



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE



PARISH NEWSLETTER

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (a)
Jan 1st 2023



The Collect prayer for a deceased Pope

*“O God
who in your wondrous providence
chose your servant Pope Benedict XVI
to preside over your church,
grant we pray, that,
having served as the Vicar of your Son
on earth,
he may be welcomed by him
into eternal glory.
Through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen”*

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners

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Head : Mrs G Beaumont
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SK13 8DR
Head : Mrs L Morris
Tel : 853611/861022

DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 1st Jan 2023	MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD 9.15 (BB) Margaret Robinson RIP (fam) 11am (HAD) for the parish	
Mon 2nd	St Basil & St Gregory 9.30 (HAD) Peter McDonald RIP (SG)	
Tues 3rd	The Holy Name of Jesus 9.30 (HAD) Carl Evans RIP (fam)	
Weds 4th	Christmas feria 9.30 (HAD) Sister Philo (DW)	
Thurs 5th	Christmas feria 9.30 (HAD) R,L&S Dungo (DW)	
Fri 6th	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 9.30 (BB) for the parish noon (HAD) Geo Simpson & Margery Revell RIP (AM)	
Sat 7th	St Raymond of Peñafort 9.30 (HAD) Paul Farnsworth RIP (fam)	
Sun 8th	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 9.15 (BB) J Moore RIP (SG) 11am (HAD) K Pover RIP (fam)	
		<i>12.15 HAD bapt : Ledger</i>

<p>MARY MOTHER OF GOD (A)</p> <p>Psalter Week 2</p> <p>Introduction: Hail Holy Mother! The child to whom you gave birth is King of Heaven and earth forever!</p> <p>First Reading : Num 6 : The Lord's blessing made clear.</p> <p>Resp.Ps O GOD BE GRACIOUS AND BLESS US</p> <p>Second Reading : Gal 4 : God sent his Son, born of a woman.</p> <p>Gospel : Lk 2 : The shepherds adore the Son of God; His name is Jesus.</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, Joan Killeen, Una Wilkinson, Dennis Brady, Christine Wild, David Healey, Jacob Ibbotson, Alice Canning.

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Revv Peter Wilson, Paddy Kearney, Bernard Mooney, Jeremiah McGillycuddy, Bob Woodbridge, Dan Reid, Hugh Atkinson, Paddy Snee, Michael Stewart; *George Langton, Michael Joseph Deary, William Gray, Hilda Normyle, Leonard Judge, Kitty Ball, Toby Higgs, Philip Love, Maureen Axon, Tommy Nelson, Celina Klimczyk, Lawrence Cassidy, Sister Catherine Keogh, Colleen Whittham, Kevin Cannon, Ken Pover, Florence Walton, George Simpson, Margery Revell, Brian Derbyshire* : *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them: may they rest in peace. Amen*

PARISH NOTES

THIS SUNDAY we celebrate the solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. The feast is a celebration of Mary being the mother of Jesus. The English title "Mother of God" is a literal translation of the Latin title *Mater Dei*, which in turn is a rendering of the Greek title Θεοτόκος (*Theotokos*), meaning "Bearer of God" dogmatically adopted by the First Council of Ephesus (431) as an assertion of the divinity of Christ. The Second Vatican Council stated: "Clearly from earliest times the Blessed Virgin is honoured under the title of Mother of God." and at an early stage the Church in Rome celebrated on 1 January a feast that it called the anniversary (*Natale*) of the Mother of God.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY is celebrated on Friday. It is a holyday of obligation, and also of course Twelfth Night. Note that an additional Mass will be celebrated at noon at St Charles that day.

THE FUNERAL arrangements for Kevin Laidlaw are indicated for Immaculate Conception church at 11am on Tues 17th January. May he rest in peace.

THE BIG RAFFLE All 37 prizes were carefully listed and labelled. The list of winners and their prizes can be found at the back of church. I hope that you will take note of that list and claim the prizes that are sitting on an adjacent table. If the prizes are not claimed by noon on Sun 8th Jan, they will be 'recycled'.

CRIB DONATIONS When you visit our cribs here and there, please note that donations will be sent to the Holy Childhood mission charity, to help needy children in Catholic parishes in the developing world.

