



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT (a)
7th Dec 2025



*“Prompt our actions
with your inspiration,
we pray, O Lord,
and further them
with your constant help,
that all we do
may always begin from you
and by you be brought to completion.”*

Prepare a way for the Lord

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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 7th	ADVENT II 9.15 (BB) Mary Norton RIP (SQ) 11am (HAD) Jean Ashton, family welfare	
Mon 8th	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY 9.30 (BB) for the parish Noon (HAD) Christine Wild RIP (AB)	
Tues 9th	Advent feria / St Juan Diego 9.30 (HAD) G Maxwell RIP (MR)	
Weds 10th	Advent feria / Our Lady of Loreto 9.30 (HAD) Christine Wild RIP (AB)	
Thurs 11th	Advent feria / St Damasus 9.30 (HAD) Dead List	
Fri 12th	Advent feria / Our Lady of Guadalupe 9.30 (BB) Holy Souls	3.30, school Christmas fair
Sat 13th	Advent feria / St Lucy 9.30 (HAD) Christine Wild RIP (D&JW)	
Sun 14th	ADVENT III Gaudete Sunday 9.15 (BB) K Stirk RIP (AC) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
<p align="center">SECOND ADVENT (A)</p> <p align="center">Psalter Week 2</p> <p>Introduction: Baptism is our pact of unity with Christ our Lord.</p> <p>First Reading : Is 11 : The Spirit`s gifts are named for the coming redeemer.</p> <p>Resp.Ps. IN HIS DAYS JUSTICE SHALL FLOURISH & PEACE TILL THE MOON FAILS.</p> <p>Second Reading : Rom 15 : Christ is the saviour of all mankind.</p> <p>Gospel : Mt 3 : Repent, for the Kingdom of God is close at hand!</p> <p>Comm. Ant. JERUSALEM, ARISE AND STAND UPON THE HEIGHTS.</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, Arthur King, Maura Farrell, Joan Killeen, Rita Dwyer, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Gordon Handley, Jean Ashton, Keith Winston.

And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time; Revv Jack Newsham, Trevor Clarke, Peter Skoyles. Charles Coleman, Gerry Collins, Thomas Breslin, Raymund Mendel, Bernard George, Joe Murdock; Susan Mattimore, Sheila Berry, Josie Toole, Bob Durman, William Gray, Edmund Ashton, Ronald Baines, Doreen Callon, Nella Lewyckyj:
May they rest in peace, and let perpetual light shine on them : Amen

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY The Second Sunday of Advent focuses on the preaching of John the Baptist and his message of repentance to prepare the way for Jesus. In many traditions, this involves lighting the second candle on the Advent wreath, which is often purple and called the "Bethlehem Candle" or "Peace Candle".

THE GOSPEL 'Repentance' is an unattractive idea. It conjures up morose brooding over past sins and failures, a negative idea. This is not what John the Baptist proclaimed. His message was wholly positive. In Hebrew and Greek the concept is a change of behaviour, a change of direction. John is calling on them to change their ways, to change their scale of values, their whole direction of life. To reinforce his message he wears the clothes worn by Elijah, the prophet who was to return to announce the final coming of the LORD. He proclaims his message in the desert, that apocalyptic landscape of the arid and bare Jordan Valley, below sea-level, where merchants would be crossing the Jordan on the road to the East. So he makes a deliberate claim to be this final prophet and to be preparing a way for the LORD. We see Jesus as the Messiah, the loving Saviour, but John was not yet proclaiming Jesus. He was proclaiming the threatening and imminent arrival of the sovereignty of God, when rotten trees would be cut down and evil swept away to be burnt in unquenchable fire. If we are to be open to the arrival of the Kingship of God, we may need to look to our scale of values. Am I the only person who matters to me?

SECOND COLLECTION today for the poor parishes of the diocese.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER CONTRIBUTION envelopes are given out today. There will be a voluntary collection after Mass for the Christmas Flowers on Sunday (14th Dec).

