



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2020  
1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

## Parish Priest

**Canon Anthony Dwyer**

Presbytery

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## Parish Office

**Office Administrator**

**Mrs Melanie Armitage**

Open Monday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday & Thursday  
9.30am - 12.30pm

Email: [harpenden@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpenden@rcdow.org.uk)

Tel: 01582 712245

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**Parish Safeguarding  
Representative**

**Mrs Brigid Brennan**

Email:

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On this first Sunday of Lent we hear of Jesus being led into the desert, where he remained for forty days.

Compared to the other evangelists, St. Matthew gives us more information about what might have happened to Jesus. He is tempted with the false gifts of power, prestige and wealth. His power and identity come from God. Jesus knows who he is, where he comes from and where he is going on his own journey. He leaves the desert with these powerful words which he offers us today; 'The time has come; the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' What is this Good News that Jesus asks us to hear and believe? It is the good news that each of us is created, loved and forgiven by God.

As we enter into our own Lenten journey, we need to recall and remember that we are not setting out on this journey on our own. God is with us walking by our side every step of way. When we are tempted, we need to follow the example of Jesus. He did not rely on his own strength. He turned to God and asked for help which he received. We will not be able to walk the Lenten journey on our own. We need to realise that like Jesus, we too need God's help, support, guidance and protection. Whenever we feel tired or ready to give up or give in, we need to turn to God for encouragement. We know that God will be with us during Lent as God was with Jesus when he was in the desert. God will never leave us alone.

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

## LENT 2020 LENT GROUPS

These are friendly groups which gather for the six weeks of Lent (or as many as any member can manage) to reflect on aspects of our faith. This year we shall be reading and reflecting on the wonderful and important document written by Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). There will be a choice of day and time, morning, afternoon or evening. After mass there will be people in the porch to answer any of your questions. Why not try this as something different for Lent this year? **Confirmation of the times and groups will be sent out this weekend for meetings to commence week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> March.** Past members of groups please let us know your wishes if you haven't already done so.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

A traditional Lenten devotion, the Stations of the Cross take us through the last events of Our Lord's life to his death on Calvary. On this journey we are assisted by the inspiring artwork of the Stations in church. Stations of the Cross takes place each Sunday, of Lent, at 6.00pm.

## 'MY DAY BY DAY'

Daily reflections for Lent are still available in the 'My Day by Day' series. There are different reflections for adult, juniors and children. The booklets can be found in the porch and are £1 each.

## LENTEN ALMS

It is customary during Lent to donate what we save through our self-denial to a charitable purpose. We will be sending anything that is donated to the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal, which will be used to strengthen marriage and family life, inspire young people in their faith and serve those in need in our communities. You can leave any contributions in the box on the wall near Our Lady's altar. Alternatively, if you would like to Gift Aid your donation, envelopes can be found in the porch and your donation then posted through the Presbytery door/Parish Office.

## MARIA NORTH RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Maria North who died this week, details of Maria's Requiem Mass will follow. We remember Maria's family in our prayers at this time.

## MARY WILLIAMS RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Mary Williams who died this week, Mary's Requiem Mass will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm. We remember Mary's family in our prayers at this time.



**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

## WALK IN THE PARK

Do join us for a stroll through the glorious daffodils just starting to bloom now in Rothamsted Park. We



will meet as usual at 10am outside Church on the first Wednesday of the month, 4<sup>th</sup> March, for an hour's walk followed by coffee in a nearby cafe. If weather is bad, it's straight for coffee! New walkers always welcome.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY ANNUAL RAFFLE

This is a great opportunity for the Parish as a whole to help the work of the SVP. Tickets will be on sale after all weekend Masses this weekend 29<sup>th</sup> Feb/1<sup>st</sup> March. 23 Prizes to be won ranging from £3,000 down to £50. The draw will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The ever-popular St Patrick's Day lunch will be held on Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup> in the Undercroft. Proceeds will go to Sister Margaret's Barcelona project in South Africa. Tickets at £10 will be on sale next weekend.



## CAFOD FAST DAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

Calling our parish community! Could you help us train local experts in Zimbabwe (through the Catholic Church)? Your donations will help us to create a network of trained pharmacists. One such person is Sister Concilia who saves lives each day. Further funding will enable us to train more people and reach out to even more of the poor who need treatment, care and love. Next Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, will you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help continue Sister Concilia's life-saving work? Please use the Family Fast Day envelope and give whatever you can. Envelopes will be available after all Masses from the porch.

