



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020  
2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

**Parish Priest**  
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**Parish Office**  
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Open Monday, Tuesday,  
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9.30am - 12.30pm

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In today's Gospel, John the Baptist is inviting us to look at Jesus. When we begin to look at Jesus, then we come to know Jesus, and the more we look, the more we discover, and the more we want to know.

John calls Jesus the 'lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world'. We say these words at every mass and today we are invited to meditate on them more closely. What does it mean? In Jesus' time, two lambs were sacrificed in the Temple in Jerusalem each day. Jesus will preach a love that is radical for many, in a world that was, and still is, broken. John refers to Jesus as the lamb as he knows that if one loves in such a way, they will suffer at the hands of unjust systems and institutions.

When we look at the 'sins' of our world today - broken relationships, crisis, can we also see those who, like Jesus, 'take away' the sins of the world? Christ's love was not passive, he actively challenged systems that were oppressive and which prevented people from living life to the full. Whether it be the climate crisis or the homelessness crisis or any number of issues we face, 'look' where Jesus walks and is actively working to ease this suffering.

When we hear these words at mass, let us be reminded of all those who sacrifice much to ease the sufferings of others. This is Christ, the 'lamb of God' active in our world today. Let us continue to look at, and look for, Jesus and grow in our awareness of his transforming presence active in our world today.

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

## PRAYING FOR UNITY

Each year from January 18<sup>th</sup> until 25<sup>th</sup> we are invited to heed the prayer of Jesus: that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (John 17.21), and to pray for unity amongst all Christians. This year the theme for the week is: "They showed us unusual kindness" Acts 28:2. In this, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, let us remember this intention in our prayer, that the prayer of Christ may come to fruition.

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Each time we come for Mass we receive, and worship, Jesus in the gift of the Eucharist. Outside of Mass, we can also worship Jesus in this precious gift. Every Saturday evening the Blessed Sacrament is exposed in Church between 5pm and 5.40pm. Confession is also available from 5pm - 5.30pm. A lovely opportunity for some peace and quiet; come along even if for a few minutes. Please respect the silence if you are arriving early for the Vigil Mass.



## MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

At the heart of Jesus' ministry was the healing of the sick. That ministry the Church continues to exercise, reaching out to those in need of healing through the Sacrament of Anointing. On Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> February at 3.00pm, to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes which is on 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be an opportunity for those "whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age", to receive this Sacrament during Mass. Anyone who would like to be anointed, and needs transport, should contact Melanie in the parish office. Anyone who can assist with transport should also contact Melanie.



## NOTICES

If anyone wishes to display a notice on the church notice boards, they should, first of all be handed into the



Parish Office. At no time are notices to be displayed on the glass screens, the notice boards are for that purpose.

## PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed this week and will re-open on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am. Please submit newsletter items as normal by lunchtime on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> for inclusion into next weekend's newsletter.



## CONFLICT AND PEACE

How Jesus teaches us to engage healthily with conflict. Reflection by Sr. Regina and Monika Cleaver at the Convent, 18 Kirkdale Road, on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January from 2pm - 3.30pm, everyone welcome.

## BANISH THE BLUES SUPPER

This event takes place next Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January in Lourdes Hall (£15 for a 3-course meal) and tickets will be on sale after all of the Masses this weekend. Book a table or join us on our Parish table.



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

There will be a Parents Meeting entitled 'Understanding Holy Communion' with Mary Crowley from the Diocese on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm in the Undercroft. This is an important meeting so please make sure at least one parent attends to represent your child.



## CONFIRMATION 2020

The next Confirmation Session for all candidates is next Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January in the Undercroft from 4.45pm - 6pm.



## HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

If you are admitted to hospital please let a member of hospital staff know that you would like a chaplain to visit you. There is a team of volunteer visitors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion who can bring Communion to parishioners in Hemel, Watford and St Albans Hospitals. Patients will normally only be visited by the Chaplaincy if a request has been made for a visit.



## RECALL OF DWG GREEN BOXES ON 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY

### GREEN BOX COLLECTION

Please bring your Green Box to mass on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> or Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February for the annual collection. They will be emptied and returned to you straight away. All the proceeds will go to Developing World Group projects. Thank you for your support.



