



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019  
24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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## Parish Office Office Administrator

Melanie Armitage

Open Monday, Tuesday,  
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9.30am - 12.30pm

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## Parish Safeguarding Representative

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Today's readings present a shepherd rejoicing over finding a lost sheep, a housewife rejoicing over finding a lost coin, and a father rejoicing over the return of his lost son. The three parables are in answer to the Pharisees and Scribes complaints about Jesus, saying that he can't be the Messiah because he welcomes sinners and eats with them. Eating with someone, for the ancients and for us, is a way of expressing friendship and love. Jesus does not argue that he is eating with sinners, he has invited them and they have come. He is friends with them. He loves them. He is full of joy that they have come home to God.

Jesus is telling us that we should be happy that others have been forgiven. He is also telling us that we should join in the joy of the Lord because we have been forgiven.

Unlike the Pharisees and scribes who saw themselves as better than others, the vast majority of us are well aware of our failures. It takes great trust to recognise that God has forgiven us. It is God's initiative. We cannot cause God's forgiveness to take place. But it does happen. It does take place. There is nothing we have done that is beyond God's compassion and mercy. There is nothing He does not forgive. His only reaction is pure joy. But if we stay mired in the past, we will have no present and no future. The Lord is calling us into our joy and calling us to move beyond whatever is holding us back. He forgives us. We need to be proactive in seeking the forgiveness that is awaiting us.



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



## PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September and will re-open on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

Preparation for First Communion in 2020 starts tomorrow Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September with a meeting for the Parents of all children who are being prepared. Attendance of at least one parent at this meeting is very important, and it takes place in the undercroft at 8.00pm.



## CONFIRMATION 2020

Preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, for those young people in Year 9 or above, will commence in November. Application forms are available after all Masses throughout September. Completed forms and copies of the Baptismal Certificate must be returned to Melanie in the parish office by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October please.

## TERESA LAWSON RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Teresa Lawson who died recently. Teresa's Requiem Mass will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 11am. We remember Teresa's family in our prayers at this time.

## FROM THE REGISTERS: BAPTISM

We welcomed the following children into God's family last weekend. Albert & Betty Demant Ernest Mulcahy & Marcus Wood.



Creation Time - 1 Sept - 4 Oct

" On August 15 the Bishops of England and Wales issued "Guardian of God's Creation", which calls

for a spirituality of ecology and an ecological conversion of all of us. It's that important. See the link below.

Laudato Si."

<http://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/environment/season-of-creation/guardians-of-gods-creation/>

## AUTUMN PET BLESSING SERVICE NEXT SATURDAY



All children pet owners are warmly invited to attend a Pet Blessing Service next Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:caroline46@supanet.com).



## DWG QUIZ NIGHT 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 7 FOR 7:30PM AT LOURDES HALL

We are delighted to say that this event is now fully booked, though please do email Sheila Greenwood [sagreenwood@btinternet.com](mailto:sagreenwood@btinternet.com) if you would like to go on the waiting list. For those who have already booked, your payment is needed by this Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September so that we can confirm final numbers with Godfrey's. The payment of £12.50 per person should be made either by cash in a named envelope, or by cheque made out to *Our Lady of Lourdes DWG*. This can be handed into Melanie in the Parish Office or given to Sheila Greenwood, Sue Martin, Julia Roche or Noel Whittle. Please bring your own drinks and glasses on the night. We look forward to seeing you for a fun evening!

## COFFEE MORNING & BRING & BUY

The Ladies Group will be holding this annual event in the Undercroft on Tuesday October 1st from 10am (or following the 9.15 Mass).



Proceeds will go to Spotlight on Africa, a charity supported by a number of parishioners.

**EVERYONE** is welcome.

## ALTAR SERVERS PANTO INVITATION

The Catenians are delighted to invite all altar servers who will have their St Stephen's medal by Dec 2019, to join them for FREE to see Beauty and the Beast pantomime at the Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage at 5pm on Sunday 12th January 2020. Parents and siblings are welcome to attend, but free tickets only apply to current altar servers. Ice creams will be provided during the interval for ALL children attending :-). To accept this invitation please email Adrian by 30<sup>th</sup> September at [fernandez.acp@gmail.com](mailto:fernandez.acp@gmail.com).