## MOTHERS PRAYERS GROUP

A Mothers Prayer group meets on Friday mornings in Harpenden in term time. For details email [mothersprayersharpenden@gmail.com](mailto:mothersprayersharpenden@gmail.com)

## FROM THE REGISTERS: BAPTISM

We welcomed the following children into God's family over the last few weeks;

Faolan Donnelly-Bryce  
Hudson Douglas  
Tate Douglas



 lives simply

This weekend (the first Sunday of the month) there is the usual UHT milk collection for the St Albans and District Foodbank. From 24<sup>th</sup> February to 8<sup>th</sup> March is FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT. The theme for 2020 is: "She deserves fair trade". It focuses on women cocoa farmers, and asks for a PRICE that is adequate for their crops; for a PREMIUM that allows for investment for the future; for EMPOWERMENT that will mean involvement in decision-making and independence; for ENVIRONMENTAL adaptation and resilience. Something to remember when you buy



chocolate! For an Action Guide google 'Fairtrade Fortnight 2020'. Laudato Si

## PRAYER & REFLECTION

**The Lenten Journey to Easter** - the Dominican Sisters invite you to a day of prayer and reflection led by Fr Nicholas King SJ at the Niland Centre. Begins at 10 am and ends with the celebration of Holy Mass at 2.30 pm. Please bring a packed lunch; refreshments provided. Suggested donation £15.

**Conflict and Reconciliation** - with Sr Regina McGarry & Monika Cleaver. Thursday 5 March (10.30-12.30) Suggested donation £6. refreshments provided

Niland Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. For details and to register please contact 07746 707 247 or [events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk](mailto:events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk)

## ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020 AT 3PM

The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2020. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Melanie in the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).



## ST DOMINIC NURSERY

Just a reminder that the application process for Nursery places for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 closes on **Monday 2 March, at 3.30pm**. Our Early Years provision enables parents to access 30 hours free childcare with Nursery morning sessions running Monday - Friday, 8.45-11.45am and an optional Lunch Club and afternoon Pre-School run



by *Friends Together* running until 3.30pm. Wrap around care offered by *Friends Together* also means that care for children is available between 7.50am and 6pm, should this be required.

For further information and application forms please visit our website

[www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk)

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

This year's World Day of Prayer will take place next Friday 6th March. There will be two services in Harpenden: 10.30am at St Nicholas's and 7.45pm at the Highfield Oval chapel. For more information on the Harpenden services please see the postcards in the porch or call Teresa Newham on (01582) 766403.

### SETTLEMENT SCHEME

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at:

[gov.uk/eusettledstatus](http://gov.uk/eusettledstatus)

The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have their homes here. They are a valued part of our Parishes, Schools and Communities.

#### EXTRACT FROM LAUDATO SI

Enforceable international agreements are urgently needed, since local authorities are not always capable of effective intervention. Relations between states must be respectful of each other's sovereignty, but must also lay down mutually agreed means of averting regional disasters which would eventually affect everyone. Global regulatory norms are needed to impose obligations and prevent unacceptable actions, for example, when powerful companies dump contaminated waste or offshore polluting industries in other countries.

Laudato Si 173.

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February**      **Lent feria**  
 10.00am  
 12.00pm      Baptism  
 5.00pm      Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### VIGIL MASS

6.00pm      Patricia Hayes (Spec Ints)

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

8.30am      Tony & Josephine Clark      RIP (Anniv)  
 9.45am      People of the Parish  
 11.30am      Fernando Goncalves      RIP  
 6.00pm      Stations of the Cross

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**Lent feria**  
 9.15am      Derek Jennings      RIP

### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

**Lent feria**  
 9.15am      Liam Dooley      RIP  
*Tea/Coffee served in The Undercroft*

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

**Lent feria**  
 9.15am

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

**Lent feria**  
 11.00am

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

**Lent feria**  
 9.15am      Service of the Word with  
 Holy Communion

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March

**Lent feria**  
 10.00am  
 5.00pm      Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### VIGIL MASS

6.00pm      Bernard Grant

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March

#### 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

8.30am  
 9.45am      People of the Parish  
 11.30am      Neil Turnbull (Spec Ints)  
 6.00pm      Stations of the Cross

### CONFESSIONS

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