



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

Eastertide Sunday II (a)
12th April 2026



Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless
and the treasury of compassion
inexhaustible,
look kindly upon us
and increase your mercy in us,
that in difficult moments
we might not despair
nor become despondent,
but with great confidence
submit ourselves to your holy will,
which is Love and Mercy itself.

Amen.

Doubt no longer, but believe!

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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 12th	EASTERTIDE SUNDAY 2 (Divine Mercy) 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Claire Fletcher RIP (MW)	
<i>Mon 13th to Thurs 16th : No parish Mass. Mass elsewhere on 16th for K Laidlaw RIP</i>		
Fri 17th	9.30 (BB) Private int	
Sat 18th	Easter feria 9.30 (HAD) private int	
Sun 19th	EASTERTIDE SUNDAY 3 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) private int	
Mon 20th	9.30 (HAD) private int	
Tues 21st	St Anselm 9.30 (HAD) private int	
Weds 22nd	9.30 (HAD) private int	
Thurs 23rd	St George, martyr; patron of England 9.30 (HAD) pr. Int (CF)	
Fri 24th	9.30 (BB) private int	
Sat 25th	St Mark, evangelist 9.30 (HAD) private int	
Sun 26th	EASTERTIDE SUNDAY 4 (Good Shepherd Sunday) 9.15 (BB) private int 11am (HAD) for the parish	

EASTER II (A)

Psalter Week 2

Introduction: We proclaim with Thomas that the risen Jesus is 'Our Lord and Our God'.

First Reading: Acts 4 : The community of earliest Christians was united in heart and soul.

Responsorial Psalm : GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD,
FOR HIS LOVE HAS NO END

Second Reading : 1 Jn 5 : The man who believes that Jesus is risen Lord and God can overcome the world.

Gospel: Jn 20 : The first gift of the Risen Lord is forgiveness - even for doubting Thomas.

Comm. Ant BRING YOUR HAND AND FEEL THE PLACE OF THE NAILS, AND DO NOT DOUBT BUT BELIEVE, ALLELUIA.

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, Arthur King, Maura Farrell, Rita Dwyer, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Jean Ashton, Keith Winston.

And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time : Bishop James McGuinness, Frs Peter Dooling, Bernard Allen, Owen O'Neill, Stephan Foster, Joe McGovern, Larry Hill, Bob Thornhill. Kenneth Bennett, John Abbott; Claire Fletcher, Kathleen Dugdale, Rachel Naughton, Christine Elliott, Joan Grimshaw, James Tierney, Josephine Fallon, Patricia Wells: *May eternal light shine on them : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND There is a **WHITE FATHERS APPEAL** Fr Hugh Seenan travels from London to supply both parish Masses this Sunday. He will ask for your generous support for the White Fathers Missions. I'm sure you'll be generous in the second collection.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL This passage from John's Gospel has all the more significance because it brings the Gospel to a close. The story of the breakfast-party with the Risen Christ on the shore of the Lake of Galilee is a sort of appendix. The story-line of the main Gospel ends with Thomas blurting out 'My Lord and my God'. The Gospel therefore ends, as it began with the only two unmistakable declarations in the New Testament of the divinity of Jesus. 'The Word was God' and 'My Lord and my God' bracket the Gospel, showing the purpose and angle of the whole, to show that Jesus is God. It complements the other Gospels: they show a man who is also God, whereas this Gospel shows a God who is also man. It is with the divine authority that Jesus confers on his Church the divine power to forgive. Real forgiveness is indeed Godlike. It is not simply 'forgive-and-forget', but forgiveness in the knowledge that a hurt has occurred. Just as a bone, broken and merged together again, can be stronger than it was before it was broken, so forgiveness can create a real link of love on both sides, a treasured secret of divine graciousness between forgiver and forgiven.

FROM THE HOLY FATHER'S 'URBI ET ORBI' MESSAGE Brothers and sisters, Christ is risen! Yes, Christ's resurrection is the beginning of a new humanity; In the light of Easter, let us allow ourselves to be amazed by Christ! Let us allow our hearts to be transformed by his immense love for us! Let those who have weapons lay them down! Let those who have the power to unleash wars choose peace! Not a peace imposed by force, but through dialogue! Not with the desire to dominate others, but to encounter them! We are growing accustomed to violence, resigning ourselves to it, and becoming indifferent. Indifferent to the deaths of thousands of people. Indifferent to the repercussions of hatred and division that conflicts sow. The cross of Christ always reminds us of the suffering and pain that surround death and the agony it entails. We are all afraid of death, and out of fear we turn away, preferring not to look. We cannot continue to be indifferent! And we cannot resign ourselves to evil! He passed through death to give us life and peace: "I leave you peace; I give you my peace. Not as the world gives it, I give it to you" (Jn 14:27). The peace that Jesus gives us is not merely the silence of weapons, but the peace that touches and transforms the heart of each one of us! Let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the peace of Christ! Let us make heard the cry for peace that springs from our hearts! At this time of celebration, let us abandon every desire for conflict, domination, and power, and implore the Lord to grant his peace to a world ravaged by wars and marked by a hatred and indifference that make us feel powerless in the face of evil. To the Lord we entrust all hearts that suffer and await the true peace that only he can give. Let us entrust ourselves to him and open our hearts to him! He is the only one who makes all things new (cf. Rev 21:5). Happy Easter!

DIVINE MERCY the Easter Octave has always been centred on the theme of Divine Mercy and forgiveness. Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, points us to the merciful love of God that lies behind the whole Paschal Mystery — the whole mystery of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ — made present for us in the Eucharist. In this way, it also sums up the whole Easter Octave. As Pope John Paul II pointed out in 1995: "the whole octave of Easter is like a single day," and the Octave Sunday is meant to be the day of "thanksgiving for the goodness God has shown to man in the whole Easter mystery." Given the liturgical appropriateness of the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" for the Octave Day of Easter, "the Pope John Paul II has graciously determined that in the Roman Missal, after the title Second Sunday of Easter, 'or Divine Mercy' shall be added."

ST CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL meets briefly after Sunday Mass this weekend.

PASCHAL LUNCH The Wednesday Group have organised a lavish lunch for Eastertide: next Wednesday at Oaklands. Enjoy!

NEXT SUNDAY is indicated as "affirmation Mass" at St Charles.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE We note the recent death of adjunct parishioner Winifred Mary O'Brien (90). Her funeral rites are indicated for Mon 27th April at St Charles. May she rest in peace.

RED BOXES Please bring your Missio boxes to church for emptying over the new month. Thanks: MB.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles: 1st (£40) Fr Don; 2nd (£20) B Sheridan.

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.

NOTE WELL This newsletter has two weeks currency. The next edition is indicated for 26th April.