



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

**6TH May 2018
Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Parish Priest:
Canon Anthony Dwyer**

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It might be said that a commandment to love could seem to be a contradiction in terms. After all is love not a free choice, and is that not what gives the thrill to the experience of being loved, that someone chooses to freely express their love for another? We might recall those times when we received gestures of love from another – a spontaneous embrace from a husband or wife; a wave from a friend; words of comfort and affirmation – not because the other person felt obliged to reach out to you but because they wanted to let you know that you were loved. What effect did that have on you? Did it bring you joy? Perhaps you have had a glimpse of the truth of what Jesus said, that it is in loving that our joy is complete.

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**

Attractive, and special, as love and friendship are they make demands on us. Parents give freely of their time and energy to the care of their children but sometimes it requires a lot of effort. Also in responding to the needs of friends or spouses, we can be challenged to 'lay down' our own 'lives' at least for a time. Hopefully we are able to recall when a time when putting yourself out for others bore fruit for them and for you?

**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!*

'I chose you.' It can be good to recall the experience of being 'chosen' by someone? What was it like for you to be chosen? What is it like for you to consider yourself as one chosen by Jesus? That is what we are – chosen by Jesus to bear fruit through our love.

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 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
Monday 7th May Easter feria	
10.00am	Sister Ann Reynolds (OP) RIP
Tuesday 8th May Easter feria	
9.15am	Imola Naldini (RIP)
Wednesday 9th May Easter feria	
9.15am	Margaret Foulds RIP
Thursday 10th May The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)	
9.15am	Martin Stears-Handscomb (Sp Int)
6.00pm	
Friday 11th May The English Martyrs	
9.15 am	Service of the Word with Holy Communion
Saturday 12th May Easter feria	
11.00am	First Holy Communion Mass
2.00 pm	First Holy Communion Mass
6.00pm	Patrick Friel (RIP)
Sunday 13th May Seventh Sunday of Easter (B)	
8.30am	People of the Parish
9.45am	Helen Camplin (RIP)
11.30am	Special Intention (TB)
CONFESSIONS (Saturday 10.30-11.00am and after the 6.00pm Mass.)	

LIVE SIMPLY

We have to realise that a true ecological approach *always* becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear *both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor*.

Pope Francis, Laudato si, Chapter One (V-49)