



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

12th November 2017
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Parish Office

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

**Office Administrator
Ellen Hughesman
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**Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
(Retired)**

It's not unusual to hear Jesus calling us to "stay awake!" It's a phrase we will hear quite a lot in the coming weeks of Advent, but it's also something we hear at other times during the year in the Gospels. Why does Jesus repeat this message? What is he calling us to stay awake to? In a nutshell he is calling us to stay awake to God our Father and to the way of life that Jesus has set before us – the way to God.

The call that Jesus makes is a call to be awake and alert to what is of real importance in our lives. Most of us would say how important our faith is, we want to give it priority, but the reality of life is that we are, easily, overwhelmed by all manner of other things – as we know only too well it is the people, and things, that shout the loudest that grab our attention, and take our time, even though they are not necessarily, the most important.

Like the bridesmaids though we need to get our priorities right. The parable in today's gospel pits two groups in stark contrast – the foolish bridesmaids who failed to prepare, and the sensible ones who were ready with their lamps and oil. Both groups fell asleep on the job, but only one group had laid the groundwork and so were ready for action. Jesus tells us we need to be watchful and ready. As well as having the light of faith, we need the fuel – the actions – to keep it alight so we are ready when the Lord comes.

CAFOD

Memorial Mass 22nd November.
You are warmly invited to the CAFOD Memorial Mass, in memory of all our Supporters and Volunteers, at the Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, London N14 4HE at 11am on Wednesday 22 November. If you would like someone to be included in our book of remembrance, please send us their name by calling CAFOD Westminster on 020 8449 6970 or emailing westminster@cafod.org.uk

CONCERT FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER 6.00pm

St George's School Chapel, Harpenden. 'Voices' Choir (part of local school Lucina Troy Music) is giving a Christmas Concert. The choir of children and adults will be joined by instrumentalists to sing a variety of festive songs in unique and exciting arrangements, with some audience participation. Adult £6.50, child £3.50.
Email: admin@lucinatroymusic.co.uk or ring 07944 606242.

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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 11th November St Martin of Tours

10.00am Margaret Fouldes (RIP)
6.00pm Martin King & Michael Holmes (RIP)

Sunday 12th November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am Special Intention (PG)
9.45am Anthony Mileham (RIP (Anniv))
11.30am Susann Byrne (RIP)

Monday 13th November feria

12.45pm Funeral Andrew Butler (RIP)

Tuesday 14th November feria

9.15am Holy Souls

Wednesday 15th November feria

9.15am Patrick Hickey (RIP)

Thursday 16th November St Edmund of Abingdon

9.15am Holy Souls

Friday 17th November feria

9.15am Service of the word with Holy Communion

Saturday 18th November feria

10.00am Sadie De Paiva (RIP)
6.00pm William Hardy (RIP) 1st Anniv

Sunday 19th November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am Christine Reason (RIP) 1st Anniv
9.45am Special Intention (PG)
11.30am Paul Murphy (RIP)

CONFESSIONS

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

