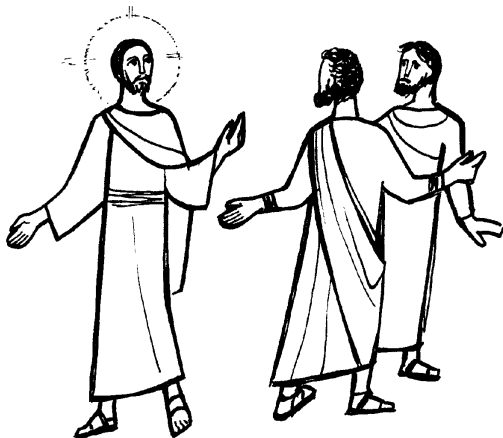




Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

26th June 2016
13th Sunday of the Year



FOLLOW ME !

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Also in Residence

Bishop Emeritus
John Crowley (Retired)

Today marks the turning point of Luke's Gospel, when Jesus 'resolutely took the road for Jerusalem' Everything happens in the course of the journey, of which we are reminded twice more. Discipleship and its cost are one of the main concerns. Today the calls to discipleship are dramatic and urgent, with exaggerated language to underline the singleness of purpose the disciple needs. However, the first attempt at mission ends in failure, when the Samaritans declare him unwelcome - their rivalry with their close relatives, the Jews, prevented contact. This gives the Good Samaritan story an added force. Note the reaction of James and John and Jesus's rebuke - and relate this to the second reading. The Old Testament passage chosen to precede this Gospel is an example of the reckless response to a call to follow God. If Jesus's words seem unreasonable, they already came true in Elisha's case. A ploughman eating his oxen - that is final.

SMILE LINES

A young policeman was assigned to an experienced partner and while out driving a call came over the car radio telling them to disperse some people who were loitering. They drove to the street and observed a small crowd standing on the corner. The young policeman quickly opened his window and shouted "move away from the corner" No-one moved so he shouted again "move away from the corner." Intimidated the crowd began to move, casting puzzled glances at the police car. The young policeman asked the older officer "How well did I do" "Pretty good" said the more experienced man "Since that was a bus stop!"

* * * * *

Crooked politicians

The editor of a small country newspaper, furious over several government bills that had recently been passed, printed a scathing editorial with an enormous headline: "**HALF THE LEGISLATORS ARE CROOKS.**" Many local politicians were outraged and exerted tremendous pressure on him to print a retraction. He finally gave in to the pressure and ran his apology with the headline: "**HALF OF OUR LEGISLATORS ARE NOT CROOKS.**"

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MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 25th June

10am People of the Parish

6pm Denise Iommi (RIP) Rec. Dec.

Sunday 26th June 13th Ordinary Time

08.30 Joseph O'Connor (RIP)

09.45 Susan Mackie (RIP) Anniv.

11.30 Johanna Minney Ints.

Monday 27th June St. John Southworth

09.15

Tuesday 28st June St. Irenaeus

09.15

Wednesday 29th June SS. PETER & PAUL

Holy Day of Obligation

9am Chang Hang Ping (RIP)

6pm Mona Moore (RIP)

Thursday 30th June

11am Service of the Word

with Holy Communion

Friday 1st July Dedication of the Cathedral

09.15 Intentions of Joan Pinnington

Saturday 2nd July

10am

6pm People of the Parish

Sunday 3rd July 14th Ordinary Time

08.30

09.45

11.30 Joan Gaire (RIP)

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 10.30 – 11.00am

Saturday after evening Mass – 7.00pm

POPE FRANCIS

"There are weaknesses and sins in all of us, But let's go deeper, to the roots: Where is the root of our weaknesses, our sins, that is to say what precisely is that 'treasure' that distances us from the Lord?"