



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

7th January 2018
The Epiphany of The Lord

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, so we come to the twelfth night, and the end of the Christmas Season. For some a sigh of relief may be breathed as, so it seems, everything gets back to normal as the decorations are put away for another year, the cards are taken down, and gratitude is expressed for the gifts received.

Here in the parish Christmas has been well and truly celebrated, and we have much to be thankful for. We are very grateful for those who helped, in a variety of ways, to make this such a special celebration. All those who contributed to the liturgy, the choir and musicians, our servers, readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. And of course all those who ensured we had a beautiful church to worship in, our flower arrangers as well as those who cleaned and decorated the church. How fortunate we are to have so many people willing to so generously give of their time. Christmas is a time to be 'at home', how good it was to have a full church for all of the Masses, and not just our regular parishioners, but many visitors too.

Such a celebration certainly raises our hearts and minds, and strengthens us in our faith. So while we may talk of 'getting back to normal' we might ask: can anything ever be normal again? Can anything be normal given that God has come on earth, that in Jesus we have 'Emmanuel-God-with-us.' The mystery of Christmas is not just to be packed away with the decorations, but it is a mystery we can rejoice in, and celebrate every day of our lives, the wonder of God with us.

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)

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 6th January Christmas feria

10.00am Father Jeremy Davies (Special Intention)
6.00pm Colm O'Connor (RIP)

Sunday 7th January The Epiphany of The Lord

8.30am Theresa Carey (RIP)
9.45am Chris & Family (Special Intention)
11.30am Martin Newham (Special Intention)

Monday 8th January The Baptism of the Lord

9.15am Sylvane (RIP)

Tuesday 9th January feria

9.15am Patrica Harney (RIP)

Wednesday 10th January feria

9.15am Margaret Fouldes (RIP)

Thursday 11th January feria

11.00am Kate Whitfield (RIP)

Friday 12th January feria

9.15am Service of The Word with Holy Communion

Saturday 13th January feria

10.00am Dorothy & Family (Special Intention)
6.00pm Neil Turnbull (Special Intention)

Sunday 14th January 2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time

8.30am Michael Charles (RIP)
9.45am Sister Felicity (Special Intention)
11.30am Gillian Sabine (RIP)

CONFESSIONS

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

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