



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

**17th Sunday
26th July 2026**



PRAYER OF ST IGNATIUS

Lord, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve you
as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the
wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask
for reward,
save that of knowing
that I do your will.

Seek after wisdom, the greatest treasure

Canon Don Bowdren

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OUR SCHOOLS

St Charles Primary Hadfield SK13 7PQ
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 26th	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (Day for Grandparents & elderly) 9.15 (BB) welfare of Mervyn Mallabar (Cass fam) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 27th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Janet Black RIP (fam)	
Tues 28th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Cecilia Addy (b'day)	
Weds 29th	Sts MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS 9.30 (HAD) sp. int (VG)	
Thurs 30th	feria 9.30 (HAD) t'giving (Gee)	
Fri 31st	ST IGNATIUS LOYOLA 9.30 (BB) Liam Bluett	
Sat 1st Aug	St Alphonsus 9.30 (HAD) Betty McConnon	
Sun 2nd	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) Derek Orr RIP (anniv) (fam) 11am (HAD) for the parish	

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (A)

Psalter Week 1

Introduction : We seek the treasures of the Kingdom made apparent in God's holy Word.

FIRST READING : 1 Kings 3 : The wisdom comes to Solomon as God's gift.

RESP PS : **LORD HOW I LOVE YOUR LAW!**

SECOND READING : Rom 8 : God intended us to become true images of his Son.

GOSPEL : Mt 13 : He sells everything to buy the field

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, Val Gebbett, Rita Dwyer, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Jean Ashton, Keith Winston, Ethel Farnsworth.

And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Mary Bowdren, Evelyn Matthewman, Doreen Williamson, Josie & Peter Cowden, Mgt Bailey, Mgt Slugocki, Kath Proudman, Vivienne Murray, James Smith, Kath Lavery, Mary Lindley, Marie Lane, Monica Krommendijk, Derek Butt, Phyllis Dotters, Eileen Atherton, Joan Mitton, Derek Orr, Joe Revell, Christine Entwistle : May eternal light shine on them : Amen

PARISH NOTES

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY is celebrated this weekend. Pope Leo has selected the theme "I will never forget you" (Is 49:15) to offer consolation, hope, and connection. Here is an extract from the Holy Father's apostolic letter: *'The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. Bring them, through this message and your presence, the closeness and affection of the Pope. Dear elderly brothers and sisters, I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love — He who never forgets us!'*

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL Three final pictures this week from Matthew's collection of Jesus' images of the Christian community. Matthew likes pairs of parables: the dragnet pairs with last week's darnel-parable, the treasure pairs with the pearl. The Kingdom is an exciting and unexpected treasure which can change our whole life, like winning the pools or the lottery – except that God's gifts change us only for the good, and fill our lives with meaning and joy. Of course we know that God's call is demanding: you've got to pay a price for the field in which the treasure lies, or the genuine pearl found in a junk-shop. The very last picture – the householder bringing down different food-packets, pots and jars off the shelf – is encouraging too: some are old favourites (perhaps the Christian values and prayers which we inherited from our families), but some add new flavours too, which we have discovered or been taught ourselves. If we listen, the Spirit is always there to show us new ways of living out our Christian call, an opportunity for prayer or help or service. This 'householder' is often thought to be Matthew's own secret signature: he brings out old and new in the Christian message.

SAINT OF THE WEEK *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 (against the French) at the age of 30. 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. Such enthusiasm in a layman caused grave suspicion in the Spanish authorities, and he was questioned and imprisoned more than once. He moved to Paris in 1528 and continued his studies; and then in 1534 Ignatius and six companions bound themselves to become missionaries to the Muslims in Palestine. By the time they were ready to set out, war made the journey impossible and so 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. Soon it was proposed that they should organise themselves into a regular religious order, and 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". Ignatius had a gift for inspiring friendship and was the recipient of deep spiritual insight. Soon after his conversion Ignatius 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.

THE DIOCESAN NEWSPAPER is freely available from the back of church.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles: 1st (£100) A Heard; 2nd (£50) N Garlick; 3rd (£50) M Farrell. **Broadbottom:** 1st (£40) T Cass; 2nd (£20) H Brierley;

BONE PASTOR Many BB parishioners will remember with fondness the good shepherd and farmer Jim Conway, who sadly died recently. For some years he worshipped at St Margaret's Gamesley and also at BB. May he rest in peace.

SATURDAY MORNING EXPOSITION at St Charles is paused till September. Our thanks to those who have supported this excellent venture.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESE: the Government's Great British Summer Savings Scheme takes place between 25th June and 1st September, with a temporary reduction on VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts, exhibitions and a wide range of other attractions. In addition, there is free bus travel during August for children aged five to fifteen in England. Full details can be found at: <https://summersavings.gov.uk>

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.

EMERALD EXCITEMENT My profound thanks to the many folk who noted that I celebrated my 55th Ordination anniversary on Friday. Mass at Broadbottom was delightfully well-attended - by an emerald congregation! I was humbled to receive many tributes, greetings, cards & gifts from all quarters. Mass in thanksgiving will be offered soon.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL Archbishop John Sherrington has issued a statement highlighting the many dangers of the Private Members' Bill that seeks to legalise assisted suicide: "The Second Reading of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is expected to take place in the House of Commons on 11 September. Assisted suicide is a matter of life and death, and it is wholly unsatisfactory that this divisive and flawed bill is being put to parliament again as a Private Members' Bill without the key issues being addressed. The reduced majority at Third Reading in the Commons and the debate in the Lords showed how flawed the Bill is. This matter is urgent. I urge people to contact their Member of Parliament and ask them to vote against this deeply flawed bill at Second Reading. You can do so by using the simple contact form on the Right to Life UK website, the Bishops' Conference website, or by writing to your MP."