



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

30th October 2016

31st SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Parish Priest:

Canon Anthony Dwyer

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It's said that every good story has a happy ending, and that's certainly the case with today's Gospel. The Gospel doesn't begin in the most positive way as it speaks of Zacchaeus, telling us that he is a 'tax Collector', those who collected taxes were not held in any regard, they were regarded as dishonest and untrustworthy. Yet at the end of the Gospel we hear of his intention to give away half his property, and repay four times anyone he has cheated.

So what happened to bring about such a transformation? Quiet simply Zacchaeus had met Jesus. His curiosity led him to wonder what Jesus was like, Jesus noticed him, and then spent the rest of the day with him, in his house. Who knows what was said, or shared? All we know is that Zacchaeus, after his encounter, was a changed man, old ways left behind, and a resolution to put things right, to live in a new and different way.

Zacchaeus encountered Jesus because 'he was anxious to see 'what kind of man Jesus was,' – if you like he had a healthy curiosity. It's good to wonder what Jesus is like, to grow in our understanding of him, to encounter him, to spend time with him, so that, like Zacchaeus we can reflect on ourselves and, where appropriate, change our ways.

Parish Office

Open

**Open Mon, Tues, Wed
& Friday 9.30am –
12.30pm**

Office Administrator

Jane Rose

email:

ianerose@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence

Bishop Emeritus

John Crowley (Retired)

FOODBANK VOLUNTEERS
At Batford Children's
Centre

Yes there are people in Harpenden who, from time to time, need emergency help. Could you spare a few hours in the middle of the day on a Friday once or twice a month?

Don't worry if you have never done anything like this before. There is always someone in charge who will support and lead you. If you need a lift this can also easily be arranged. We are a lively friendly bunch! Come and join us! For further information please call Jo Walker on 01582 460999 or email

tennyson1809@hotmail.co.uk

CAN YOU HELP? Progress is being made in establishing a monthly mid-week act of worship for people with special/additional needs. There are a number of roles, which could hopefully be shared on a rota basis with enough volunteers. Please contact Deacon Angie (angie.allport@methodist.org.uk tel. 01582 713773) for more

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 29th October

10.00am Josephine Mulryan (RIP)
rec.dec.
6.00pm Jean Eldred (RIP) Anniv.

Sunday 30th October

8.30am Elizabeth Wang (RIP)
9.45am The People of the Parish
11.30am For the Sanctity of Life

Monday 31st October

9.15am Elizabeth Wang (RIP)

Tuesday 1st November – All Saints

9.15am Henry Turner (RIP) anniv
6.00pm Robert Baird (RIP) anniv

Wednesday 2nd November – All Souls

9.15am Holy Souls

Thursday 3rd November

11.00am Private Intention (EM)

Friday 4th November

9.15am Joan & Michael McCarthy
(anniv)

Saturday 5th November

10.00am Special Intention
6.00pm Tom Keenan (RIP)

Sunday 6th November

8.30am Celene McLaughlin (RIP) anni
9.45am John Whitelaw (RIP)
11.30am Elizabeth Wang (RIP)

CONFESSIONS

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

information or if you are
interested in joining the team.