



## **Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden**

**3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016  
2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

# **ALLELUIA!**



After the excitement of Easter, what do we do this week? We acclaimed the Resurrection a week ago, but today we read about someone who doubted it - and not just anyone, but someone who was in the very inner circle of Jesus's followers.

We may be tempted to think we are better than Thomas, and wouldn't possibly have

doubted it. In fact we are all Thomas, and the church today is the room where the disciples were gathered. We don't see Jesus in the way they did, but we see Him present in the gathered congregation, in the person of the priest and especially on the altar; and as we listen to the scriptures it is He who is actually talking to us. And yet... it is only the eyes and ears of faith that tell us this. How does this Gospel story work? In his appearances after the Resurrection, it is Jesus who personally shows himself to Mary Magdalene and then today to the disciples. On our own we cannot know that Jesus is alive - He has to show himself to us, which generally happens through other Christians in whom we recognise His face. Can we say when this happened to us?

## SMILE LINES

### Who is he?

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers and other hardened criminals. The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. 'He looks a tough customer,' she whispered. "Whatever has HE done?" The Governor paused and smiled. 'Ah, actually, he is the chaplain.'

\* \* \* \* \*

### Happy Ending

Comment from a parishioner: 'Our vicar's sermons always have a happy ending. The moment they've ended, everyone feels happy.'

\* \* \* \* \*

A golfer spent an eternity over his tee shot. He kept measuring the wind strength and direction, checking the distance and practising his swing. Eventually his playing partner became so impatient that he said, "Come on! Get on with it! Just hit the ball!"

"You don't understand. My wife is watching me from the clubhouse balcony. I want to make this a perfect shot."

"Forget it! You'll never hit her from here."

\* \* \* \* \*

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday 10.3am. and 7.00PM

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

10.00am Intentions of Eleanor Coombs

6.00pm Maria Pia Milo Villagrazia (RIP)

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April SECOND OF EASTER

8.30am Jimmy Fennell (RIP) Rec. Dec.

9.45am Dora O'Mahoney (RIP) Rec. Dec.

11.30am Ralph Langshaw (RIP)

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April THE ANNUNCIATION

9.15am Mrs Boutros (RIP) Anniv.

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am Private Intention (FH)

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am Trish & Gordon Lewis Intentions

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April St. John Baptist de la Salle

11.00am Margaret Duncan (RIP) Rec. Dec.

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

11.30am Funeral Mass Joan Gaire RIP

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April

10.01am People of the Parish

6.00pm Frank McConnachie (RIP)

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 3<sup>rd</sup> of EASTER

8.30am Margaret Purtill (RIP) Anniv.

9.45am Margaret Foulds (RIP)

11.30am Elizabeth (Mary) Stower (RIP) Anniv

## POPE FRANCIS quote

It is true that going out on to the street implies the risk of accidents happening, as they would to any ordinary man or woman. But if the Church stays wrapped up in itself, it will age. And if I had to choose between a wounded Church that goes out on to the streets and a sick, withdrawn Church, I would definitely choose the first one.