishop's house and holidaying locally. He is Bishop Patrick's highly efficient secretary. Come again soon!

RECENT TOTE WINNERS **St Charles** 1st, (£40) C Cowley & D Shepley; 2nd, (£20) S Shaw & A Marsden.

MISSION ENABLING FUND More literature has arrived from the MEF Nottingham office. At the back of church you'll find a. an up-to-date statement of our parishes' commitment, and b. a pledge form for your generous support. Additionally, there are Information packs which are even more helpful. Please help yourself - and support the campaign.

AFTERNOON TEA On Saturday 13th Sept at 2pm at 283 Hadfield Rd you are welcome to a garden party, hosted by Nuala S. Tickets are £7 in advance.

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

Proctor. Email: Karen.ProctorPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk; / phone 07513 725411.

BLOOMING SURPRISES A few months ago, whilst preparing the lectern at Dukinfield Crematorium ahead of a committal service, I noticed a packet of sunflower seeds left after the previous ceremony. 'Please plant in memory (the person RIP) celebrated today' was the legend. So I did, and they flourish in his memory outside the rectory front window. May he rest in peace, and bloom eternally in Heaven's garden.

At about the same time I received a mysterious letter from Canada: sender unknown, no message. On the front of the envelope was scrawled a return-address. Inside the envelope two packets of poppy seeds. Nothing else. So I planted them, and they have flourished in the back garden! I wrote to the unknown sender to tell their planting. Hope (s)he sends some maple seeds next time!