



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

29th April 2018
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

Office Administrators
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As with all good vine growers, God cares for his crop, nurturing it, pruning it, giving it all it needs so that it can grow and reach its full potential. We are no doubt the branches. What does it mean to be a branch? Branches must be connected to the vine or they bear no fruit. Even those branches that do bear fruit need pruning so that they can grow and bear even more fruit. As we are all too well aware, productivity seems to be the measure of success in the world today, in our education system, in the workplace, in economics; we are measured by what we produce. Is Jesus really adding to the pressure by telling us that he wants to see results or else!?

Perhaps we can read this passage in terms of connectivity. Think of your most intimate friendships and relationships. You don't measure their weight in terms of productivity, do you? But you do want to stay connected right? It is this closeness, this intimacy that Jesus calls us to: 'abide in me'. Are you connected or disconnected? If the connection is strong, then fruit-bearing comes naturally and people will see the gospel in our lives and in the way we respond to the world. If we are connected, all manner of things are possible for us.

'People see the gospel in our lives; let them read our lives.'

Pope Francis

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

The next World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis takes place in Dublin from 21st – 26th August. This gathering brings together couples, families and individuals from all over the world to celebrate, pray, and reflect on the joys and challenges of marriage and family life. To find out about joining our Westminster Diocesan Group please email family@rcdow.org.uk, and to visit the World Meeting of Families website just type in www.worldmeeting2018.ie.

SOLITUDE SATURDAY

On the last Saturday of every month we celebrate quiet prayer at St Clare's Convent 3 Abigail Close Luton, any time between 8.00am and 4.00pm. You are welcome to experience this Solitude, feel free to come and go at your convenience. As parking at St Clare's is limited, you are asked to leave your car immediately inside Abigail Close and walk round to No. 3. The next Solitude Saturday will be on 26th May, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 10.00am and ends at 3.00pm. There is also opportunity for a Solitude Walk in the Prayer Gardens and time to pray in the Poustinia or Hermitage.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 28th April Easter feria

10.00am John Png (RIP)

6.00pm Teresa Moran (RIP)

Sunday 29th April Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)

8.30am Christopher Kavanagh (RIP)

9.45am Margaret Warne (RIP)

11.30am Ernesto & Alceste Bortoli (RIP)

Monday 30th April Easter feria

9.15am John Ramswell RIP

Tuesday 1st May Easter feria

9.15am Michael Phillippou (Spec Int)

Wednesday 2nd May St Athanasius

9.15am Canon Anthony & Bishop John (Spec Int)

Thursday 3rd May SS Philip & James

11.00am The Wielgut Family

Friday 4th May The English Martyrs

9.15 am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Saturday 5th May Easter feria

10.00am Brian Carpenter (RIP)

6.00pm Satya Wenti (RIP)

Sunday 6th May Sixth Sunday of Easter (B)

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am Richard Strommer (RIP)

11.30am People of the Parish

CONFESSIONS

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

*DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!*

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