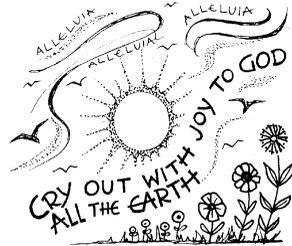




Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

1ST MAY 2016
SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER



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Also in Residence
Bishop Emeritus
John Crowley
(Retired)

The peoples should praise God: yes, all the peoples. The early Christians had not quite worked out who they were: the Jewish Christians, the original ones, held to the traditions they had been brought up in, and were irritated by the former pagans who didn't feel obliged to observe those traditions. Even today converts, don't always receive a universal welcome. The Council of Jerusalem decided that such customs as circumcision need not be imposed on everyone. We also have today at Mass the sublime vision of the New Jerusalem: the city does not need a temple, since God and the Lamb are themselves the temple and the light. Pope Francis in *Laudato si*, §243, makes this the culmination of his teaching on the care of the earth: *At the end, we will find ourselves face to face with the infinite beauty of God... and be able to read with admiration and happiness the mystery of the universe, which with us will share in unending plenitude. Even now we are journeying towards the Sabbath of eternity, the new Jerusalem, towards our common home in heaven. Jesus says: 'I make all things new'.*

SMILE LINES

Board meeting

"There will be a meeting of the Board immediately after the service," announced the minister. And so, after the close of the service, the Church Board gathered at the back of the church for the meeting. But there was a stranger in their midst - a visitor who had never attended their church before. "My friend," said the minister gently, "Didn't you understand that this is a meeting of the Board?"

"Yes," said the visitor, "and after today's sermon, I suppose I'm just about as bored as anyone else who came to this meeting."

* * * * *

Walking out

"I hope you didn't take it personally, Reverend," said an embarrassed woman after a church service, "when my husband walked out during your sermon."

"I did find it rather disconcerting," the preacher admitted.

"It's not a reflection on you, sir," insisted the church-goer. "Ralph has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child."

* * * * *

CONFESSIONS

Have you made it to Confession yet, for the Year of Mercy?

**Saturday: 10.30am – 11.00am.
7.00pm - 7.30pm.**

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 30th April

10:00 Valerie McGarry (RIP) Anniv

18:00 Maureen & Peter Hanly (RIP) Anniv

Sunday 1st May

08.30 Denis Mann (RIP)

09.45 People of the Parish

11.30 Gerald Woodruff (RIP) Rec dec

Monday 2nd May

09.15 Dinny Curtin (RIP)

Tuesday 3rd May Sts. PHILIP & JAMES

09.15 Raynah Watson (RIP)

Wednesday 4th May ENGLISH MARTYRS

09.15 Special Intention (ESH)

Thursday 5th May

11.00 Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Friday 6th May

9.15 Sr. Maria Intentions

Saturday 7th May

10:00 Sr. Marie-Henry Intentions

18:00 John Cheevers (RIP)

Sunday 8th May

08.30 Rita Haines (RIP)

09.45 Imola Naldini (RIP) Anniv

11.30 Thomas & Edith Dare (RIP)

QUOTE - Pope Francis

"Sometimes the 'modern organization' of work has a dangerous tendency to consider the family as a burden, a weight, a liability for labour productivity. But let us ask ourselves: What is productivity? And for whom? The so-called 'intelligent city' is, without a doubt, very organized and rich in services; But, for example, it is often hostile to children and the elderly."