



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

15th February 2014
6th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



Parish Priest:

Monsignor Canon
H. Turner

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Parish Office

Open Mon, Tues,
Wed & Friday
9.30am – 12.30pm

Office Administrator

Jane Rose

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Also in Residence

Bishop John Crowley –
Retired.

What was called leprosy in biblical times was not quite the same disease as the one so called today but denoted certain less serious and curable skin conditions. The elaborate rituals in Leviticus for those afflicted, including their segregation away from human contact, may be the relic of a belief that it was caused by demons or even by sin. Being required to announce your approach by crying 'unclean, unclean' must have had a demoralising effect. It still happens today when any new and threatening disease appears, and if Jesus was alive today it might have been AIDS which he cured - it might be assumed that a person with HIV is by definition immoral. Even lesser illnesses or injuries can be associated with moral shortcomings, as seen in BBC's Casualty each week where admission for a physical ailment often leads to the discovery of a murky secret. This could explain why the psalm is about guilt and forgiveness of sin, rather than simply a thanksgiving for healing. 'We need both, of course. This is a good introduction to Lent, which is not a plunge into misery but a gateway to Easter. How can we miss a single week without giving thanks, when we celebrate a ritual called Eucharist?'

SMILE LINES

Mothers and teenagers

A woman was confiding in her neighbour just how hard it was for her to get her teenagers out of bed in the morning. The neighbour replied that she never had any trouble at all with her son. "I just open the door and throw the cat on the bed," she explained. The woman was puzzled, and asked how that might help. "Easy. My son sleeps with the dog."

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Expensive boat

A vicar was planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was aghast when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. "That might be true," replied the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked."

"Well, at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!"

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Missing socks in your life?

What does it mean when all the socks in your laundry match, with none left over?

You're now losing them in pairs!

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CONFESSIONS

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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 14th February

10.00am Private Intention

6.00pm Alan Young (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 15th February

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am Barry Aire (RIP) Rec. Dec.

11.30am Eddie Quinn (RIP) Anniv. 1 year

Monday 16th February

9.15am Private Intention

Tuesday 17th February

9.15am Intentions of H.F.

Wednesday 18th February

9.15am Theresa Naughton (RIP) Anniv.

6.00pm Rebecca Lane (RIP) Anniv. 1 year

Thursday 19th February

11am Service of the Word

Friday 20th February

9.15am Dorothy Butkus (RIP) Rec. Dec.

Saturday 21st February

10.00am Private Intention (H.S.)

6.00pm Eddie Quinn (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 22nd February

8.30am Frank McConnachie (RIP) Anniv.

9.45am Private Intention

11.30am Bridget Flanagan (RIP) Anniv.

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

9th February: £36.56 received in cash since 26 January. All of this and the DWG's other receipts, primarily standing orders, goes to our current project in Uganda. Thank you for your generosity.