

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

21ST JULY 2019
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Parish Priest
Canon Anthony Dwyer
Presbytery
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AL5 2QH

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Parish Office
Office Administrator
Melanie Armitage
Open Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am - 12.30pm
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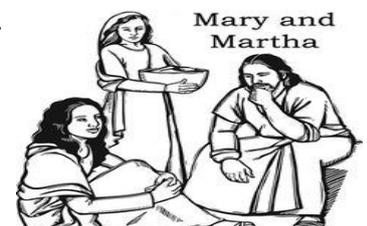
Parish Safeguarding
Representative
Brigid Brennan
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The Church is usually open each day
from 7.00am until 6.30pm (approx.)
for quiet prayer and contemplation,
everyone is welcome

Jesus visits the home of Martha. For such a short Gospel passage, this text has created much discussion among biblical scholars. It seems everyone in this story is breaking the rules: Jesus rebukes his host, Mary does not help her sister, and Martha is not sitting at Jesus' feet like a good disciple. Luke's gospel is all about 'reversal': what you expect to happen does not happen, often the opposite happens! Confused? Mary is positioned here as a disciple learning from her Teacher. Martha as one who is trying to serve through 'many tasks.' Throughout his Gospel, Luke places a special emphasis on the wider circle of Jesus' disciples, and names the women who follow Him. Luke is perhaps reminding us in this text that being a follower of Jesus requires an upset of the norms and a reversal of roles.

This story occurs in Luke immediately after the Good Samaritan, where the importance of service and action are clearly emphasised. It seems unfair that Martha is being told off for serving those who come to her. If Jesus arrived with a hungry entourage, what host would not be stressed out! Jesus frees Martha from these duties, not because they are not important, but so that she too can be nourished by him. Frantic activity is never good or sustainable for us.

Today's Gospel is timely, a reminder for us that when we are caught up in the frenzy of life around us, it is good to be still, to sit and listen to Jesus. And all the more important that we do so if we think that we haven't got the time. Then we may be better prepared for the challenges that we face, whether they be in our homes, or at work, or in other situations.



TOTAL GIVING

The most important event we participate in is the Eucharist, Jesus giving himself completely to us, in his Body and Blood. As he totally gives himself to us, let us try to do the same, by arriving on time and not leaving until after the blessing, or the final hymn has been sung.

FIRST COMMUNION 2020

Preparation for First Holy Communion, for children who will be in year 3 in September, will be commencing after the summer.



Parents who wish to register their children for this Sacrament should collect a form from Canon Anthony after Mass today. **FORMS NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THE PARISH OFFICE ASAP.**

FIRST COMMUNION PHOTOGRAPHS

If you haven't yet picked up your Holy Communion Photographs, they are available to be collected from the back of the Church, next to the repository.

CONFIRMATION PHOTOGRAPHS

The professional photographs taken at the Confirmation Masses are now available to be collected. They can be found at the back of the Church next to the Repository.



THANK YOU

No words could ever express our appreciation for the kind words and support the Parish have shown to us after the passing of Michael. We are deeply grateful to everyone that attended his Requiem Mass and sent Mass Cards.
Ann & the Turner family

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy, is an important ministry in our parish. It runs during term time in the Undercroft at the



9.45am Mass. It aims to explain the Gospel teaching to our younger parishioners in a way which is meaningful to them. The lesson is suitable for Reception age children and above. We are looking for new recruits to support running the sessions. More team members are needed if we are to be able to continue to run it weekly. We are committed to safeguarding children therefore you will be required to complete a DBS check. Training is provided and you would be part of a team who take turns every 6-8 weeks. If you would like to know more please contact Michelle Lynch.

martinmichelle74@gmail.com

FROM THE REGISTERS: BAPTISM

We welcomed Floriane Drake into God's family last weekend; May the Lord fill her with the light of his presence and welcome her into the joy of his kingdom.



GETTING MARRIED

It is now a general rule across the country that at least six months' notice of the date on which you hope to marry, must be given to the priest of the parish. The reason for this is to allow sufficient time for all the formalities and preparations that are required. It is highly advisable to delay setting the date for any other arrangements until you have



agreed the date for the ceremony in the church where you hope to marry. If you are thinking about getting married, here at Our Lady of Lourdes please contact Melanie to arrange an appointment with Canon Dwyer. If you know someone getting married, please draw their attention to this notice.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND?