## NEW PARISHIONERS



We are always happy to welcome new arrivals to our parish. If you haven't yet registered with us please complete a New Parishioner Form which can be found in the porch of the Church and pop it into Melanie in the Parish Office or post it through the Presbytery letterbox.

## DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

**21st September** - There are places available on the Berkhamsted Coach travelling to Walsingham on the Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Cardinal Vincent, next Saturday. Adults £20, Children £10. For more information and/or book



your place, contact Fr David on 01442 863845 or email: [berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk)

## NEWMAN ASSOCIATION TALK ON MEDICAL ETHICS, SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

All are welcome to this talk by Dr Mary McHugh, starting at 8pm in the Undercroft. Our speaker is distinguished both as a kidney specialist and as a leading member of the National Board of Catholic Women. Her talk is on 'Ethical Questions: a doctor's perspective'. She will take questions at the end but promises to ask us some as well. This should prove to be a lively interactive evening, and an excellent introduction to the Newman Association for anyone who would like to know more about us on the eve of Blessed John Henry Newman's canonisation. Please call 01727 864404 or visit [www.newman.org.uk](http://www.newman.org.uk) if you are unable to attend on the 15th but would still like to know more about the Association.



## CARITAS IN YOUR COMMUNITY - SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September, Caritas will be holding a gathering at the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph, Waltham Cross. The gathering is an opportunity for Hertfordshire-based parish groups and social action projects to learn about Caritas Westminster, network with other organisations and recruit volunteers, in the form of a roadshow-style networking fair. If you are an individual, it is an opportunity to learn about projects local to you and find out about Caritas' work across the Diocese. We will also be running the Universal Credit Savvy course on the day, 'a short course designed to help people understand and negotiate some of the complexities of Universal Credit, with signposting to professional advice'. The gathering will run from 9am-12pm. Please RSVP by calling 020 7931 6077, emailing

[francesmoore@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:francesmoore@rcdow.org.uk) or search the title "[Caritas in Your Community](#)" on [Eventbrite](#).

### NILAND CONFERENCE CENTRE

**Arts Exhibition** - Dominican Sisters invite you to join them in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Niland Centre, a place of tranquillity in a busy world, with an Arts Exhibition featuring local artists and a variety of media - paintings, photography, pottery, marquetry and more. **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** (10am-5pm) & **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** (11am-4pm). Home baking and refreshments available in the Lima Cafe. Admission is free and donations are welcomed.

#### **Scripture from Scratch** with

Sister Anne Walsh OP - *Living as if we believed in God*, looking at God's plan for Creation and Begins Thursday,

**26<sup>th</sup> September** (fortnightly until 21<sup>st</sup> November) **7.30pm-9.00pm** (suggested donation £5) **Venue:** Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, Herts. WD23 4EE  
Contact 07746 707 247 or [events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk](mailto:events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk)

### WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

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

[www.prolifepilgrimage.org](http://www.prolifepilgrimage.org). To book contact Geraldine: 07971 028415/  
[mgeraldine\\_ward@hotmail.com](mailto:mgeraldine_ward@hotmail.com)

### 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



## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September

#### The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

10.00am

12 Noon Baptism

5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

#### Vigil Mass

6.00pm Catenians Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September

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

8.30am Michael Turner RIP

9.45am People of the Parish

11.30am Derek Woolcock RIP (1st Anniv)

### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September

#### SS Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

9.15am Rita Vincent (Sp Ints)

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September **feria**

9.15am Sr. Amy RIP (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

*Refreshments served after Mass*

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September **feria**

9.15am Special Intention (EM)

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September **feria**

11.00am Mary Schulte RIP

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September

#### SS Andre Kim Tae-gon, Priest & Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs

9.15am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September

#### St Matthew Apostle & Evangelist

10.00am

3.00pm Pet Blessing (Presbytery Garden)

5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

#### Vigil Mass

6.00pm People of the Parish

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

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

8.30am Liz Reilly RIP

9.45am Duncan Gallagher RIP (Anniv)

11.30am Nick & Deirdre Morris  
(30<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)

### CONFESSIONS

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