



# **Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden**

**4<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time**

**Parish Priest:**  
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In today's gospel we read about Jesus' first healing in Mark's Gospel. Jesus hears of the illness of the mother of Simon's wife and goes to her. Due to the purity laws of his time this scene would have been considered controversial. His first healing is of a woman and we are told that he touches her, raises her up; he completely restores her to health. Many of his actions here would be considered taboo.

Word of Jesus' presence had spread, 'the 'whole town' was crowded around the door as people wanted to also be healed. What a commotion! Jesus, very early on in his ministry, is clearly a very popular, attractive figure. Jesus is the healer. We might ask ourselves today: who do we know who is in need of healing of any kind? This week, how can we reach out to them?

**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)**

Another important aspect of this story is that Jesus does not stay in the comfort of the house. He keeps moving, keeps going outward. This requires so much energy and an outpouring of love for those in need. Jesus shows us in today's gospel what it takes to stay connected, to re-energise ourselves for our various tasks: quiet time and space for real encounter with God. Even then, the people hunted for him. 'Everyone is searching for you', and still today, everyone is searching. It is up to all of us to help those on this journey, the seekers, the lost and those in need of healing. We cannot break new ground unless we are inwardly free and connected to that divine presence within us and in our world.

## THE PASSAGE

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

Usually when Mass intentions are accepted we endeavour to indicate the date when the Mass will be said. From time to time such arrangements have to be changed, such as when a funeral is arranged. When this happens the Mass is always transferred to another date, we trust you understand why it is necessary from time to time, to make such changes.

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

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

#### Ss Laurence, Dunstan & Theodore

10.00am Cathy Flanagan (RIP)

6.00pm Catherine & Terence Kelly (RIP)

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am Bernard St John Glew (RIP)

11.30am Betty Borgeat (RIP)

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February St Agatha

9.15am Roger Le Gras (RIP) Anniv

### Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February St Paul Miki

9.15am Sarah Elizabeth Horne (RIP) Anniv

### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February feria

9.15am Denis O'Donovan (RIP)

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February feria

11.00am Special Intention (PD)

### Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February feria

9.15am Patrick O'Malley (RIP)

### Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February St Scholastica

10.00am Margaret Fouldes (RIP)

6.00pm Robert Dare (RIP) Anniv

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February

#### 6<sup>th</sup> 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)

## CONFESSIONS

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