



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

19th November 2017
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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We are probably well familiar with the parable of the talents. Before going away an employer entrusts three of his workers with a number of talents. When the employer returns, they bring him the results: two have doubled what they were given. Their efforts are generously rewarded, because they were responsive to their master's expectations.

The third worker though does a strange thing. He buries the talent he was given, keeping it safely until the employer returns. Why was the worker so careful, so cautious? Maybe he was quite simply fearful of losing what he had, perhaps he didn't want to take a risk because of the possible consequences.

The response to the third servant sounds somewhat harsh, and we might ask: 'what's wrong with being cautious, and not taking a risk?' It's an understandable instinct to want to preserve what we have; just as we seek to avoid problems and disturbances: to protect our well-being, not to do anything that might complicate our life.

What might be described as the 'mistake' of the third servant is not that he buried his talent without making it produce anything, but that he thought he was responding faithfully, and removing any risks. God gives each of us our own particular talents and we are not being faithful if we don't use them. Faithfulness is responding to God, it's moving out of our 'comfort zones.' It's about being attentive to the Spirit and allowing his creative action to lead us forward, to introduce us to new, and different, ways. In that way then we give witness to our God-given talents, and we benefit both ourselves, and others too.

Parish Office
**Open Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday**
9.30am – 12.30pm
Office Administrator
Ellen Hughesman
email:
harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
(Retired)

CAFOD

Memorial Mass this Wednesday
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 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) Anniv

Monday 20th November feria

12.45pm Biagio Fonti (RIP) Anniv

Tuesday 21st November

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.15am Holy Souls

Wednesday 22nd November

St Cecilia

9.15am Margaret Turner (RIP) Anniv

Thursday 23rd November feria

11.00am Holy Souls

Friday 24th November

St Andrew Dung-Lac

9.15am Denis Mann (RIP)

Saturday 25th November feria

10.00am Giulio Borgatti (RIP)

6.00pm Erroll Yates (RIP)

Sunday 26th November

Our Lord Jesus Christ

8.30am People of The Parish

9.45am Philip Gallagher (RIP)

11.30am Susan Huggins (RIP)

CONFESSIONS

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

