



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

15th October 2017
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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What people want is at the heart of today's parable. A king invites a number of people to his son's wedding banquet, but their minds are on other things; they don't see the value of the invitation. They don't want it. Jesus' story tells us that rather than being an imposition, our faith is an invitation, a gift.

It's been said that the biggest problem with consumerism is not that it makes us want too much, but that it makes us want too little; it diverts and distracts us with lesser things. The world we live in is, now more than ever, full of appeals to our most precious possession: our attention. We are, so to speak, in constant receipt of many invitations. There is so much that conspires to steal our attention from what is deepest and most important.

When the king in Jesus' parable issued the invitation to his son's wedding banquet, people's attention was elsewhere, they wanted other things. And some of them, evidently, were angry at what they perceived to be an imposition on their time and on their priorities.

We would do well to let this parable of Jesus pose two simple questions to us. First, do we habitually think of our faith – the practice and the living out of our faith – as an imposition or as an invitation? Second, what do we want – for ourselves and for our loved ones?

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)

THE ST ALBANS CREDIT UNION

Is celebrating 10 years in Harpenden. This is a not-for-profit community bank and a number of our parishioners are volunteers. If you are reading this, you may well think that credit unions are something for poor people. But keep reading. If you are a homeowner, the credit union can usually lend money for new bathrooms, double glazing, second hand cars and other purchases up to \$7,500, and can save you money compared with using credit cards or bank overdrafts. AND making 'good' loans will help us balance our risk so that we can fulfil our mission to help people on low incomes or on benefits. The credit union has a 'mini-office' at the High Street Methodist church on Saturdays from 10-12 or take a look at our website at

www.stalbanscreditunion.co.uk

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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 14th October feria

10.00am People of the Parish

6.00pm Jimmy & Anne Brophy (RIP)

Sunday 15th October

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am Rose O'Donovan (RIP)

9.45am Special Intentions for the family & friends
of (Theresa Jacinta James -Nee Sheehy) (RIP)

11.30am Frank Flanagan (RIP) Anniv

Monday 16th October feria

9.15am Monsignor Canon Keenan (RIP) Anniv

Tuesday 17th October

St Ignatius of Antioch

9.15am Gunner George Dare (RIP) 100th Anniv

Wednesday 18th October St Luke

9.15am Edwin Dixon (RIP)

Thursday 19th October feria

11.00am Seamus Doherty (RIP)

Friday 20th October feria

9.15am Service of The Word with Holy
Communion

Saturday 21st October feria

10.00am Jean Eldred (RIP)

6.00pm Susan Jennings (RIP) 1st Anniv

Sunday 22nd October

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am Maura Dunne (RIP)

9.45am The People of The Parish

11.30am The Borgeat Family (Special Intention)

CONFESSIONS

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