

### Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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## Parish Office

### Office Administrator Melanie Armitage Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

& Thursday, Wednesda & Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm harpenden@rcdow.org.uk tel: 01582 712245 WEBSITE: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden twitter: @RC\_OLOL

Parish Safeguarding Representative Brigid Brennan <sub>email:</sub> harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

tel: 07915 499 120

The Church is usually open each day from 7.00am until 6.30pm (approx.) for quiet prayer and contemplation, everyone is welcome

# Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

### $31^{\text{ST}}$ MARCH 2019 $4^{\text{TH}}$ SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

In today's Gospel, we are confronted with the attitude of God to the wrongdoer, His deep desire to forgive, that is, to be totally reconciled with the one who has severed relations with Him. No one can deny the appalling behaviour of the younger son taking, and wasting, all that his father generously gave him. Eventually, he had nothing and was reduced to living with pigs.

This, however, is not the reaction of the father, who has only one thought in his mind - how to get His son to come back to where he belongs. And He stands at the door of His house watching and waiting... His love for his wayward son has not changed one iota. Eventually the son "came to his senses", that is, he realised the wrongness of what he had done. he became aware of just how good his father had been. The process of repentance had begun. He felt deeply ashamed of his behaviour and then, most significantly of all, he turned around to make his way back to his father.

The father, for His part, filled with compassion for His son's experiences, runs out to meet him, embraces him and brushes aside the carefully prepared speech the son had got ready. If the son had known his father better, he would have realised that such a speech was unnecessary. Immediately, orders are given to bring the very best things in the house and a banquet is laid on.

This is forgiveness, this is reconciliation and, on the part of the son, this is conversion, a real turning around of his life and a return to where he ought to be.



### LOST PROPERTY

We have a huge amount of lost property at the back of the Church by the



repository, please have a look through it, anything left after this weekend, will be donated to charity. There are a few toys and books, a child's handbag a couple of children's coats and hats.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS



We have a large number of unclaimed photographs from last years

First Holy Communion and Confirmation Celebrations. If you have yet to collect your photograph, please have a look through the box on the shelf near the repository.

### NEWSPAPERS/BOOKLETS

Just a reminder of the prices of papers and booklets on sale each week/month Catholic Times £.1.50 Catholic Universe £1.50 The Catholic Herald £2.50 Westminster Record - donation 20p £1.00 Day by Day £.2.00 **Bible Alive** Goodnews Magazine £.2.95

### LENT TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1. Rose
- This is the day when Judas betrayed Jesus to the Sanhedrin
- 3. Maundy Thursday

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK	
Saturday 30th March	
Lent ferio	
	People of the Parish
•	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6.00pm	William & Rita Dooley RIP (Anniv)
Sunday 31st March	
	DAY OF LENT (C)
	Pat Leonard RIP
9.45am	Vera Gallagher RIP LENT
	Joan Gaire RIP (Anniv)
	Stations of the Cross
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	
Lent ferio	
9.15am	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	
Lent ferio	l
9.15am	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	
Lent ferio	-
	NO MASS
	Requiem Mass for Maria Wielgut
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	
Lent ferio	L
9.15am	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	•
Lent feria	
9.15am S	ervice of the Word with Holy Communion
Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup> April
Lent ferio	l i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
10.00am	
5.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	Margaret Carey (Spec Ints)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	
$5^{TH}$ SUNDAY OF LENT (C)	
8.30am	Tim & Margaret Gaynor RIP (Anniv)
9.45am	People of the Parish
11.30am	Harry Davis RIP (Anniv)
6.00pm	Stations of the Cross LENT
CONFESSIONS	
Saturday 10.30am-11.00am and	
at 5pm - 5.30pm before the Vigil Mass	