



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

January 24th 2015
THIRD SUNDAY of the YEAR



THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

Parish Priest:
Monsignor Canon
H. Turner

I, Kirkwick Avenue,
Harpenden AL5 2QH
tel: 01582 712245

EMAIL

ht@rcdow.org.uk

WEBSITE:

[parish@rcdow.org.uk/
harpenden/](http://parish@rcdow.org.uk/harpenden/)

twitter: @RC_OLOL

Parish Office

**Open Mon, Tues,
Wed & Friday**

9.30am – 12.30pm

Office Administrator

Jane Rose

email:

janerose@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence
Bishop Emeritus
John Crowley
(Retired)

We should look on Ezra and Nehemiah, as major figures in the history of salvation. In 587 BC Jerusalem fell and its inhabitants that were not put to the sword carried off into exile in Babylon (beside whose rivers some sat down and wept.) In 539 BC Cyrus King of Persia decreed that the exiles could return to Jerusalem. By about 445 BC the city and nation were in bad shape and Nehemiah and Ezra began a process of rebuilding, not only materially but spiritually. Ezra is credited with preserving the books of the Law, the Torah, which seem to have been unknown to the people, as today's passage describes. The Hebrew scriptures, in a way, come through him. What an introduction to the Gospel when the young preacher Jesus makes himself known by taking the mantle of Isaiah on himself: *He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.... This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.* And as these words are read and we listen today, the process is happening anew. From the Liturgy Constitution in 1963, it has been our belief that: *[Christ] is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church.* (§7). Present, as in the eucharistic elements. We must begin to believe it!

SMILE LINES

The puppy

A clergyman was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen boys, surrounding a small puppy. Concerned lest the boys were hurting it, he went to investigate. One boy explained, "We just found this puppy, and we all want him. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to take him home."

The minister was taken aback. "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie? Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie." There was dead silence for a moment. The minister thought he had got through to them.

Then the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give him the dog."

* * * * *

The bump

A man who had just undergone a very complicated operation kept complaining about a bump on his head and a terrible headache. Since his operation had been an intestinal one, the nurse was concerned. Finally she spoke to the doctor about it. The doctor assured her, "Don't worry, he really does have a bump on his head. About halfway through the operation, we ran out of anesthetic."

* * * * *

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 10.30am

Saturday: 7.00pm.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 23rd January

10am Ints. Graham Pechey

6pm Mary Rafferty (RIP)

Sunday 24th January

08.30 Gerard O'Keefe (RIP)

09.45 Alex Timpson (RIP)

11.30 Patrick Hayes (RIP) Anniv.1yr

Monday 25th January

09.15 People of the Parish

Tuesday 26th January

9.15

Wednesday 27th January

09.15 Agnes McKeown (RIP) Anniv.

Thursday 28th January

11.00 Bernard & Mary McGarry (RIP)
Anniv

Friday 29th January

09.15

Saturday 30th January

10am Intention of Maria Wielgut

6pm Brid Strutt (RIP)

Sunday 31st January

08.30 Siân Lankes (RIP)

09.45 Mary O'Donoghue (RIP)

11.30 Elizabeth Stower (RIP) Anniv.
& Stephen Reed (RIP) rec.dec.

MARRIAGE THANKSGIVING

The Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May 2016 at 3pm.

He will be inviting to this Mass all couples who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2016. Contact Mgr. Turner, please.