



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

9th July 2017
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Few of us during our lives can avoid carrying burdens of one kind or another. And it makes no difference be they large or small, when they come our way, they can weigh heavily upon us. So it's surely reassuring when we heard Jesus in today's Gospel inviting: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.'

Such an invitation is very comforting, all the more so as it comes from Jesus himself. Not least it tells us something about Jesus, the fact that he is interested in us, that he wants to be involved in our lives and, when we have a burden, he doesn't want us to struggle on our own to carry it, but rather he wants to take it from us, he wants to give us rest.

While Jesus wants us to know the rest that he alone can give, he is not making false promises to us, he is not saying that the Christian life is always going to be easy, that there will not be burdens or crosses to carry, or that we should not hold ourselves to high standards. Rather, he is reminding us that when we find ourselves overburdened – tired, frustrated, afraid, overwhelmed, disheartened – help is at hand. He invites us to come to him, and to unload our troubles onto him. He is a place of rest for our weary souls. With Jesus on board, our minds and hearts will be lighter, and we can focus on our tasks with renewed energy and zeal.

Parish Office

Open
**Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday & Friday**
9.30am – 12.30pm

Office Administrator
Ellen Hughesman
email:

harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
(Retired)

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

The Group promised to pay for the furnishing of Tabor Home, a refuge for the sick and dying in Gode, Ethiopia. On 5 July we sent £3,373 to Sister Mary Joachim who is leading the project, to fund Phase 1 (medicine trolley & cabinets, tables, chairs, sheets, towels, nightwear etc). We will now raise £2,020 for an 'oxygen concentrator' (which compresses air, removes nitrogen and delivers purified oxygen). Parishioners donated £2,127.68 between 7 June and 5 July in cash and cheques, including £1,050 from coffee/cakes/plants on 10 June, £550 from the Ladies Group's Strawberry Social on 25 June, and numerous donations. Thank you all for your great generosity.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

A member of High Street Methodist is concerned about the lack of affordable housing in Harpenden and is interested in forming a group with a view to setting up a community land trust. For more information see:

www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk If you have any expertise in this area and/or are interested in being part of this group, please contact Deacon Angie Allport on 01582 713773 or angie.allport@methodist.org.uk

NB. Entries for the Newsletter must be sent into the office by Wednesday at the latest.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK
Saturday 8th July Feria 10.00am The People of the Parish 6.00pm Tommy Bradley (RIP) Anniv
Sunday 9th July 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8.30am Sr. Conrad Intentions 9.45am Special Intention 11.30am Doris Fletcher (RIP)
Monday 10th July Feria 9.15am Margaret Fouldes (RIP)
Tuesday 11th July St Benedict 9.15am Sr. Ethle (Intentions)
Wednesday 12th July Feria 9.15am Eric J Rovick (Special Intention)
Thursday 13th July Feria 11.00am Private Intention (AB)
Friday 14th July Feria 9.15am Service of the Word with Holy Communion
Saturday 15th July St Bonaventure 10.00am Sr. Alfred (Intentions) 6.00pm Sanctity Of Life
Sunday 16th July 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8.30am Sr. Rosaria (Intentions) 9.45am People Of the Parish 11.30am Maureen Butler
CONFESSIONS Saturday 10.30-11.00am and after the 6.00pm Mass.