

# Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

24<sup>th</sup> February 2019

7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)



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Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
& Thursday  
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### WEBSITE:

[parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden)  
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Today's Gospel continues Luke's instruction to his disciples known as the Sermon on the Plain. As if the Beatitudes (and Woes) that we heard last Sunday were not radical enough, the Sermon now pushes vulnerability to fresh extremes. A long instruction begins and ends with the extraordinary command to 'love your enemies.'

This is a radical new commandment, given to all the disciples of Jesus, that we should love our enemies. This commandment is also found in the gospels of Matthew and Luke, in their respective collections of Jesus' teaching, and in both gospels this new precept challenges the opinions of the contemporaries of Jesus: 'I say this to you.' The commandment is elaborated as Jesus continues his teaching. Jesus sets a very high, some might say impossible, standard before us. He tells us: "Be compassionate, as your heavenly Father is compassionate". We are called to be like God, because we are children of God. The community is to be 'compassionate' as their Father is compassionate. If they refrain from judging, that is, condemning others, they themselves will avoid being judged (condemned) when God, finally, comes to judge everyone. If they forgive, they will be forgiven by God.

Throughout Luke's gospel Jesus reveals the compassion of God, and the call is for us is to be as God is: 'be compassionate as your Father is compassionate'. The vocation of the Christian is not to 'treat others as you would like them to treat you', but, in a far more demanding manner, to 'do as God does'.

**CARDINAL'S MASS OF  
THANKSGIVING FOR THE  
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY  
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL  
SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019 AT  
3PM**

The Cardinal will be inviting to the Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> & 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2019. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your details (names, address, wedding date, email, phone number) to Melanie in the Parish Office.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.**

The Ladies' Group annual St Patrick's Day lunch will be held in the undercroft on Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>. Please save the date.



**VACANCIES WITHIN THE  
DIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER**

Please visit the Diocese's website [jobs.rcdow.org.uk](http://jobs.rcdow.org.uk) where you can view all current vacancies.



**LIVE SIMPLY IDEA**

Use washable - not disposable - napkins, cloths, mugs and cutlery. Taking your own cup to some coffee shops will get you a discount.



**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

**Saturday 23rd February**

**St Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr**

10.00am Elaine Shanley (Spec Ints)

5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6.00pm Deceased Catenian Members RIP

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

**7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

8.30am Denis Mann & John Png RIP (Anniv)

9.45am People of the Parish

11.30am Bridget Flanagan RIP (Anniv)

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

**feria**

9.15am Josie McCormack RIP

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

**feria**

9.15am Martin Newham (Spec Int)

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February**

**feria**

9.15am Peter Vasquez RIP (Anniv)

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

**feria**

11.00am

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

**St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales**

9.15am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

**feria**

10.00am

5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6.00pm Peter & Maureen Hanly RIP (Anniv)

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

**8<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am Ethel Grayson RIP

11.30am Sue Huggins RIP (Anniv)

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday 10.30am-11.00am and  
at 5pm - 5.30pm before the Vigil Mass