



## Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

**13<sup>TH</sup> May 2018**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Parish Priest:**  
**Canon Anthony Dwyer**

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

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

Sandwiched between Easter and Pentecost, the feast of the Ascension can sometimes tend to be overlooked. It can be hard to make sense of the artistic images we see of Jesus disappearing into the clouds as the disciples stand and stare after him. But the Ascension does more than simply mark the culmination of Jesus' earthly life; it opens up for us a path to God. Where Jesus has gone, we hope one day to follow.

As Pope Francis puts it, 'the Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, but tells us that he is alive in our midst in a new way. He is no longer in a specific place in the world as he was before the Ascension. He is now ... present in every space and time, close to each one of us. We are never alone: the Crucified and Risen Lord guides us.'

**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**

It is this very presence of Jesus that gave the disciples, and gives us, the strength for mission. Immediately before he is taken into heaven, Jesus issues his final and most important instruction: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the good news to all creation.' And after he goes, the disciples straight away set about the task. Far from being suddenly absent, we are told the Lord is now working with them in a new way. The Ascension is less a loss than a transition, a promise that Jesus will always be with us.

**WEBSITE:**  
**parish@rcdow.org.uk/  
harpenden/  
twitter: @RC\_OLOL**

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

*DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE!*

## VACANCY

St John Fisher, St Albans is looking to recruit an inspiring and outstanding headteacher to lead our school into the future. The role is ideal for a current Deputy Headteacher who is a practicing Catholic. If you are interested, please look on

[www.teachinherts.com](http://www.teachinherts.com) under St John Fisher or contact the Chair of Governors (Chris Baker) at [governors@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk](mailto:governors@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk) for an application pack.

## WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

The next World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis takes place in Dublin from 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:family@rcdow.org.uk), and to visit the World Meeting of Families website just type in [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://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 26<sup>th</sup> 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

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May Easter feria

11.00am First Holy Communion Mass  
2.00 pm First Holy Communion Mass  
6.00pm Patrick Friel (RIP)

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May Seventh Sunday of Easter (B)

8.30am People of the Parish  
9.45am Helen Camplin (RIP)  
11.30am Special Intention (TB)

### Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May St Matthias

9.15am Special Intention (MB)

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May Easter feria

9.15am Anne O'Grady (RIP)

### Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May Easter feria

9.15am Nancy Millar RIP

### Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May Easter feria

11.00am Richard Gooder (RIP)

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May Easter feria

9.15 am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

### Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May Easter feria

11.00am First Holy Communion Mass  
6.00pm People of the Parish

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May Pentecost Sunday (B)

8.30am Vivienne Bradley (RIP)  
9.45am Tommy Fennessy (Spec Int)  
11.30am Joan Gaire (RIP)

### CONFESSIONS

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

Prayer Gardens and time to pray in the Poustinia or Hermitage.