



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

23rd AUGUST 2015
21st SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



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(Retired)

The final scene in this five-week Eucharistic Gospel of John is reached with the moment of truth for the followers of Jesus – ‘many of them left him and stopped going with him’. The thought is discouraging - even Jesus himself in person could not convince people of what he taught, and one of his closest followers would hand him over to his enemies. The final stage is to ask the Twelve, among whom is this very betrayer, if they would like to go away too, and Peter gives us all hope and strength by his touching response ‘Lord, who shall we go to?’ This is John’s equivalent to what we heard earlier on the feast of Peter and Paul: ‘But you, who do you say that I am?’ Peter’s response in this case has an extra element not found in the other Gospels: ‘You have the message of eternal life’. This follows on from what Jesus says earlier, ‘the words I have spoken to you are spirit, and they are life’. In the long reflection on Christ’s true presence in the Eucharist, we should take careful note of this, as it supports what the General Instruction to the Roman Missal says about Christ being present in the Word. In fact this is what the Mass is about: first Word, then Thanksgiving.

SMILE LINES

After her father died, Mary was clearing out the his house when she found a receipt for a pair of shoes that had been left at the repair shop in 2002. Out of curiosity, she wondered whether the shoes were still there, so she went to the shop and presented the receipt.

The man behind the counter took the receipt, looked in the back of the shop and said, 'They'll be ready Thursday'

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A young boy watched intently as his mother gently rubbed cold cream on her face.

'Why are you doing that?' he asked eventually.

'To make myself beautiful she replied.

A few minutes later she began removing the cream with a tissue.

'What's the matter?' asked her son. ' You giving up?'

* * * * *

A little boy greeted his grandma with a hug and said, 'I'm so huppy to see you, Grandma. Now maybe Daddy will do the trick he has been promising us.

'What trick's that?' she asked.

'Well, said the little boy excitedly, 'I heard Daddy tell Mummy that he would climb the walls if you came to visit us again.'

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MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 22nd August

10.00 Felicity Foster RIP

6.00pm Ann Ryan RIP

Sunday 23rd August

8.30 Alec Morley (RIP) Anniv.

9.45 The People of the Parish

11.30 Elizabeth & Timothy O'Mahony RIP

Monday 24th August

9.15 Canon Bernard Longstaff RIP Anniv.

Tuesday 25th August

9.15 Ints. Of John Tilney

Wednesday 26th August

9.15

Thursday 27th August

11.00 Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Friday 28th August

9.15

Saturday 29th August

10.00

6.00pm

Sunday 30th August

08.30 Intentions of Liam & Theresa Dooley

09.45 The People of the Parish

11.30 David Morley (RIP) Anniv.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 10.30am - 11.00am and after the 6.00pm Mass.

QUOTE - Pope Francis

The culture of care of the environment is not only a “green” attitude, it’s much more, To look after the environment is to have an attitude of human ecology. Ecology is total, it is human. The encyclical Laudato Si’, says “that man cannot be separated from the rest.”