



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

15th November 2015
33rd SUNDAY of the YEAR



STAY AWAKE!

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Today we hear part of the last teaching of Jesus before the events leading up to the Passion. Mark's Gospel today is entirely devoted to the catastrophic events leading to the destruction of the world and the consequent return of the Son of God to gather his chosen ones from 'the four winds.' The End is Nigh is a message treated nowadays with scepticism or derision, although it could happen through human error (accidental nuclear explosion) or human neglect (catastrophic climate change); or an asteroid strike or something else from space. As for that day and hour, nobody knows it... no-one but the Father. We should all have the words Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you ready to say. For some people, such as those caught up in the Nepal earthquakes this year, these things have already taken place; and we should remember that for Mark's audience the possibility of the imminent end was a live issue, and their persecution had already begun. The Gospel acclamations both proclaim Stay awake!

Parish Office

**Open Mon, Tues,
Wed & Friday
9.30am – 12.30pm
Office Administrator
Jane Rose
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**Also in Residence
Bishop Emeritus
John Crowley
(Retired)**

SMILE LINES

An elderly lady had always wanted to learn a musical instrument so for her sixty fifth birthday her husband bought her a grand piano.

A few weeks later, their neighbours saw the husband in the street. 'How's the piano playing coming along?' they asked.

'Oh' he said, 'we took it back to the shop. I persuaded her to switch to a clarinet instead.' 'Why?' asked the neighbours. 'Because she can't sing whilst playing the clarinet.'

* * * * *

Two deaf men met in the library and began talking about being out late the night before. The first man signed to his friend, 'My wife was asleep when I got home so I was able to sneak into bed and not get into trouble.' The second deaf man signed back, 'you were lucky. My wife was wide awake, waiting up for me in bed, and when I walked in she started giving me hell for being out so late.'

The first deaf man asked, 'So what did you do? The second man replied, 'I turned out the light.'

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QUOTE - Pope Francis

Christians are called to read the signs of the times. Understanding the signs of the times, is not only for an elite cultural group. Jesus didn't tell us to look at how the professors, the doctors

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 14th November

10.00 Anthony Mileham (RIP) Anniv.

6.00pm Celene McLaughlin (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 15th November

08.30 Kathleen Doyle (RIP)

09.45 Rita Haines (RIP) Anniv.

11.30 Susann Byrne (RIP) Anniv.

Monday 16th November

09.15 Intentions of HS

Tuesday 17th November

09.15 Kevin O'Reilly (RIP) Anniv.

Wednesday 18th November

09.15 Patrick Hickey (RIP) Anniv.

Thursday 19th November

11.00 Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Friday 20th November

09.15 Fabio Biagio Fonti (RIP) Anniv.

Saturday 21st November

10.00 Intentions of Alan & Joyce Thomas

6.00pm Martin King & Michael Holmes (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 22nd November

08.30 Ian Brindle (RIP) Anniv.

09.45 Margaret Turner (RIP) Anniv.

11.30 Paul Murphy (RIP) Anniv.

and the intellectuals do things but instead urged us to look at the farm labourer who knows how to "separate the wheat from the chaff."

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

6 October to 7 November: cash donations including the wall box were £87.38, while Standing Order donations in calendar October as a whole amounted to £316. Thank you for your generosity.