



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Twenty-first Sunday (a)
23rd Aug 2026**



Night prayer of St Augustine

Watch, dear Lord,
With those who wake
or watch or weep this night,
and give your angels charge
over those who sleep.

O Lord Jesus Christ,
tend your sick ones,
rest your weary ones,
bless your lonely ones,
soothe your suffering ones,
shield your joyous ones,
and all for your love's sake.

Amen.

***'YOU ARE PETER,
AND TO YOU I GIVE THE KEYS
OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.'***

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 23rd	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Pauline Anderson RIP (SMH)	
Mon 24th	ST BARTHOLOMEW apostle 9.30 (HAD) Johanna Monaghan RIP (fam)	
Tues 25th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Joan Haley RIP (fam)	
Weds 26th	feria 9.30 (HAD) Bill Bowker (DB)	
Thurs 27th	St Monica 9.30 (HAD) Pauline Anderson RIP (fam)	
Fri 28th	St Augustine 9.30 (BB) Claire Breenan	
Sat 29th	St John the Baptist (martyr) 9.30 (HAD) Geraldine Monaghan	
Sun 23rd	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Stretta Duggan	

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY (A)

Psalter Week 1

Introduction: *Peter the Rock: our apostolic link with Christ*

First Reading : **Is 22** : David's keys of authority given to Eliakim.

Resp. Ps. ***I THANK YOU LORD WITH ALL MY HEART***

Second Reading : **Rom 11** : A peon of praise for the One who is all-in-all.

Gospel : **Mt 16** : Thou art Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON : Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life,
says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

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, Tom Travis, Mike Lally, Jacob Ibbotson, Diane Wilson, Jean Ashton, Keith Winston.

And our deceased clergy & parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Revv M Quane, S Lennon, S Heald, M Swaby, J Feeley; 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 come to the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary time. Its theme is challenging: "One of Jesus' most stunning revelations is that God does not discriminate: "God lets his sun shine on the good as well as the bad." God, like the sun, shines on every kind of soil equally, fertile and barren alike. And if God showers love equally on the good and bad, then surely God showers love equally on liberals and conservatives, on the rigid and the fanciful, on those who are joyous and those who are bitter, on the politically correct and on those less inclined to that kind of sensitivity, and on those who belong to our ecclesial set and on those who would prefer us dead. That's a disconcerting thought, but such, it would seem, is the scope of God's embrace."

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL At last Peter recognizes that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. At last he realizes that in Jesus they can see the action of God. The disciples followed Jesus as soon as he called, but for a long time they were puzzled what to make of him, of his wonderful teaching and his godlike personality. Now comes a shaft of light and understanding. We too often take some time to appreciate the true worth of someone we know well: a little gesture can sometimes reveal just how generous and thoughtful they are. Peter suddenly grasps that there is God, acting among them, a daunting or even terrifying thought. Jesus replies to Peter's recognition with his own generosity, giving him a new name, 'Rock', for this is what 'Peter' means. If you name something, you make it your own, take it to yourself. This is just what Jesus does with Simon who becomes his own Peter. That is the importance of the naming of a child at Baptism: Jesus takes us to himself and we become his. The early Christians called themselves 'Those over whom the name of Jesus has been called.' We may have been named Mary or John, but the name of Jesus has been called over us and we have become his – with the responsibility of following in his footsteps.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK Saint Louis (1214 - 1270) became King of France (as Louis IX) at the age of 12. He was married and had eleven children, to whom he gave an excellent upbringing. He was noted for his spirit of prayer and penitence and for his love for the poor. He ran his kingdom not only to give peace to the people and economic stability but also for their spiritual good. He founded the Sorbonne and was a friend of St Thomas Aquinas. He was a member of the Order of Penitents of St Francis of Assisi, which later became the Franciscan Third Order and is now known as the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS). Louis was trusted by his fellow-rulers in Europe and often asked to arbitrate in their disputes. He undertook two unsuccessful crusades to liberate Christ's burial-place and on the second of these he died, near Carthage, in the year 1270.

