



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

**26th November 2017
Our Lord Jesus Christ**

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Today we reach the final Sunday of the Church's year, when we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Living, as we do, in a country with a monarchy, our thoughts of kingship may well be influenced, to some extent, by that experience. Kingship may well speak to us of power, wealth and prestige. In the time of Jesus kings were powerful rulers, and some were tyrants. There were expectations also about the great Messianic King who would lead a rebellion and establish his kingdom on earth.

The kingship that we celebrate today is of a very different sort of monarchy. The kingship of Jesus is marked out not by wealth and power, but rather by service and solidarity. The image of a king that we discover in the life and teachings of Jesus turns these images upside down. He is a fair judge, a shepherd who looks after his flock, inviting all who act with justice and generosity to take their place in his kingdom. He is also in solidarity with the 'least' of his people. Who ever heard of a king who knows what it's like to be in need of food, clothing or company? But Jesus is a different sort of royalty. His kingdom is not based on power or riches, but charity, compassion and forgiveness.

Jesus comes not to establish an earthly kingdom, but a heavenly kingdom, as we will hear in the preface of today's Mass: "... a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace."

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)

CAN YOU COOK

Seniors in Harpenden can learn basic cooking skills or rejuvenate existing ones at the Kitchen Front's special Christmas cookery workshop. Following the success of our previous cookery classes and with support from the Harpenden Trust, we are holding a seasonal class in St Nicholas Church Hall on Thursday 14th December from 1.30 - 4.00pm. To book onto the class please call Sarah Cripps or Jane Todd at The Kitchen Front on 07899 751211 or 07973 383607

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 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)

Monday 27th November feria

9.15am Special Intention

Tuesday 28th November feria

9.15am Holy Souls

Wednesday 29th November feria

9.15am Deceased Members of the Life Ascending Group

Thursday 30th November St Andrew

11.00am Holy Souls

Friday 1st December feria

9.15am Sister Francesca Roche (RIP)

Saturday 2nd December feria

10.00am Special Intention
6.00pm Lisa King & Maurice Purtill (RIP)

Sunday 3rd December 1st Sunday of Advent

8.30am People of The Parish
9.45am Susan Jennings (RIP) 1st Anniv
11.30am Mary Rafferty (RIP) Anniv

CONFESSIONS

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