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE Karen Pledger (62) Castleton Cresc, Gamesley, who died on 13th November. Her funeral service is diaried for Immaculate Conception church on Thurs 18th Dec at 12.45. Christine Wild (already noted in previous newsletters.) Her Requiem Mass is diaried for St Charles church at noon on Monday 22nd Dec. Liz Nash, of St Mary's church & parish in Glossop, who died on Thurs 4th Dec in Christie Hospital. Liz was at the heart of her church, and played a pivotal part in many areas. She was a regular weekday Mass-attender at St Charles and also Charlesworth. May they all rest in peace.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH COUNCIL meeting takes place at 2pm this Sunday, followed by the AGM at 2.30.

MONDAY 8TH is the patronal feastday of Immaculate Conception church & parish. Mass will be offered that day at 9.30 in Charlesworth, and later at noon at St Charles.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin, that twist in our nature that makes our will tend not to follow what it knows to be right. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered "Yes" to the request, conveyed by the Angel Gabriel, that she should consent to be the mother of the incarnate God. The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was almost universally believed over the centuries but was only formally defined as a doctrine of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1854. **Our Lady of Loreto** Since the Middle Ages veneration for the Holy House of Loreto has been the origin of that particular shrine which still today is visited by many faithful pilgrims in order to

nourish their faith in the Word of God made flesh for us. Loreto is a hill town and commune of the Italian province of Ancona, in the Marche region. It is most commonly known as the seat of the Basilica della Santa Casa, the Holy House. In the Holy House, before the image of the Mother of the Redeemer and of the Church, Saints and Blesseds have responded to their vocation, the sick have invoked consolation in suffering, the people of God have begun to praise and plead with Mary using the Litany of Loreto, which is known throughout the world. In a particular way all those who travel via aircraft have found in her their heavenly patron. In light of this, Pope Francis has decreed, by his own authority, that the optional memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto should be inscribed in the Roman Calendar on 10 December, the day on which the feast falls in Loreto, and celebrated every year. This celebration will help all people, especially families, youth and religious to imitate the virtues of that perfect disciple of the Gospel, the Virgin Mother, who, in conceiving the Head of the Church also accepted us as her own. **Our Lady of Guadalupe** The shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, near Mexico City, is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in North America. On December 9, 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to an Indian convert, Juan Diego, and left with him a picture of herself impressed upon his cloak. Devotion to Mary under this title has continually increased, and today she is the Patroness of the Americas. **St Lucy, Virgin,** was martyred in Syracuse, probably during the persecution of Diocletian (which started in 303). Devotion to her spread rapidly across practically the whole Church and her name is included in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

CARDINAL ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN memorial cards are available free of charge from the back of church. There are a gift from Bishop Patrick to all parishioners.

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH this year will be at Windy Harbour on Wednesday 17th December 12.30 pm for 1.00pm. Two courses £28 or three courses £31 which includes the tip. The menu is on display at the back of both churches as is a form to fill in your food choices. There is a £10 non-refundable deposit which should be given to Nuala Shepley as soon as possible. Everyone is welcome to come along.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles: 1st (£40) J Allison ; 2nd (£20) A Marsden.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **FRIDAY 12th Dec** : 3.30, St Charles school Christmas fair. The parish is staffing a cake stall. Cakes would most welcome. Please contact Chistine James 864350 if can supply.
- **TUESDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2pm** in St Charles church: school carol concert
- **THE HADFIELD & PADFIELD CHURCHES** are holding a Carol Concert at the Hadfield Cenotaph on Friday 19th December at 4:30pm.
- **SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER**, morning : decoration of church and trees. 2pm, wedding at St Charles.
- **SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER** : 3pm at St Charles, Advent Penitential Service with additional confessors on hand.
- **MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER 7.30 PM** John Miles has agreed to present the annual service of nine lessons and carols at Immaculate Conception church on Monday 22nd December at 7.30. Singers are always sought to swell the choir. Rehearsal is scheduled for Monday 15th December. **Please note that the 8th December rehearsal cannot now take place.**

CHRISTMAS TRAIL Local Hadfield churches invite school children to collect a trail-sheet from St Charles, then visit the shops on Station Rd, and ask the name of the Christmas character associated with that shop. Then complete the trail-sheet and get it back to the church by 18th for prizes!

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 our joint-parishes PSR. Email: Karen.ProctorPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk; / phone 07513 725411.

