



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

**4th October 2015
27th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Parish Priest:

**Monsignor Canon
H. Turner**

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Here is a Sunday when the Gospel may hit a few nerves in the congregation, where there are likely to be more than a few divorced and remarried people, some who are guiltless about the breakdown of their marriage and others more culpable. The question of compassion towards such people has been exercising the Church at the highest level, with rigorists and those who would allow more leeway arguing heatedly. We should distinguish two things here: the status of marriage, and its breakdown. What Jesus teaches is what everyone wants marriage to be - a total emotional and bodily communion of two people, into which children are born and nurtured. Jesus brings it back to Genesis 2, where the woman and the man are seen as born of each other. The legal loophole that Moses allowed is overruled. There are many ways that married people can mistreat each other, however, and cause breakup. The lack of true consent can mean that there never was a marriage in the first place. In other cases there was a genuine marriage but selfishness and cruelty destroyed it. No-one wants marriage to be like this. Some would like every case to be treated the same, while others are prepared to take them individually. All Christians though are obliged to see marriage as a good and beautiful thing.

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

A mother asked her son, as they waited for the bus, to tell the driver he was four years old. That way he would ride for free. So as they got into the bus, and the driver asked Jimmy how old he was, the little boy replied solemnly: "I am four years old."

"And do you know when will you be five years old?" asked the smiling driver.

"Oh yes, that's easy," replied Jimmy – "just as soon as I get off the bus."

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While visiting a theological college one autumn, a lady visitor noticed several students on their hands and knees assessing the courtyard with pencils and clipboards in hand.

Intrigued, she asked the guide what they were doing.

"Each year," he replied with a grin, "the final year students ask the new students how many bricks it took to finish paving this courtyard." When they were out of earshot of the new students, the curious lady asked the guide to tell her the answer. He replied simply: "One."

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Cat

I know, I know, when people see a cat's litter box, they say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" but someday, just once I want to say, "No, it's for visitors."

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CONFESSIONS

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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK	
Saturday 3rd October	
10.00	Bill Watson (RIP)
6.00pm	Margaret Hughes (RIP)
Sunday 4th October	
08.30	People of the Parish
09.45	Intentions of Jocelyn Watson
11.30	Vincent Arana (RIP) Rec.Dec.
Monday 5th October	
09.15	Intentions of CB
Tuesday 6th October	
09.15	Private Intention
Wednesday 7th October	
09.15	
Thursday 8th October	
11.00	
Friday 9th October	
09.15	Mary Regan (RIP) Anniv 1 yr.
Saturday 10th October	
10.00	Margaret Foulds (RIP)
6.00pm	Maureen Burnham (RIP) Rec.Dec.
Sunday 11th October	
08.30	People of the Parish
09.45	
11.30	

QUOTE - Pope Francis

"But what would it be if we think of a society, a family, a group of friends, without tensions and without conflicts? ... It would be a cemetery, because only in the dead things are there not tensions and conflicts. Where there is life, there is tension and conflict, but by realizing this and seeking peace with God, we can surpass them."