



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

**11th March 2018
4th Sunday Of Lent**

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Today, the 'middle' Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday. The name comes from the opening words of the entrance antiphon of the Mass, 'Laetare Jerusalem' or 'Rejoice, O Jerusalem'. We tend not to think of Lent as a time to rejoice, but a few small signs of joy are permitted at Mass today, such as the use of flowers on the altar and, some times, rose-coloured vestments for the priest instead of the Lenten purple. The shadow of the cross still looms large, but we look forward with hope to Easter, when light will conquer the darkness.

We are offered an opportunity today to pause and reflect on our Lenten journey. Listen to the words of St Paul: 'You are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.' Many of our efforts during Lent are aimed at improving ourselves, being more generous with our time or resources, more patient, more attentive to the needs of others – living as true followers of Jesus. What changes do I need to make to be 'God's work of art'?

And in John's Gospel we hear: 'The [person] who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.' One question we might ask this Lent is: Am I living a truthful life? Am I honest in my dealings with others, trying always to choose what is right and just, or are there things I think or do in secret that are unkind or dishonest? How might I step out into the light this Lent?

Parish Office

**Open Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am – 12.30pm**

Office Administrators
Ellen Hughesman (Mon & Tue)
Melanie Armitage (Wed & Thu)

email:
harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence
Bishop John Crowley
(Retired)

The West End

Friday 23rd March, 2pm. As we walk around the West End, we'll see the history of London as it expanded - becoming ever more crowded, varied, fascinating, but also poor and difficult.

Yet it was here that the Church did some of its most impressive work with the poor and needy. Meet at St Patrick's Soho Square.

WID 4NR. Nearest Tube: Tottenham Court Road.

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.

ANSWERS TO LENT TRIVIA

-Pharisee
-King Cyrus of Persia
-Lent & Advent

LOST PROPERTY

There are a large number of lost property items in the front of the church, please have a look through the box in case any of the items are yours. Any items not claimed in two weeks will be donated to charity.

LIBRARY

At the front of the church there are some Catholic Books that are available to be borrowed. If you would like to borrow a book please write down your details and remember to return the book.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 10th March feria

10.00am Margaret Foulds (RIP)

6.00pm Teresa King (RIP) Anniv

Sunday 11th March 4th Sunday of Lent

8.30am Yvonne Campbell (RIP)

9.45am People of The Parish

11.30am Brendan Callanan (RIP)

6.00pm Stations of The Cross

Monday 12th March feria

9.15am Special Intention

Tuesday 13th March feria

9.15am Natalie Aldridge (RIP)

Wednesday 14th March feria

9.15am Angela Bealisang (RIP)

Thursday 15th March feria

9.15am Angela Gabrellia (Spec Int)

Friday 16th March feria

9.15am

Saturday 17th March feria

10.00am John McKenna (RIP)

6.00pm Con Cronin (RIP)

Sunday 18th March 5th Sunday of Lent

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am Mary Skinner (Spec Int)

11.30am Robert & Elizabeth Morris (RIP)

6.00pm Stations of The Cross

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.