



Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

14TH APRIL 2019
PALM SUNDAY OF
THE PASSION OF THE LORD (C)

Parish Priest **Canon Anthony Dwyer**

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

Today, Palm Sunday, we begin our Holy Week journey. As we do so there is a note of great joy as Jesus is welcomed to Jerusalem, the crowds acclaim him, waving their palm branches: "Blessed is the king, who comes in the name of the Lord!" The Passion, which we hear read during Mass, sets before us the complete story of Holy Week; it reminds us that the joyful acclamations were shortlived, there is the trial, the suffering, and death on a cross.

During these coming days that is what we focus on, this is the focus of our prayer, those final days of Jesus' earthly life. All that in obedience to his Father that he endured and suffered - endured and suffered, out of his unlimited love for us. This coming week the church is very bare, no decorations, no flowers, there is an emptiness, and all the more so on Good Friday and Holy Saturday when there is nothing to distract, not even candles or holy water, and without even the Blessed Sacrament in church. The emptiness is strange, but it is an opportunity to focus and be present to what Jesus underwent for us, to recall both his suffering and his great love. This week is an opportunity for us to empty ourselves from what is unimportant, and to be attentive to, and remember, what Jesus has done for us.

Holy Saturday is a strange day, a day of waiting; but in our church it is a busy place, as everything is prepared, and made ready; flowers and decorations are put in place, as the church comes to life again, as we celebrate the joy that Jesus is risen, and is with us always.



COFFEE MORNING

Coffee and tea will be served in the undercroft on Tuesday morning after Mass.



DWG BARN DANCE

With Pete Skiffins



Saturday 18th May
7.30pm - 11pm in
Lourdes Hall Cost
£15 pp to include
Godfrey's Fish and
Chip

supper Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Please book your places with Julia 07891083251 or email

juliaandnigel057@gmail.com

Numbers will be limited because of the nature of the event so book early. We had a waiting list last time! We look forward to seeing you.



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.

SAVE THE DATE: Roy Shoeman, international speaker, Jewish Catholic is giving a talk on " The Role of Judaism in Salvation from Abraham to the 2nd Coming" on Sunday 30th June, at 6.30pm at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, Castle Street, Luton, LU1 3AG.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 13th April

Lent feria

10.00am Hilde Coy RIP

5.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6.00pm Nichola Stringer RIP (Anniv)

HOLY WEEK

Sunday 14th April

PALM SUNDAY

THE PASSION OF THE LORD (C)

8.30am People of the Parish

9.30am Richard Strommer RIP (Anniv)

11.30am Ernesto & Alceste Bortoli RIP (Anniv)

6.00pm Stations of the Cross

Monday 15th April Holy Week

9.15am Sr. Regina (Spec Ints)

Tuesday 16th April Holy Week

9.15am Sr. Nora (Spec Int)

Wednesday 17th April Holy Week

10.00am Requiem Mass of David Conroy RIP

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Thursday 18th April MAUNDY THURSDAY

8.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

11pm-12 Midnight Holy Hour

Friday 19th April GOOD FRIDAY

11.30am Children's Stations of the Cross

3.00pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

7.30pm-8.15pm Prayer at the Tomb

Saturday 20th April HOLY SATURDAY

11.00am Morning Prayer

THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT

8.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 21st April

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION (C)

8.30am People of the Parish

9.30am People of the Parish

11.30am People of the Parish