



# Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

1<sup>st</sup> March 2015  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



**Parish Priest:**  
Monsignor Canon  
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## Parish Office

Open Mon, Tues,  
Wed & Friday  
9.30am – 12.30pm

**Office Administrator**

**Jane Rose**

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**Also in Residence**  
**Bishop John Crowley**  
– Retired.

The story of Abraham and Isaac has troubling implications, but familiarity can mask these. God asks for a human sacrifice, and the father of the victim shows a willingness to obey? 'Sacrifice' in a Christian context means Christ, but he went willingly to his own death, and this story is surely one about faith. Abraham was ready to see everything that he had hoped for destroyed, trusting in God that there was a reason for it. In the outcome, God showed once and for all that he was different from other gods. Abraham really became 'our father in faith' as the fragile human thread of salvation comes through him. Abraham sees the ram and hears the command to kill it. Compare this with the Word of God today where we hear that 'God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all.' In the Gospel, Mark's account of the Transfiguration includes the discussion about 'rising from the dead'. We ourselves should discuss this too, unless we are 100% sure what it means. Today is a rehearsal for Easter. Peter wants to preserve the moment, but there is a death to go through.

## SMILE LINES

### Don't interrupt!

Sir Winston Churchill rehearsed his speeches at every opportunity. A true story about him relates how one morning, when Sir Winston was in his bath tub, his valet heard his voice above the splashing. Opening the door, he asked; "Were you speaking to me, sir?" "Not at all," Churchill replied, annoyed at the interruption. "I was addressing the House of Commons."

\* \* \* \* \*

### Hard to find

Vicar's wife: I'd like to open a joint account.  
Bank staff: With your husband?  
Vicar's wife: Heavens, no. With someone who has some money!

\* \*

### Noah had problems too

When Noah sailed the waters blue, he had his troubles same as you. For forty days he drove the Ark before he found a place to park.

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## CONFESSIONS

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

## CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our warmest congratulations to Noah James Dunne, son of Andrew & Emma, and Louis George Lynch, son of Anthony & Natasha, whom we welcomed in to the Catholic Church last weekend at the sacrament of Baptism. We wish them and their families every

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday 28th February

10.00am Intentions of Aoife Morris  
6.00pm Maria Au Yeung (RIP) Anniv.

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March SECOND OF LENT

8.30am Kathleen Doyle (RIP)  
9.45am Intentions of Margaret Marriot  
11.30am Patricia & Patrick Scanlon (RIP) Anniv.

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

10.30am Funeral Mass –  
Sarah Sherwood RIP

### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

9.15am Dennis Francis (RIP) Anniv.

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

9.15am Teresa Kelly (RIP) Anniv.

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

11.00am Deceased Loved Ones of Families  
at St. Dominic School

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

9.15am Mass of Thanksgiving (HS)

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Margaret McAlear (RIP) Anniv.  
6.00pm Kevin Keogh (Special Int)

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March THIRD OF LENT

8.30am Laura Larkin (RIP) Anniv.  
9.45am People of the Parish  
11.30am Luke and Mary Foster (RIP) Anniv.

blessing as they start their new lives in Christ.

## QUOTE

"The Lenten desert helps us to say no to worldliness, to the 'idols', it helps us to make courageous choices in accordance with the Gospel and to strengthen solidarity among the brothers." - Pope Francis