



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

16th September 2018
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest
Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

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

Today's Gospel asks a question about identity. Although it's Jesus who asks the question, about himself: 'Who people say that I am?' Perhaps not surprisingly, he gets a variety of answers. The disciples suggest that the people are saying that he is John the Baptist or Elijah or one of the prophets.

The question though about the identity of Jesus is really a question about why he has come. People thought back to the great figures in the long history of the Jewish people as they attempted to understand the mission of Jesus. Jesus indeed shares the passion for the truth of John the Baptist, the strength and power of Elijah, and the spiritual qualities of other prophets. But Peter makes a greater claim for Jesus. He is the Messiah!

Jesus' reaction should be considered with care. He neither welcomes Peter's assertion nor rejects it. Jesus speaks for the first time of his suffering, death and resurrection. In doing so he challenges Peter's expectations about the Messiah, which were no doubt shared by others. The Messiah will not claim power for himself; he will not dominate others. On the contrary, others will have power over him; he will be dominated. In giving up his life Jesus opens up a new way, a new vision, a vision of self-giving love. From this point onwards, the Gospel of Mark will draw us inexorably into the mystery of the cross, the mystery of God's love revealed in the human life of the Son of God, which explains the meaning and purpose of our own lives too.

HOPE FOR A NEW BEGINNING

- A BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND FOR THE WIDOWED, SEPARATED AND DIVORCED AT THE DOMUS MARIAE RETREAT CENTRE, WOODFORD BRIDGE, ESSEX IG8 8AU 5 - 7 OCTOBER 2018

Beginning Experience is a ministry to the widowed, separated and divorced led by a team of trained volunteers. Their work is carried out at special weekend gatherings which encourage participants to deal with the natural process of grief and loneliness. For further details please contact: Freda: 01322 838415, Sandra: 01293 783965 or John: 01992 642443.

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION PHOTOGRAPHS

If you haven't yet picked up your Photographs they are in the church next to the Repository.



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 15th September

Our Lady of Sorrows

10.00am Kathleen Mooney (Spec Int)
6.00pm Michael & Margaret McMahon (RIP)

Sunday 16th September

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

8.30am John Conway (RIP) (Anniv)
9.45am Joe Bearpark (RIP)
11.30am Kathleen Costello (RIP) (1st Anniv)

Monday 17th September

feria

9.15am Elizabeth Wang (RIP)

Tuesday 18th September

feria

9.15am Private Intention (B)
11.00am Memorial Service for Thomas Howard (RIP)

Wednesday 19th September

feria

9.15am Mary McGarry (RIP)

Thursday 20th September

Ss Andrew Kim Taegon & Paul Chong Ha Sang and Companions

11.00am Joseph Bearpark (RIP)

Friday 21st September

St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

9.15 am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Saturday 22nd September

feria

10.00am Eugene Clinton (RIP)
6.00pm William Chiu (RIP)

Sunday 23rd September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

8.30am Eugene O'Brien (RIP)
9.45am People of the Parish
11.30am Mary Cahill (RIP) (Anniv)

CONFESSIONS

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

A LIVE SIMPLY IDEA

Recycle! Ensure you use the correct recycling bins.