PUBLICATIONS The January 2023 edition of '**My Day by Day**' is now available, free-of-charge from the back of church. Also the latest edition of the **Diocesan Newspaper** (free).

'**Magnificat**' for January has arrived and is available (£5) from the back of church.

POPE FRANCIS has asked us to pray for his predecessor Pope-Emeritus Benedict XVI. Pope Benedict died aged 95 as this letter was going to press. You'll find a prayer on page one of this newsletter which I commend to your use.

GREETINGS-CARDS addressed to parishioners have accumulated at the back of our churches. May I invite you to check those cards and now that the Christmas season is well advanced. It's time to make sure

these cards reach their rightful homes. After Mass next Sunday, the 8th of January, would be a good time to gather any remaining cards together to be kept safe in case anyone calls for them later. If you see one for a parishioner whom you know and can pass on their card please do so.

THE PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER was arranged to take place on the 19th of December at the golf club in Glossop. There was a major water leak in east Glossop that day, and the turned-off water prevented the gathering. The kindly organisers of that pre-Christmas dinner have secured an alternative date - on the 14th of February, the feastday of a loving saint! This will be a timely way to prepare for the beginning of the Lenten season which starts the next week on Ash Wednesday, the 22nd of February. Would those who booked and paid for the meal please confirm they are able to attend, 12.30 for 1pm. Please contact Denise/John on 01457 762632 / 07851265230.

COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS : a message from Sue Hoolahan:

'We are working with Carmel church 'Bellies Not Bins', who are urgently in need of carrier bags to be able to distribute food. If you have any would you kindly bring them to St Charles on any Sunday and we'll deliver them after mass. Additionally, they are desperately in need of sanitary products and toiletries. Also they would be grateful for any food donations. We hope to collect items regularly, so if you have anything to donate please let Sylvia Shaw, Rob Cranston or Sue Hoolahan know. Your donations, which can be brought to church or rectory will help the whole local community, so please be as generous as you can to help people struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.

We also recently met with the good folk of Hadfield Methodist church. They provide a welcoming space on a Monday and Thursday with a nutritious lunch and warm space. Volunteers from St Charles will also be helping there. They have asked if anyone could donate any 500-piece jigsaw puzzles. They have also asked for donations of family cakes to serve at each session, home made or shop bought. They need about 3 per session. If you have any please bring them to Rob, Sylvia, or Sue on any Sunday. Thanks.

STANDING ORDERS: Immaculate Conception : Sort Code 30-13-32 A/c "St Margaret's church/ collection" 00510567 ; St Charles : Sort Code 30-13-32 A/c "Charles church/collection" 00269177.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITS will not take place on Friday 6th, but may be expected on Fri 3rd Feb.

A QUESTION OF IDENTITY Maybe it was preliminary thoughts as we journeyed into Advent that led me to wonder why I had no birth certificate. I was fairly confident that I had been born, even though I had no particular memory of that event. So, in mid-December I contacted the General Register Office and asked if they could help to prove my existence - or who I was. On the feast of the Holy Family I received in the post a copy of my Birth Certificate which tells the world that I was born in the Women's hospital in Derby, a lifetime ago. Being reassured that I wasn't delivered by a stork, or discovered under a gooseberry bush, I rejoiced that I had documentary proof of me. No longer a need to pinch myself. It added a tinge of completeness to my personal document file. However, reading through the birth certificate I noted at the end the dire warning that this certificate is not evidence of identity. Then I began to muse what is proof of identity, and where should I lodge this legal document?: under medical records?, in the priestly-ministerial file? In my will?

Joseph and Mary came to Bethlehem to register their existence in a census. We are required by the government to complete the census I think every 10 years. Is that sufficient proof of identity? Did Joseph scurry off to the Bethlehem register office to record the birth of our saviour? If so, who was listed as 'father'?

The whole of the New Testament wrestles with the question of the identity of Mary's son. On this Sunday as we celebrate Mary the mother of God, we celebrate not only Mary's Fiat but also the deepest down identity of Jesus. The scriptures are his 'certification of identity'. And back to the question of my self-identity. Time to pause and wrestle with that one! For the time being I'm lodging my new identity in the file containing my Baptismal and ordination certificates.