



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

28th October 2018
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest **Canon Anthony Dwyer**

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

email:
anthonydwyer@
rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office **Office Administrator** **Melanie Armitage**

Open Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am - 12.30pm

email:
harpندن@rcdow.org.uk
tel: 01582 712245



**NB. Entries for the
Newsletter must be sent into
the office by 12.30pm
Wednesday at the latest
please.**

WEBSITE:
parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpندن
twitter: @RC_OLOL

Who is blind in today's gospel? The obvious answer, of course, is the blind man! Bartimaeus is blind and desperate. He has not been blind all his life, so he knows about the wonderful gift of sight he is now missing. His faith is strong, and his courage is stronger still; no matter how much he is scolded and silenced, he calls to Jesus all the louder. Though he is physically blind, he sees plenty.

Who sees Bartimaeus? Certainly not the followers of Jesus. They do not think of Bartimaeus as someone worthy of meeting Jesus. To the extent that they think about him at all, he is an irritation, a poor beggar to look down on, hardly a person. They are utterly blind to his needs.

There is a certain irony as the crowds summon Bartimaeus with the word 'Courage'. He has already shown tremendous courage. Minutes previously Jesus' followers had been content to pass him by and silence his cries for help, but their master has given an order and they must obey. How uncomfortable they must have felt, when Jesus called him over.

The blind man sees Jesus, and Jesus sees the blind man. Everyone else is blind to both of them. Everyone else fades into the background of the story, just as Bartimaeus was pushed to the back of the crowds. Perhaps it is time for an eyesight test. Do we see Jesus for who he really is? Do we pay attention to those around us, or are we blind to their needs? Do we hear the cry of the poor, or are we complicit in silencing them?

DIOCESE FINANCE MANAGER VACANCY

Are you or someone you know a qualified and experienced Financial Reporting Manager? Would you like to use your skills in the Church and be based in our offices in Victoria? Please see the Diocese website for details: <https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/>

AUTUMN, ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MUSIC IN OUR PARISH DATES FOR YOU DIARY



Saturday 10th November
7.30pm

Choral concert given by our choirs.

Sunday 2nd December
6.00pm

Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten

Thursday 6th December
7.00pm

Christmas Concert

Sunday 23rd December
6.00pm

Carols by Candlelight



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 27th October

feria

10.00am John Png (RIP)

6.00pm Teresa Moran (RIP)

Sunday 28th October

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

8.30am Gerald Woodruff (RIP)

9.45am People of the Parish

11.30am Jean Eldred (RIP) (Anniv)

Monday 29th October

Blessed Martyrs of Douai College

9.15am Jean Deguillaume (RIP)

Tuesday 30th October

feria

9.15am Special Intention

Wednesday 31st October

feria

9.15am Sally Knight (RIP)

Thursday 1st November

All Saints Day

9.15am Patrick Newman (Ints)

6.00pm Joan & Michael McCarthy (RIP) (Anniv)

Friday 2nd November

All Souls Day

9.15 am Maura Grimshaw (RIP)

Saturday 3rd November

feria

10.00am Patrick Callanan (RIP)

6.00pm Celine McLaughlin (RIP)

Sunday 4th November

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

8.30am Maura Grimshaw (RIP) (Anniv)

9.45am People of the Parish

11.30am Deceased Members of the Choir

CONFESSIONS

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

Help one another. This is what Jesus teaches us. This is what I do. And I do it with my heart.

Pope Francis