*lives simply*

World Day of Peace 2020.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January is set aside by the Bishops of England and Wales as Peace Sunday. Here is a link to Pope Francis letter for Peace Sunday 2020. "Peace as a journey of Hope, Dialogue, Reconciliation, and Ecological Conversion"  
[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco\\_20191208\\_messaggio-53giornatamondiale-pace2020.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20191208_messaggio-53giornatamondiale-pace2020.html)

## HARPENDEN SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA QUIZ EVENING

What a way to have something to look forward to in the New Year - our annual fun Quiz night for Saturday 1st February 2020 in Lourdes Hall, Southdown



Road. 7 for 7.30 pm prompt start. Up to tables of 8 but you can also come and join a table. Tickets are £15 each to include a tasty Godfrey's Fish and Chip Supper (veg option too). Your ticket will pay towards a school lunch for 1000 needy children. Raffle and cash bar. This is a popular event so contact Wendy Howson, [wendyhowson@hsoa.org](mailto:wendyhowson@hsoa.org) or 07917 621059.

## JOURNEYS IN HOPE ART EXHIBITION & CHARITY ART AUCTION

6th - 30th January 2020 at the Mount Street Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street London W1K 3AH. Exhibition opens 6pm Monday 6th January, then weekdays 9.30 am - 8.30 pm, Saturdays 9.30 am - 3 pm Charity Art Auction Thursday 30th January from 6 pm in aid of the Westminster Lourdes Pilgrimage, Aid to the Church in Need and Safe Passage.

For further details email Teresa Newham

[marbretherese@googlemail.com](mailto:marbretherese@googlemail.com)



## WALK IN THE PARK

Do join us for a bracing February walk in our special Rothamsted Park! The green shoots of daffodils should be appearing as we start looking for early signs of Spring. Meet outside Church at 10am on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February for an hour's walk and then a coffee in a nearby cafe. If weather is bad, it's straight for coffee! Look out for future walks held first Wednesday of every month.



## GETTING MARRIED

For some years in our Diocese it has been the policy 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.

#### **PRAYER AT THE CRIB**

Everyone is welcome to come and pray at the Crib at St Clare's Convent, 3 Abigail Close Luton LU3 1ND. Open every day 10am - 6pm until 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

#### **PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS TEACHER INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME:**

The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School is running a four-week internship programme in June/ July 2020 focusing on Mathematics and Physics. Participants will receive a bursary of **£300 per week** and will have the opportunity to explore a potential career in teaching. To take part participants will require an A-level in Mathematics and must be completing an undergraduate degree course in Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science, Geography or a related subject. For further information please contact [teachingschool@cvms.co.uk](mailto:teachingschool@cvms.co.uk)

#### **INVITATION CAFOD INFORMATION**

**MORNING** - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 10am-12.30pm, Lambeth North.

CAFOD will be hosting a supporter's information morning with a guest speaker, who has first-hand experience of our work in Zimbabwe. Come and hear how CAFOD is helping communities, thanks to your support. Meeting will take place from 10am - 12.30pm at CAFOD's Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB Bookings required and taken on 0208 449 6970 or e mail [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk)

### **MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

#### **Saturday 18th January**

**feria**

10.00am

12.00pm Baptisms

5.00pm Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

**VIGIL MASS**

6.00pm Paul Crean RIP

#### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am May O'Neil RIP

11.30am Robert & Elizabeth Morris RIP

#### **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**feria**

9.15am

#### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

**St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr**

9.15am Sheila Dorsett RIP (1st Anniv)

*Tea/Coffee served in The Undercroft*

#### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**feria**

9.15am

#### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

**feria**

11.00am

#### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

**St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor**

9.15am Service of the Word with Holy Communion

#### **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January**

**THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE**

10.00am

5.00pm Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

**VIGIL MASS**

6.00pm Mary Taylor RIP (Anniv)

#### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

8.30am People of the Parish

9.45am John Byrne RIP

11.30am Catenians Presidents Mass

#### **CONFESSIONS**

**Saturdays after the 10am Mass & from 5pm - 5.30pm**