



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

9th April 2017
Palm Sunday

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Parish Office

Open NEXT WEEK:

Monday, Tuesday &

Thursday

9.30am – 12.30pm

Office Administrator

Jane Rose

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Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
(Retired)

Today we begin Holy Week, the most important week in the Church's year. One spiritual writer describes the Holy Week journey as being like boarding a ship: *"On Palm Sunday we reach the quayside. A great ship is fretting at the moorings.....this great ship of Holy Week will carry us surely, strongly, into the Passion of Christ....All we have to do now is board the ship and allow it to take us all the way. We have nothing else to do but let it take us."*

We board the ship of Holy Week when we enter into the various celebrations of the coming days. Today, Palm Sunday, we align ourselves with the crowds who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem, and then on Maundy Thursday we journey to the upper room, and recall the institution of the Eucharist, and Our Lord's humble service, as he washes the feet of his disciples. The ship of Holy Week takes us then through the Garden of Gethsemane and to Calvary, on Good Friday, and the death of Jesus on the Cross. This is the followed by the silence of Holy Saturday and then on Easter Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Holy Week is a privileged time, a special time, a lovely opportunity to remember, and to celebrate, those last great events of Jesus' life. We share this last journey of Jesus, we enter into Holy week, by participating, as far as we can, in the different celebrations. The celebrations of these coming days speak of Jesus' love for each us, as we journey with him we express our love and gratitude for all that he has done for us

**DEVELOPING WORLD
GROUP (DWG)**

The DWG's latest project entails funding the cost (£2,471.00) of refurbishing and redecorating the flushing lavatory block at Moyo Babies Home, where up to 60 orphaned or otherwise at risk 0-5 year olds are looked after, many coming from conflict zones.(See DWG section of parish website for more information, including photos, under 'Projects') Parishioners kindly donated £94.04 between 20 February and 31 March, vis the vestibule wooden box at weekend masses and the wall safe, together with £313 in standing orders in February. Thank you for all this and the other donations/Gift Aid declarations you have made, which mean that we now need around £1,600 (est) to complete the project.

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| MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK |
| Saturday 8th April 10.00am The People of the Parish 6.00pm Colin King RIP rec.dec. |
| PALM SUNDAY 9th April 8.30am Tim & Margaret Gaynor RIP Anniv 9.45am Anna Whittle RIP rec.dec. 11.30am Ann Martin RIP rec.dec. |
| Monday 10th April 9.15am Margaret Foulds RIP |
| Tuesday 11th April 9.15am Joan Gaire RIP (SVP Group) |
| Wednesday 12th April 9.15am Vivienne Deuss |
| HOLY THURSDAY 13th April 8.00pm The People of the Parish |
| GOOD FRIDAY 14th April 10.30am Walk of Witness 11.30am Children's Stations of the Cross 3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion |
| Saturday 15th April 8.00pm Easter Vigil Mass The People of the Parish |
| EASTER SUNDAY 16th April 8.30am The People of the Parish 9.45am The People of the Parish 11.30am The People of the Parish |
| <u>CONFESSIONS</u> Saturday 10.30-11.00am and after the 6.00pm Mass. |