



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

26th July 2015
17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



**I AM THE
BREAD OF
LIFE. HE
WHO COMES
TO ME WILL
NEVER BE
HUNGRY**

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Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
– Retired.

There are details in today's story which are special to John's Gospel, such as the mention of Philip and Andrew, and the command to gather the fragments 'so that nothing gets wasted'. The 'small boy' who has the food is the same Greek word as 'servant' in the first reading from the Book of Kings which has some striking parallels with this story and no doubt was known to and influenced the Gospel writers. In John it is Jesus himself who gives out the food, another reason that John wanted to stress the eucharistic nature of the event (the Greek word for 'gave thanks' is eucharistein.) In his Last Supper account, remember, John does not mention the institution of the eucharist. Once again, we must not ignore Paul in Ephesians. Today's passage is a small treasure and the ideas of bearing with one another, one Body, and all the other 'ones' listed are close to the other readings.

SMILE LINES

Best position for effective prayer

Three ministers sat discussing the best positions for prayer while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one minister.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven."

"You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Sorry," he blurted out, "but the best praying I ever did was hanging upside down from a telephone pole."

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Baptism

A minister was officiating at the baptism of the youngest son of a Duke and asked for what the baby's name would be. The answer came: "His name is George Edward David Anthony Carrington-Smyth de Winters Cunningham Digby Cecil Barrington...."

"One minute please," interrupted the minister, "I'll go fetch another bucket of water!"

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QUOTE - Pope Francis

Given the insatiable and irresponsible growth produced over many decades, we need ... to think of containing growth by setting some reasonable limits and

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 25th July

10.00 Joan Clarke (RIP)

6.00pm John Byrne (RIP)

Sunday 26th July– 17th SUNDAY

8.30 People of the Parish

9.45 Gerald McGuinness (RIP) Anniv.

11.30 Margaret Dennehy (RIP)

Monday 27th July

9.15am In Thanksgiving M.B.

Tuesday 28th July

9.15am Bill Watson R.I.P.

Wednesday 29th July

9.15am Chan Hang Ping R.I.P.

Thursday 30th July

11.00am Service of the Word

with Holy Communion

Friday 31st July St. James

9.15am Intentions of Geoffrey & Fiona

Saturday 1st August

10.00am

6.00pm

Sunday 2nd August– 18th SUNDAY

08.30 People of the Parish

09.45 Gerald McGuinness (RIP) Anniv.

11.30 Margaret Dennehy (RIP)

even retracing our steps before it is too late. We know how unsustainable is the behaviour of those who constantly consume and destroy, while others are not yet able to live in a way worthy of their human dignity. That is why the time has come to accept decreased growth in some parts of the world, in order to provide resources for other places to experience healthy growth.