



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
16th Aug 2026



*Remember,
O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who fled to your protection, im-
plored your help,
or sought your intercession,
was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence,
I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins,
my Mother;
to you I come, before you I stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in your mercy
hear and answer me. Amen.*

Of all women, you are the most blessed!

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 16th	THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Dinah Brown RIP (KMH)	
Mon 17th	feria 9.30 (HAD) F McClintock (MG) 7.30pm (HAD) Bible study with Deacon Owen	
Tues 18th	feria 1pm (HAD) Requiem Mass for Pauline Anderson RIP (int MB)	
Weds 19th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Christine Kempster RIP (fam)	
Thurs 20th	St Bernard, abbot & Doctor of the Church 9.30 (HAD) Eric Gebbett RIP (fam)	
Fri 21st	St Pius X, pope 9.30 (BB) Piroska Schreiner (MT)	
Sat 22nd	Our Lady, Queen 9.30 (HAD) D O'Shaughnessy RIP noon (BB) baptism of Maeve Rose Carter	
Sun 23rd	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Pauline Anderson RIP (SMH)	

THE ASSUMPTION

Psalter Week 4

Introduction: *Mary - the first to be redeemed - precedes us to the Kingdom of Heaven .*

First Reading : **Micah 5** : The humble birth of Jesus foretold.

Resp. Ps ***ON YOUR RIGHT STANDS THE QUEEN IN GOLD OF OPHIR***

Second Reading : **1 Cor 15** : Christ is the first-fruits; we are raised after Him.

Gospel : **Lk 1** : 'The Almighty has done great things for me.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON : All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty
has done great things for me.

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, Isabella Phillips, Arthur King, Val Gebbett, Rita Dwyer, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Jean Ashton, Keith Winston.

And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Rev John Cairns, Vincent Rush, Oliver Wilson, James Hargreaves, Jim Leahy, David Forde; *Philip Battey, Shaun Wynne, Mike Fleming, Joseph Vella, Margaret Jones, Eric Gebbett, Linda Grogan, Kathleen Flanagan: May eternal light shine on them; may they rest in peace : Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS WEEKEND We put aside the green vesture of ordinary time and the liturgy of the Twentieth Sunday, in favour of the celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption. The commemoration of the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Dormition, or falling asleep, as it was known in the East) is known as the Assumption because of the tradition that her body did not decay but that she was raised up, body and soul, into heaven. This tradition was already present in the sixth century; by the beginning of the twentieth century it was widespread; and after consulting the views of bishops all over the world, on November 1st 1950 the Pope formally and infallibly declared the doctrine of the Assumption to be part of the authentic and ancient doctrine of the universal Church.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL This gospel reading ends with the start of Mary's canticle of thanksgiving for God's gifts to her. But it starts with her bodily attention to the bodily needs of her elderly relative. With her own baby on the way, she would have plenty of other priorities, making her long journey a real act of kindness. Her canticle, sung daily in the liturgy of Evening Prayer, sums up God's faithfulness to his promises, focused on his gifts to this simple peasant girl. It combines a wonderful sense of the holiness of God with warmth of gratitude, showing the thoughts that revolved constantly in her mind. As is fitting in the mouth of a girl whose only knowledge of books was the Bible, Mary's song is a texture of scriptural phrases. We cannot assume that Luke wrote it down at Mary's dictation, for putting words in the mouth of his characters is a feature of Luke the historian; but it must reflect her thinking. If any theme resounds again and again throughout the Bible, it is God's care for the poor, the simple and those in need. It is this which sets the Hebraeo-Christian tradition apart from the ways of the world.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK amongst those honoured this coming week :

- * **St John Eudes** on Wednesday : a French saint who founded seminaries and encouraged vocations to the priesthood. Pray through him that we may have more priests!
- * **St Bernard of Clairvaux** on Thursday : 12th c founder of the Cistercian monastic order. We are blessed mto have Mt St Bernard's abbey of Cistercian monks in our diocese, in NW Leicestershire. St Bernard composed one the favourite Catholic prayer to Our Lady. You'll find the 'Memorare' at the end of the newsletter.
- * **St Pius X** on Friday. This Pope has great devotion to the eucharist, and encouraged more regular reception at a time of severe restraint. He encouraged children to make their first Holy Communion from the age of seven.

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles: 1st (£40) M Stevenson; 2nd (£20) D Fay.

DO YOU ENJOY HELPING PEOPLE? Do you have a clear and confident manner on the phone and good IT skills? Catholic Marriage Care is looking for an **Appointments Service Administrator** who is able to work a minimum of 8 hours per week, taking enquiries from people seeking relationship counselling or marriage preparation. For more information please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: karen@marriagecare.org.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.

A NEW BIBLE STUDY GROUP plans to meet in the St Charles Oratory next Monday 17th August at 7.30 . Deacon Owen has advised there is an app which can be downloaded for free 'The Catholic Study Bible App (Ignatius RSV Second Catholic Edition)'. (Ignore the additional features.) The group are hoping to meet once a month for about an hour, all are welcome. If you are interested, please contact karen.proctor@dioceseofnottingham.co.uk or via the parish WhatsApp group.

***An extract from The Apostolic Constitution of Pope Pius XII
on the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary:***

"In their sermons and speeches on the feast day of the Assumption of the Mother of God, the holy fathers and the great doctors of the church were speaking of something that the faithful already knew and accepted: all they did was to bring it out into the open, to explain its meaning and substance in other terms. Above all, they made it most clear that this feast commemorated not merely the fact that the blessed Virgin Mary did not experience bodily decay, but also her triumph over death and her heavenly glory, following the example of her only Son, Jesus Christ.

A very ancient author asserts: Being the most glorious Mother of Christ our saviour and our God, the giver of life and immortality, she is given life by him and shares bodily incorruptibility for all eternity with him who raised her from the grave and drew her up to him in a way that only he can understand.

All that the holy fathers say refers ultimately to Scripture as a foundation, which gives us the vivid image of the great Mother of God as being closely attached to her divine Son and always sharing his lot.

So then, the great Mother of God, so mysteriously united to Jesus Christ from all eternity by the same decree of predestination, immaculately conceived, an intact virgin throughout her divine motherhood, a noble associate of our Redeemer as he defeated sin and its consequences, received, as it were, the final crowning privilege of being preserved from the corruption of the grave and, following her Son in his victory over death, was brought, body and soul, to the highest glory of heaven, to shine as Queen at the right hand of that same Son, the immortal King of Ages. '"

