



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

12th July 2015
15th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



**THEY SET
OUT TO
PREACH
REPENTANCE**

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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 11th July – ST. BENEDICT

10.00 Eddie Graham (RIP)
6.00pm Kathleen & Mary McCarthy (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 12th July – 15th SUNDAY

08.30 Mary O'Brien (RIP) Rec. Dec.
09.45 Margaret Glancy (RIP)
11.30 Elizabeth Stower (RIP)

Monday 13th July

9.15 Intentions of AB

Tuesday 14th July

9.15 Intentions of Ruth & Kevin

Wednesday 15th July

9.15 Intentions of Alan & Joyce Thomas

Thursday 16th July

11.00 Kevin Hayes (RIP) Anniv.

Friday 17th July

9.15 Intentions of Eugene Zadra

Saturday 18th July

10.00 People of the Parish
6.00pm Myles Cash (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 19th July– 16th 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.