



# **Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden**

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2017**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Parish Priest:**  
**Canon Anthony Dwyer**

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Today's readings remind us that we can change our minds! The Gospel illustrates the value and wisdom of revising our decisions. The first son "thought the better of it." He was open to change, to better thoughts. The second son was set and closed. The ability to change one's mind is essential to all healthy relationships, not least our relationship with God. A mind that is closed, whether from pride, stubbornness or ignorance, tends to destroy all relationships, e.g., when we refuse to admit a mistake, when we are unwilling to apologise and change our ways, when we think we know it all. The second reading talks of a more specific and positive change of mind: "in your minds, you must be the same as Christ Jesus," This is the direction in which we must be constantly changing our minds day by day.

**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)**

To change is not easy, but it is necessary. We can have a strong tendency to cling to whatever we are familiar with. We cling to what we have because that is what we know, and what we know, even if it's not quite right, is what we are comfortable with. To have the 'mind of Christ,' that is our goal. And when we do that then we will think, behave, act and live as Christ does. Different influences, some good, others which are somewhat misguided or ill-informed, will affect how we think, and what we do. So we need to strive to think as Christ thinks, and to examine our lives to see how far we correspond with his ways; and when we discover what needs changing then be ready to do so.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER  
HARPENDEN ARTS FESTIVAL  
2018**

The Harpenden churches are planning an Arts Festival next Spring, with the theme "beauty, abundance and order". Different churches and other venues will host events. If you are interested in arts & crafts, photography, music, drama, poetry or dance and would like to be involved in some way, please contact Teresa Newham on (01582) 766403.

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE**

There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner from 6th to 8th October 2017 at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent. For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 Sandra 01293-783965 or John 01992-642443 email: [johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk)

**NEW FOUNDATION DEGREE**

for Catholics working in Healthcare and those seeking to be Chaplains. This is a part time two year programme for those seeking to be hospital chaplains and for people working in healthcare settings, from care homes, to hospices and hospitals. For more information or if you are interested in applying or finding out more please contact [matthew.james@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.james@stmarys.ac.uk)

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

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

**St Jerome**

10.00am William Chiv (RIP) Anniv

6.00pm Sheila Buckley (Nee Leary) (RIP)

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8.30am Celedonio Garcia & Stefania Zajac (RIP)

9.45am Special Intention (ED)

11.30am People of the Parish

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

**The Holy Guardian Angles**

9.15am The Sick of The Parish

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October feria**

9.15am Michael Carroll (RIP)

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

**St Francis of Assisi**

9.15am Tom Shaw (RIP)

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October feria**

11.00am Private Intention (CB)

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October feria**

9.15am Service of The Word with Holy Communion

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

**Our Lady of The Rosary**

10.00am Sanctity Of Life

6.00pm Nancy De Maine (RIP)

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8.30am

9.45am Ann Twomey (RIP)

11.30am Marguerite Sommerville (RIP)

**CONFESSIONS**

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