



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

28th January 2018
4th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

**I, Kirkwick Avenue,
Harpenden AL5 2QH
tel: 01582 712245**

EMAIL:
**Anthonydwyer@
rcdow.org.uk**

WEBSITE:
**parish@rcdow.org.uk/
harpenden/**

twitter: @RC_OLOL

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)**

Today's gospel is unusual, not that Jesus drove out the unclean spirit, but that he did so without being asked. More often than not Jesus responded to the needs of people in response to a request. It is not as if Jesus had to be told what to do. Rather he readily gave his help when it was asked for in faith. God does not need to be informed of our needs, He is aware of our needs even before we ask for them, just as He moves us to pray for what is right and good. Words when uttered with conviction and faith can be very powerful.

Words are certainly very powerful. They can change somebody for better or for worse. In today's gospel we see the power of Jesus' word, he teaches the people with authority, he even commands the evil spirits to come out and they obeyed him. And, as we hear: 'his teaching made a deep impression Because he taught them with authority.' Words sincerely uttered will speak for themselves.; while words with actions are even more powerful. In the life and ministry of Jesus we see how the two always go together.

The words we speak can be damaging and painful, or they can be creative and life-giving; just as the words we hear can build us up, or cause us consternation. What the example of Jesus teaches us is that whatever we say, we need to do so with conviction, and to recognise that the words we use have a power, a power for good, a power to liberate and build up.

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 27th January feria 10.00am Imelda Kavanagh (Special Intention) 6.00pm Special Intention (MD)
Sunday 28th January 4th Sunday In Ordinary Time 8.30am Bernard McGarry (RIP) 9.45am People of The Parish 11.30am Norah Foster (RIP)
Monday 29th January feria 9.15am Max & Peggie Belderbos (RIP) Anniv
Tuesday 30th January feria 9.15am Sister Eileen (Special Intention)
Wednesday 31st January St John Bosco 9.15am Dennis Mann & John Png (RIP)
Thursday 1st February feria 11.00 am (Special Intention)
Friday 2nd February The Presentation of The Lord 9.15am Mass
Saturday 3rd February Ss Laurence, Dunstan & Theodore 10.00am Cathy Flanagan (RIP) 6.00pm Catherine & Terence Kelly (RIP)
Sunday 4th February 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8.30am People of the Parish 9.45am Bernard St John Glew (RIP) 11.30am Betty Borgeat (RIP)
CONFESSIONS Saturday 10.30-11.00am and after the 6.00pm Mass.