Blessed Dominic Barberi (1792 – 1849) was born near Viterbo, Italy, in 1792 and joined the Passionist Order, urged on by an inner assurance that God called him to work as a missionary in England. He was ordained a priest in 1818 and worked in Italy and Belgium before coming to England in 1841. His first foundation was at Aston Hall in Staffordshire; he established four Passionist houses in all, and received many Anglicans into full communion, the most famous being John Henry Newman, who was received at Littlemore near Oxford on 9 October 1845. Blessed Dominic was noted for the personal warmth of his approach to non-Catholics and for his zeal in preaching; he drew crowds in spite of his strong Italian accent. He favoured a higher profile for the small Catholic body in England;

he went around in his Passionist habit and, while at Aston Hall in 1844, organised a Corpus Christi procession through the streets of the neighbourhood, which is believed to have been the first public procession of its kind in England in modern times. Blessed Dominic died at Reading on 27 August 1849 and was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1963.

Saint Monica (331 - 387) was born at Thagaste in Africa of a Christian family. She was married young, to Patricius, and among her children was Augustine. He had a brilliant intellect and uncertain morals and his wayward spiritual career saw him at one time a Manichee and then a Neoplatonist. With many tears she prayed unceasingly to God for his conversion and her prayers were answered shortly before she died. She had a deep faith and outstanding virtue and is a wonderful example of a Christian mother.

St Augustine of Hippo (354 - 430) was born in Thagaste in Africa of a Berber family. He was brought up a Christian but left the Church early and spent a great deal of time seriously seeking the truth, first in the Manichaean heresy, which he abandoned on seeing how nonsensical it was, and then in Neoplatonism, until at length, through the prayers of his mother and the teaching of St Ambrose of Milan, he was converted back to Christianity and baptized in 387, shortly before his mother's death. Augustine had a brilliant legal and academic career, but after his conversion he returned home to Africa and led an ascetic life. He was elected Bishop of Hippo and spent 34 years looking after his flock, teaching them, strengthening them in the faith and protecting them strenuously against the errors of the time. He wrote an enormous amount and left a permanent mark on both philosophy and theology. His Confessions, as dazzling in style as they are deep in content, are a landmark of world literature. The Second Readings in the Office of Readings contain extracts from many of his works. He was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1308.

St John the Baptist has two feasts to himself. One, in August, celebrates his death, and one, in June, celebrates his birth. And this is as it should be, for as Christ himself said, John was the greatest of the sons of men.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Michael David Farrand (84) (Hollingworth), who funeral rites are planned for the crematorium at 11am on Wednesday.

BAPTISED THIS WEEKEND at Immaculate Conception church Maeve Rose Carter. Welcome to the family of the church in our parish.

LET US PRAY! CHOOSING ST CHARLES' PARISH PRAYER Kath Holtom writes: "At the back of the church are displayed and numbered in red the 30 prayers submitted by individual parishioners. You are all asked to tick the prayer of your choice on the form below the display. You may choose up to 3. All these prayers are contained in a booklet. We have also produced a list of traditional prayers and some comforting ones. These booklets may be printed or can be obtained online if you leave your email address."

RECENT TOTE WINNERS **St Charles:** 1st (£40) A Marsden; 2nd (£20) V Gebbett;

Broadbottom : 1st (£40) H Brierley; 2nd (£20) R Stokes.

ST PHILIP HOWARD CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY, in Glossop, has seen some of its best GCSE results ever, with a significant increase in student attainment and a record number of positive outcomes across a range of subjects. Mike Kays, Headteacher at St Philip Howard, said: "I would like to congratulate all of our students on their GCSE results. Behind every grade is a story of dedication, perseverance and growth. We are delighted to share in their success and thank our staff and families for the unwavering support they have provided along the way. Well done to every student on this important achievement. "As they take their next steps, I know they will continue to achieve great things and make a positive difference in the world around them."

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.

AND FINALLY Many recall fondly the helpful ministry in our deanery over eight years of Fr Emmanuel Abbem. At the behest of his bishop in Kumasi, Ghana, he is leaving his appointment in Matlock/Hassop to return this week to his home diocese this week. Salve atque vale!