



# Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

12<sup>th</sup> July 2015  
15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



**THEY SET  
OUT TO  
PREACH  
REPENTANCE**

**Parish Priest:**  
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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.

Pope Francis has asked for there to be a new Evangelisation. The reality is that we are, most of the time, an inward-looking church. The limit of our commitment is Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass, perhaps not even every week. The idea of prophesying or even admitting our Christianity outside the church is frightening. It invites ridicule; Britain is one of the most irreligious countries, and the church has generated very negative publicity in recent years. So how are we to preach? Words do not convince these days, what people want are Actions. If Christians are prominent in campaigns for social justice this is some proof of our commitment; demonstrating our love of neighbour is a vital preliminary to showing our love of God. How do we prepare? Reading the Gospel and refreshing it with Pope Francis's *The Joy of the Gospel*. Reading this week's passage from Mark, we are rather hardened to its implications. It is like the Church in action during Jesus's lifetime. They could not have been preaching the Resurrection; they were showing the love of God by healing and exorcising.

## SMILE LINES

A flash city broker was unwinding in a bar at the end of the working week and looking for some entertainment.

Waving wads of cash, he announced, 'If anyone here can drink twenty pints of Guinness, I'll give them five hundred pounds.

The barman lined up the twenty pints on the bar, but nobody took up the challenge. Then without saying a word, one man climbed off his stool, walked out of the bar and returned a few minutes later declaring that he could drink all twenty. And to everyone's astonishment he did. The broker grudgingly handed over the money and asked the man where he had popped out to. 'Welll he slurred, 'first I had to go to the bar next door to make sure I could do it!'

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## Signs found outside churches

- ~ Forbidden fruit creates many jams.
- ~ In the dark? Follow the Son.
- ~ Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.
- ~ If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.

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## CONFESSIONS

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

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July – ST. BENEDICT

10.00 Eddie Graham (RIP)

6.00pm Kathleen & Mary McCarthy (RIP)  
Anniv.

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July – 15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY

08.30 Mary O'Brien (RIP) Rec. Dec.

09.45 Margaret Glancy (RIP)

11.30 Elizabeth Stower (RIP)

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July

9.15 Intentions of AB

### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July

9.15 Intentions of Ruth & Kevin

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

9.15 Intentions of Alan & Joyce Thomas

### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July

11.00 Kevin Hayes (RIP) Anniv.

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

9.15 Intentions of Eugene Zadra

### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July

10.00 People of the Parish

6.00pm Myles Cash (RIP) Anniv.

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July– 16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY

08.30 Jimmy & Anne Brophy (RIP)

09.45 Raynah Watson (RIP)

11.30 Peter Headley (RIP)

## QUOTE - Pope Francis

While sin is part of our identity, we are sinners with faith in God who has anointed us, put his seal upon us” and given us the Holy Spirit as a pledge in our hearts.

Christians, are those who remain faithful to this God-given identity as the anointed ones who let the Spirit into their hearts, rather than those who follow a particular philosophy.