



# **Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden**

**20<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**CHRIST THE KING**

**Parish Priest:**  
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## **Parish Office**

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

Today we reach the last Sunday of the Church's year and, as we do so, we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. When we think of kingship our thoughts may turn to palaces and riches, to power, wealth and prestige. Such trappings though come with the kingdoms of this world, they tell us very little, if anything, about the kingship of Christ. The Gospel today portrays Jesus as a king, but his throne is a cross, and his crown is not made up of gold and precious jewels, but of thorns.

Jesus is a king, not in an exalted position, or remote from his people, or with servants responding to his every need. No, he comes as a king who is there to serve his people, on the Cross he gives his life for everyone, he gives himself without limit. Today the 'Year of Mercy', which we have been observing in the Church for the past year, comes to a close. And we see how Jesus even in the final moments of his life is able to show compassion, to extend mercy. The criminal who recognises that Jesus has done nothing wrong is promised a place in paradise.

A king on a cross may sound strange, but it is Christ our king, our king whom we honour today, and whose 'symbols of office' are self-giving, compassion and mercy.

## ADVENT AT THE NILAND CENTRE

**Advent Day of Prayer** with Bishop Emeritus John Crowley. **Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.** 10am start; Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at 3pm. Suggested donation £12. Please bring a packed lunch; tea & coffee provided. Places are limited: advance registration required. **Celebrating Christmas in Song** with Sister Avril OP & friends. **Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec.** 7pm. Suggested donation £10. Followed by seasonal refreshments.

Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. Register at [www.nilandconferencecentre.co.uk/events/advent-reflection-thursday-8-december-2016/](http://www.nilandconferencecentre.co.uk/events/advent-reflection-thursday-8-december-2016/)

## TOWARDS ADVENT 2016

A Festival of Catholic Culture is being held on Saturday 26th November in Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue London SW1 1QJ from 10am. Over 30 organisations will be attending and it is an opportunity for them to give an insight into their activities and they will also have many articles for sale. Admission is free.

<b>MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK</b>
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b> 10.00am Patrick Hickey (RIP) Anniv. 6.00pm Anne Brophy (RIP) Anniv.
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b> 8.30am Private Intention (EM) 9.45am Fabio Biagio Fonti (RIP) Anniv. 11.30am Susann Byrne (RIP) Anniv.
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b> 9.15am Private Intention
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b> 9.15am Margaret Turner (RIP) Anniv.
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b> 9.15am The Holy Souls
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b> 9.15am Denis Mann (RIP)
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b> 9.15am Service of the Word with Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b> 10.00am Julia Connolly (RIP) 6.00pm Thérèse & Patrick Moss(RIP)
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b> 8.30am Jimmy & Anne Brophy (RIP) 9.45am Duncan Gallagher (RIP) 11.30am Errol Yates (RIP) Anniv.
<b><u>CONFESSIONS</u></b> <b>Saturday 10.30-11.00am</b> <b>and after the 6.00pm Mass.</b>

In addition some talks and workshops will be given during the event. Further details are available on [towardsadvent@blogspot.com](mailto:towardsadvent@blogspot.com)