



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LONGDENDALE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY VII (a)
Feb 19th 2023



*"It was but a sunny smile,
And little it cost in the giving,
But it scattered the night
like the morning light
And made the day worth living."*

(Fr Faber)

Love your enemies!

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SK13 8DR
Head : Mrs L Morris
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DATE	MASS	OTHER
Sun 19th	SEVENTH SUNDAY 9.15 (BB) for the parish 11am (HAD) Vincent O'Brien RIP (D&KH)	
Mon 20th	feria 9.30 (HAD)	
Tues 21st	feria / St Peter Damian	Shrove Tuesday 9.30 (HAD) S F Perry RIP (D&KH)
Weds 22nd	ASH WEDNESDAY 9.30 (HAD) decd of Perry family (D&KH) <i>Noon (HAD) short service of Word, with imposition of Ashes</i> <i>7pm (HAD) short service of Word, with imposition of Ashes</i>	
Thurs 23rd	Lent feria / St Polycarp 8am (HAD) DCA	(Sycamore 7pm, oratory)
Fri 24th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) DCA	
Sat 25th	Lent feria 9.30 (HAD) DCA	
Sun 26th	FIRST LENT 9.15 (BB) DCA 11am (HAD) for the parish	

<p>SEVENTH SUNDAY (A)</p> <p>Psalter Week 3</p> <p>Introduction: With Jesus we are charged to walk the extra mile.</p> <p>First Reading : Lev 19 : You must love your neighbour as yourself.</p> <p>Resp.Ps. THE LORD IS COMPASSION & LOVE</p> <p>Second Reading : 1 Cor 3 : The servants of God.</p> <p>Gospel : Mt 5 : Love your enemies.</p>
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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, Beatrice .

Please recall in prayer our deceased priests and parishioners whose anniversaries occur about this time: Revv Leo McReavy, Colin Taylor, Roger Maher, Ray Faghy, Edward Walker, Robin Pollard; *Flo Thompson, Helen Felstead, Patrick McKenna, Ian Morris, Gerard Lathwood: 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 seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. It is the last "in ordinary time" till June 18th. Today's green gives way on Wednesday to sombre purple as we voyage together into the 7-week season of Lent. Furthermore, we are invited this weekend to pray together for **the unemployed** - a pressing need in our days. The **Gospel** lesson we have to learn today hardly needs any emphasizing. We must, if we are truly Christian, forgive those who offend or injure us. We must love one and all, whether they be friends or enemies. G. K. Chesterton says: "We are commanded to love our neighbours and our enemies; they are often the same people." It is easy to get on with most people, but in every neighbourhood and in every village or town there will always be those who are difficult. There will be the dishonest, the gossips, the quarrelsome, the critic of everyone and everything. It is when we have dealings with such people that all our Christian charity is necessary. Most likely we will never be able to change their ways of acting, but charity will enable us to tolerate their faults and will move us to pray for their eternal welfare.

ASH WEDNESDAY is a day of fasting & abstinence - the only other similar day is Good Friday. So why not make it special and know a hunger-pang or two? With Immaculate Conception church still being out of weekday usage, I have added occasions for folk to receive their ashes. Please note with care these timings with care. If any housebound or disabled parishioner would welcome an 'ashes-at-home' visit, please message me.

ABOUT LENT

1. Lent is the third liturgical season, after Advent & Christmas.
2. As Advent prepares us for the Saviour's Birth, Lent prepares us for his 'rebirth' in the Resurrection;
3. Ash Wednesday is preceded by Shrove Tuesday, the day when traditionally Catholics were shriven—i.e. received the Sacrament of Penance. Lent begins with a ritual of 'Ashing', to remind us of our nothingness without Christ;
4. During Lent we put aside floral decoration in church, we don't sing the 'Gloria', and 'Alleluia' is verboten!
5. Although a season of 40 days in remembrance of Jesus' forty days and nights on the mountain, there are 44 days to Maundy Thursday, when Lent ends and the Sacred Triduum begins;
6. Many folk put aside Lenten disciplines on the Solemnities during Lent, noticeably St Joseph, the Annunciation, (and for Irish folk, St Patrick's Day).
7. Lent is named after the 'lengthening' days in springtime;
8. The dating of Ash Wednesday depends on when Easter falls. Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon following the spring equinox;
9. There is another 'season' incorporated into Lent: Passiontide is the two weeks preceding Easter Sunday;

10. Traditionally there are four biblical imperatives during Lent : Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving and Repentance.

11. Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of the period for fulfilling 'Easter Duties'. Easter Duties? The duty laid on Catholics to go to Confession and Holy Communion at least once during the 15-week period to Trinity Sunday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are journeyed on Friday afternoons at 3pm at St Charles. If you would welcome the chance to lead this devotion, according to your own preferred setting, please ask. I hope you will find chance to join in the footsteps of our Divine Lord journeying cross-laden to Calvary.

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH Phillipa and Thomas Carney, baptised this Saturday at St Charles church. May your sainted patrons watch over you.

COLLECTION BOXES IN CHURCH you can find at the back of church various boxes and containers for foodstuffs and other goods. These goods will go to our local food banks for distribution via the local church communities. You will see a list of needed goods in recent newsletters.

PANCAKE MEMORIES As Shrove Tuesday approaches, good to remember those heady days when the oratory and the back of church was full of folk enjoying parochial pancakes. 'Thanks for the memory . . .'

FESTIVE THANKS to the good folk who arranged and the rearranged the parish Christmas dinner. This was enjoyed by 52 diners at the golf club on Tuesday—replete with crackers and hats—just 12 days out of season! When's the next occasion?

THE SYCAMORE COURSE continues this week on Thursday 23rd Feb.—7pm in the oratory.

CALLING CATHOLIC TEACHERS If you are a Catholic teacher currently working outside of Catholic education and would like to find out more about the joys of working in a Catholic school within the Diocese of Nottingham, a virtual information session will take place on **Wednesday 29th March** from 7.00pm – 8.30pm. See the poster on the parish notice board for further information, and to book contact: Julie Sweeney at the Diocesan Education Service (julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk)

RECENT TOTE WINNERS St Charles; £40 : P Green; £20 : S Gebbett.

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.

PLANNED-GIVING ENVELOPES are being prepared. We have a list of present users. Please let us know if you have switched, for example, to standing-order, then we will disregard your box.

EARTHQUAKE APPEAL The last-minute request last Sunday for donations to the DEC appeal revealed wonderful generosity that allowed £700 to be sent via CAFOD.

To Keep a True Lent

Is this a fast, to keep
The larder lean?
And clean
From fat of veals and sheep ?

Is it to quit the dish
Of flesh, yet still
To fill
The platter high with fish ?

Is it to fast an hour,
Or ragg'd to go,
Or show
A downcast look and sour ?

No ; 'tis a fast to dole
Thy sheaf of wheat,
And meat,
Unto the hungry soul.

It is to fast from strife,
From old debate
And hate ;
To circumsise thy life.

To show a heart grief-rent ;
To starve thy sin,
Not bin ;
And that's to keep thy Lent.

Robert Herrick 1648