



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

12th February 2018
6th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Next Wednesday we begin the season of Lent. We begin 40 days of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early Church, Lents was an intense time of preparation for those preparing for Baptism. Today that preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation continues, but it is also a time when we reflect on our relationship with God, maybe choosing to give up something, or to take on something, such as reading a spiritual book, participating in a faith-sharing group, or volunteering and giving of themselves for others.

Just as we prepare for Christmas during Advent, so it makes sense to set aside time to prepare for two of the most important days of the Christian year: Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Lent is a time that offers us an opportunity to come to terms with our human condition – we are fragile, we are sinful. It brings our need for a Saviour to the forefront. Lent is an extremely intense, and reflective, time as we examine our human nature and return to the God we have, through our own rebelliousness and self-centred ways, turned away from again and again.

Lent is a time to open our hearts a little deeper and understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter come, it is not just another day but an opportunity to receive the overflowing of the love and grace God has to offer.

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)

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 19th May 2018 at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2018. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email)

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 20th to 22nd April 2018 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For more details please telephone Freda 01322-838415 or Sandra 01293-783965 or email johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk.

THE PASSAGE

Please support a St David's Day concert in aid of The Passage at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster on Thursday 1st March 2018 at 7.30pm. Full details are on the website www.passage.org.uk
Email: infor@passage.org.uk, telephone 02075921856

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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 10th February St Scholastica

10.00am Margaret Fouldes (RIP)
6.00pm Robert Dare (RIP) Anniv

Sunday 11th February 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady of Lourdes)

8.30am Sister Eileen O'Mahony (RIP)
9.45am People of The Parish
11.30am Finta O'Toule (RIP)

Monday 12th February feria

9.15am For the Sick of the Parish

Tuesday 13th February feria

9.15am Valerie McGarry (RIP) Anniv

Wednesday 14th February Ash Wednesday

9.15am Special Intention
6.00pm Dillane Family Special Intention

Thursday 15th February feria

11.00am Special Intention

Friday 16th February feria

9.15am Colin King (RIP)

Saturday 17th February feria

10.00am Special Intention
6.00pm Frank McConnachie (RIP) Anniv

Sunday 18th February 1st Sunday of Lent

8.30am People of The Parish
9.45am Special Intention
11.30am Sue Huggins (RIP)

CONFESSIONS

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