



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

29th January 2017
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:

Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Parish Office

**Open Mon, Tues,
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9.30am – 12.30pm
Office Administrator
Jane Rose**

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**Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
(Retired)**

It is sometimes said that we live in the age of the instant! Such are our lives with contemporary technology that we expect, almost, everything to happen without any delay. And it's also the case with communication that we can communicate across the world literally in seconds, just as news is transmitted seemingly without delay. The concepts of patience and waiting simply do not feature in the lives of many.

The Gospel today notes those who experience difficulties in this life: the poor in spirit, those who mourn, those who hunger and thirst for what is right, those who are persecuted; and after each phrase there is a promise: theirs is the kingdom of heaven, they shall be comforted, they shall be satisfied. The Gospel we might say sums up the reality of life, the fact that life inevitably presents various difficulties and challenges from time to time. At such times we can feel quiet overwhelmed, it may be difficult to see the way forward. What our faith proclaims though is that there is a way forward, a light at the end of the tunnel, there can be hope, there can be optimism; that is why the beatitudes commence with the phrase 'happy are.....'.

We can be happy because of what God has prepared, what God has in store. We are not happy because of the difficulties which come our way, but we are happy because there is something greater awaiting us. So whatever befalls us, we can learn to wait, to wait with patience, to wait with faith, focusing on God and what He has prepared, and waiting, for us in His heavenly Kingdom.

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MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 28th January

10.00am Russell Sinfield (RIP) rec.dec.
6.00pm Bernard McGarry (RIP) Anniv

Sunday 29th January

8.30am The People of the Parish
9.45am Peter Lynch-Kelly (RIP)
11.30am Lisa King & Maurice Purtill
(RIP) Anniv

Monday 30th January

9.15am Catherine & Terence Kelly
(RIP) Anniv

Tuesday 31st January

9.15am Selwyn Walgate Intentions

Wednesday 1st February

9.15am Ralph Langshaw (RIP) Anniv
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Thursday 2nd February

11.00am Robert Morris (RIP)

Friday 3rd February

9.15am Lorna Martin Intentions

Saturday 4th February

10.00am
6.00pm Bernard St. John Glew (RIP)
Anniv

Sunday 5th February

8.30am Maura Grimshaw (RIP)
9.45am The People of the Parish
11.30am Ralph Langshaw (RIP) Anniv

CONFESSIONS

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