For those who are sick or housebound the Parish Priest is always happy to bring Holy Communion and, or, to arrange for one of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to do so. If you are unable to attend Mass, or know of someone in that situation, please contact Melanie in the Parish Office on 01582 712245 to make suitable arrangements.



CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have moved house or changed your phone number or email address please can you let Melanie know so we can keep our records up to date.

NEWSLETTER

Next weekend's newsletter will be the last one until September. If you have any activities in September, that you would like to give notice about, please email Melanie in the Parish office.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 23rd July and will re-open on Wednesday 24th July.

PARISH RECORD OF VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who has completed a volunteer



form, if you have yet to do this and you are volunteering in whatever capacity e.g. flower arranging, reading, church cleaning, singing in the choir, counting the collection, etc. Please collect a copy of the form from the back of the church. Once completed please hand in/post to Melanie. Many thanks both for completing the form and, more importantly, for the valuable work you do in the parish.

AUTUMN PET BLESSING SERVICE - A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES



All children pet owners are warmly invited to attend a Pet Blessing Service on Saturday 21st September at 3.00 pm, in the presbytery garden.

This Service will be led by Father Michael Mannion and we look forward to meeting all the many dogs, cats, rabbits, birds etc owned by our children. Please bring a parent with you and a suitable hutch, cage or (short) lead for your pet. Do also bring a prayer you

have written for your animal. If you would like to attend, please register by contacting Caroline Roberts, of the Live Simply Environment Group, Tel. 01582 768169 or by email caroline46@supanet.com.

NCS

NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE HARPENDEN



The NCS was set up by the Government to provide a programme for 16-year olds to give them a chance to develop the skills needed to be active and responsible citizens, mix with people from different backgrounds and start getting involved in their communities.

This year the Harpenden NCS group would like to

Tea Dance



run two events at St Matthews Care Home in Redbourn. Art and Beauty and a Tea Dance, both events are FREE of charge, to the residents and refreshments will be provided. To help

fundraise for these events the group of young people, one of whom is Niamh Armitage one of our Altar Servers, will be having a cake sale after the 9.45am & 11.30am Masses today. Please help them make these events for the residents of the Care Home successful by buying some cakes.



Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

BIKE 'N HIKE 2019 A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Are you a cyclist or a walker and would you like to raise money for your church? The annual Sponsored *Bike 'n Hike* organised by Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust will this year be held on Saturday 14th September. More details nearer the time.

**MAGIC VOICES CHOIR CHARITY
CONCERT - SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER
7.30PM AT
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH.**

The Magic Voices Choir will be performing a new repertoire of pop classics and songs from musicals and shows in support of Harpenden charity, the A-T Society. Tickets - £10 in advance, £12 on the door, under 12's free.

Call 01582 760733 or visit

www.atsociety.org.uk/events/magic

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
Day by Day	£1.00
Bible Alive	£2.50
Goodnews Magazine	£2.95

**SAVE THE DATE -
21ST SEPTEMBER 2019**

The Parish quiz will take place at Lourdes Hall on Saturday 21st September. Please pencil it in your diaries and look forward to a great night. Details to follow.



WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

For the sanctity of life - Sunday 6th October. Tickets: Adults £17.50, Children & Students £8.00. For more information:

www.prolifepilgrimage.org. To book contact Geraldine: 07971 028415/
mgeraldine_ward@hotmail.com

COFFEE MORNING

Tea and Coffee will be served after the 9.15am Mass on Tuesday.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 20th July

feria

10.00am

5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Vigil Mass

6.00pm Margaret Carey RIP

Sunday 21st July

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

8.30am Michael Turner RIP

9.45am People of the Parish

11.30am Jimmy & Anne Brophy RIP

Monday 22nd July

St Mary Magdalene

9.15am Rita & William Dooley RIP (Anniv)

Tuesday 23rd July

St Bridget of Sweden, Patron of Europe

9.15am Frances Barrett RIP

Wednesday 24th July

feria

9.15am

Thursday 25th July

St James, Apostle

11.00am Josephine Votor RIP

Friday 26th July

SS Joachim & Anne (Parents of BVM)

9.15am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Saturday 27th July

feria

10.00am

1.00pm Marriage

5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Vigil Mass

6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 28th July

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

8.30am Michael Turner RIP

9.45am Eleanor McCabe RIP

11.30am Anne Donaldson RIP

CONFESSIONS

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